

**SUSAN IMANIAN**  
Former S.F. General nurse

Susan Imanian was remembered in her memorial at the Hartland Hotel as a classy, prideful woman who, in her work as a nursing supervisor, didn't suffer fools lightly, ran a tight ship and was an inspiration to those around her.

Calypso singer Johnny Nash's 1972 hit "I Can See Clearly Now" played in the common room of the Geary Street SRO Dec. 1 as more than a dozen people settled in. Quest4Life lay priest Mira Ingram led the ceremony with Michael Mallory co-presiding, dressed in a shiny red tunic, ringing bowl chimes and burning incense to set a calming mood as more people joined the gathering.

Ms. Imanian was born in New York City, said one attendee who had known her since 2005. She recalled Ms. Imanian's long, beautiful black hair that fell to her waist.

"I was her hairdresser," another said. "She always respected me, I respected her. I told her she should stop smoking cigarettes, she'd say, 'I'm OK.'"

Ms. Imanian was also, someone said, kin to the former Shah of Iran.

"She was stubborn in her quiet way, fiercely independent," a woman said. "I got the news Thanksgiving. Ooh, I wasn't ready for that!"

Amy Allikas said that when she moved to the Hartland in 2005, Ms. Imanian welcomed her. "Six months later, we started a weekly women's group. We tried to make it a more livable place for women. It used to be you wouldn't walk outside your room without people saying rude things to you."

Someone else recalled that Ms. Imanian also led women's groups while a nurse at S.F. General.

Another neighbor said that Ms. Imanian had been a debutante, "but she said it was a real drag." She didn't want to use a wheelchair or walker, saying, "It'd be all downhill after that. She was a

character and a half! To me, she always seemed like a long-lost relative."

Ms. Imanian had a son a Navy admiral, another said, "who used to be out here. Now he's with the North Atlantic fleet."

"When I think of Susan, I think of a very proud and independent woman. She was a mom, a nurse ... she ran an E.R. (emergency room) and whipped it into shape," a colleague remembered. "She had a wry, quiet sense of humor. A very loving woman and a hard person to lose. ... I forgot, she's a grandmother too, several grandkids."

Another Hartland resident, Linell, remembered, "We kicked it off like we been knowing each other for years. These older women put in the work for us to be where we are today."

"My grandkids loved her!" she continued. "I liked to see her happy. She'd get gifts. She'd do the same for me. She was a beautiful person."

"I'd say 'Do the booty dance,'" another said, putting her knitting aside. "She'd get up and do it. I'll never forget her. I'm happy she's in a better place." ■

— Mark Hedin

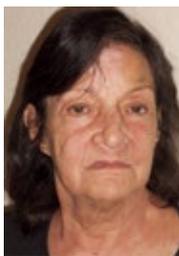


PHOTO: AMY ALLIKAS

**DARRELL 'SCOOTER' WILLIAMS**  
'All-around good guy'

Darrell Eugene Williams, a San Francisco native, died of cancer Dec 8. He was 53. Mr. Williams, universally known as "Scooter," was one of seven brothers.

The origin of Mr. Williams' nickname is uncertain. Some say his pesky, underfoot intrusions into his brothers' childhood activities drew their admonishment: Scoot. Others claim Mr. Williams' fleet feet and boasts that he could outrun any trouble generated his alias.

A large group gathered for a memorial to Mr. Williams Dec. 18 at the Elk Hotel on Eddy Street. The, somber mood of Mr. Williams' friends and neighbors soon changed to smiles and knowing nods of assent as they celebrated his life with memories of his happy-go-lucky persona and ever-present smile.

"I still see him coming around the corner. He was always happy, always up to something fun. He never complained, even through all his chemotherapy," the Elk's case manager, Ashley Burns, said.

Gerald Waldron considered Mr. Williams his best friend for 20 years. "Sometimes you have to work on a friendship. I worked on my friendship with him. I loved him so much," Waldron said.

The friends delighted in trading homespun philosophies. "I'd tell him, 'The two most important days in your life are the day you're born and the day you find out why.' He'd say, 'Work don't bother me, and I don't bother it,'" "I loved coming down here just to see Scooter's smile," his friend Leo said. "The last thing I remember is I loaned him a dollar for a beer. I hope he's holding one for me in heaven."

Brenda Washington had known Mr. Williams since they were teenagers in the Bayview. "He had a big family. They were very social with holiday gatherings always going on. He was an all-around good guy. Even if he was having

a tough day, he made your day brighter," Washington said. She remembered a Christmas when she and Mr. Williams uncorked his grandfather's cooking sherry and were scolded roundly.

After military service as a U.S. Army paratrooper, Mr. Williams graduated from City College with a major in acting.

Sometimes, drinking brought more serious trouble to Mr. Williams. Once, he was needlessly provoked into a confrontation at the Elk. "I told him, 'We can't have that here.' We got him into anger management sessions at Glide. He loved it, learned something about himself and about others and there weren't any more problems," Elk manager Wendall Davis said. "If anyone flared up, Scooter was the first to say, 'Hey, come with me. You need some anger management.'"

NFL Sundays brought out Mr. Williams' teasing ways. "He was a die-hard Cowboys fan, so that was a pain here on game days. No matter who you rooted for, he always rooted for the other side. He'd talk smack about your team. It won't be as much fun watching games without him," an Elk resident said.

Mr. Williams' love of the blues was evoked, particularly the stylings of Johnnie Taylor. Someone sang out, "I got a woman who treats me nice. I got a woman her heart's cold as ice," and the lobby of the Elk boomed with laughter. ■

— Jonathan Newman

**Views of Twitter tax break**

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afford to go there. On Market Street, the Dollar Store closed, and I didn't like that.

**Effect on housing**

In the Tenderloin, the biggest thing we lack is low-cost housing. We used to be able to refer our clients to permanent, low-cost housing. There were opportunities. Some say the lack is because of tech driving up the prices, but maybe there are just more people now and it's a snowball effect. There has been displacement in housing, but I'm not sure I can connect those dots.

— DAVID KNEXO, CURRY SENIOR CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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February 2016

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**Give Kids a Smile Day 2016 PSA Blurb:**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 10am to 3pm, the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program, together with the SF Dental Hygiene Society, will be hosting the Eighth Annual Give Kids a Smile Day at the San Francisco General Hospital WIC Office (2550-23rd St. Bldg. 9). This event combines community outreach, health education, and delivery of health services into one fun activity-filled day for San Francisco families. Children ages 0-10 can receive free dental screenings, cleanings, and fluoride varnish treatment, as well as health education for the whole family! Volunteers will also help connect children to dental homes if they are not already seeing a dentist. There will be giveaways such as toys, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and a raffle for more prizes! For more information please call 415-575-5713.

**Board of Supervisors Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings**  
February 2016 Meetings

- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Tuesdays, 2:00pm, City Hall Chamber, Room 250.
- February 2
  - February 9
  - February 23

**There will be no scheduled meetings on February 16.**

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