



On October 1, 2016, **Freddie James Waitman** passed away peacefully in Lacey, WA. Freddie was born on September 4, 1931, to Fred and Eileen Waitman in San Bernardino, CA. Freddie attended Compton College (where he later graduated), before joining the United States Air Force. He trained to be an Air Force Survival Instructor. Following his discharge, he attended the University of Colorado, where he was a standout on the baseball team, and also where he met his first wife, Kathleen Simmons. Their daughter Sherri was born in Boulder, CO in 1957, and Kathleen died suddenly in 1958. Freddie returned to California and worked at Brown's Sporting Goods where he met his second wife, Karen Canon. Her two children, Michael and Cory joined the family. Freddie went on to manage several Chamber of Commerce offices in CA and WA. In later years, he worked as a lobbyist for the Washington Farm Bureau. In 1992, after surviving two heart attacks and bypass surgery, he organized [Chapter #130 of the Mended Hearts](#). He was the first president for Mended Hearts Chapter 130. He started the Chapter Newsletter in 1992. He started the Mended Hearts Chapter Visitor Program at St. Peter Hospital. For over 20 years, Freddie volunteered at the Hospital. He resided at Panorama and was very involved in fund raising and workshops there.