

**GERALDINE FREGOSO**  
Copy editor

Gerry Fregoso, whose 2½-year stint as copy editor of Central City Extra capped a long journalistic career, died at home with her family on March 18. She was 70.

Mrs. Fregoso, born and raised in the Mission District, worked at the West County Times, the Oakland Tribune and retired from the Chronicle in 2002. Soon after, she joined The Extra staff as copy editor, bringing great skill and humor, a sharp wit and professional tone.

A year ago March she was diagnosed with kidney cancer. The first prognosis: three weeks to live. Mrs. Fregoso, a Newspaper Guild member, was back at work on The Extra for the May issue.

Every month we'd send her stories by e-mail to edit and write headlines and captions, then she came into the office from her home in Pinole for a day or two of prepress proofreading and production. She worked right up through the February issue, No. 43.

"That Gerry chose to work with us during this time is the greatest honor The Extra could receive," said Geoff Link, editor and publisher of The Extra.

She leaves Pete, her husband of 47 years, two daughters, two sons and four grandchildren.

**ROBERT MOORE**  
Loved Pier 39

Eight years ago, Robert Moore and Jack Hinkel moved from a San Francisco apartment to the Alexander Residence. It was there, on Feb. 28, that Hinkel mourned the loss of his partner of 21 years.



"He was like a little brother to me — I loved him dearly," said Hinkel at Mr. Moore's memorial. The Rev. Glenda Hope officiated at the gathering of several Alexander tenants and social workers.

Mr. Moore, who had cancer and had been seriously ill for six months, died Feb. 18 and was buried in Oregon, where his mother, father, two sons and a

daughter live. He was 53.

Hinkel's eyes filled as he recalled happy times. "Robert was a little homebody, but he loved Pier 39 and we met my family there one afternoon," he said.

He also shared a detail of Mr. Moore's past as a vacuum cleaner mechanic in Salem for 12 years.

There was not much else to say, Hinkel explained: "Robert's death just broke my heart."

— MARJORIE BEGGS

**PHIL BRUNNER**  
Vietnam veteran

Two dozen of Phil Brunner's friends crowded into the television room in the San Cristina Residence on Market Street to bid farewell to their friend whose checkered past didn't diminish their love for him.

In front, symbolizing Mr. Brunner's veteran status, an American flag hung from a green chalkboard on which his name and fatal statistic, 1965-2005, was written. The picture on the memorial program cover showed Mr. Brunner hugging his little son, Joseph. Both are smiling.

Mr. Brunner had suffered medical complications for weeks before he died Feb. 21 after his wife, Collynn Cook, took him off life-support at St. Francis Memorial Hospital.

Ben Wynn, who knew Mr. Brunner nine years, said they were both Vietnam War veterans, Wynn serving in the Navy. Although they talked often, he said, they avoided the war as a topic.

"He'd do anything for anybody," Wynn said. "He was a stand-up man, a brother. I think about him every day and there's a place in my heart for him. I know he's in heaven and his spirit is with us."

A man who lived on the fourth floor said Mr. Brunner was "a wonderful gentleman" who always acknowledged him. Several women praised Mr. Brunner as sensitive and a kind-hearted friend. Others noted his dry wit, and his fondness for his cat, Panther, and for good old rock 'n' roll. Tony Baldwin, a tenant supervisor for nine months, described Mr. Brunner as the "quiet, caring type who always asked how you were doing."

of time in federal and state prison," Cook said to the gathering. "We spent a lot of time together when he didn't get caught. He did heroin."

She told The Extra privately that she met Mr. Brunner 22 years ago. A friend introduced them with the hope that Cook would leave the stepson of Hells Angels' leader, Sonny Barger, for Mr. Brunner. They clicked, Cook said, as Mr. Brunner "wined and dined" her. They moved from Fremont to San Francisco in 1989 and into the San Cristina in 1997. She said their son, Joseph, now 12, was born with methadone and heroin dependency, plus a hearing problem. He lives in a foster home in the East Bay.

Cook said Mr. Brunner read the Bible every day. "Seventy-five percent of the time when I walked into his room he was reading the Bible," she said. "He is the best thing that happened to me in my life. He was such a very, very giving person. I am surprised he didn't open a center for youth."

As for the drug-dealing, Cook said it was "in his blood. Phil said it was what he did best."

Refreshments were available afterward. Many people stopped by to offer Cook their condolences.

— TOM CARTER



**EDWARD CUTTING**  
Alexander resident 14 years

Edward Cutting was outgoing. He said hello to everyone at the Alexander Residence, where he'd lived for 14 years. He died March 4, in his room, at age 57.

Social worker Winnie Kwong recalled Mr. Cutting's cheerfulness, despite ailments that forced him to walk, painfully, with a cane. But she knew little about him except that he was a veteran and had a brother who lives in Los Angeles.

Among the few Alexander residents who came to Mr. Cutting's March 15 memorial was Jack Hinkel, who'd attended another memorial here just two weeks earlier, mourning the loss of his partner, Robert Moore, who died in February.

"I knew Ed for about a year, and we became friends," Hinkel said. "He knew Robert was in the hospital and he talked to me about that. He was a nice young man."

The Rev. Glenda Hope, officiating at the memorial, thanked Hinkel for sharing his thoughts, especially hard, she acknowledged, with his own grief so fresh.

Another resident said she knew Ed only "in passing" but wanted to say something in his memory. She opened a large Bible and read a few passages from Ecclesiastes, Chapter iii — "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven . . ."

— MARJORIE BEGGS

**CHRISTINE ZAMORA**  
Quiet and reclusive

A second Alexander resident, Christine Zamora, was remembered at the same March 15 memorial as Edward Cutting.

Ms. Zamora, who had lived at the Alexander Residence for eight years, died in her room March 3. She was 62.

Ms. Zamora kept very much to herself, said social worker Winnie Kwong. "She always walked fast and didn't talk much to anyone. And she seemed to never go out in the daytime — only in the evening."

Two women at the memorial said they didn't know Ms. Zamora or Mr. Cutting, but wanted to honor their memory by attending.

"We feel the loss of two members of this family," said one.

"May their souls rest in peace," said the other.

— MARJORIE BEGGS

Cook said Mr. Brunner had a congenital hearing impairment. After graduating from high school in Union City, she said, he wanted to join the Marines so badly he talked a friend into taking the hearing test for him. "But he got his ass kicked by the drill sergeant because he couldn't hear," she said.

Mr. Brunner was sent to Vietnam, an experience he wouldn't talk about unless she prodded him. Then, she said, he'd get upset and his reluctant stories were so graphic and blood-curdling that she stopped asking to hear more.

"He did a lot

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