



# Jay Marshall McManigal

October 21, 1958 - August 10, 2019

Jay Marshall McManigal, 60, of Green Valley, died August 10, 2019, after a long illness. Jay was the beloved son of Gloria McManigal and Morland “Mac” McManigal, brother of Joy McManigal of Sheffield, MA and Jill McManigal of Carlsbad, CA, and step-son of Yvonne McManigal.

Born in Napa on October 21, 1958, Jay attended Falls Elementary School in Green Valley, Fairfield High School (where he was president of his 1977 senior class) and was a theater major at the University of Southern California (USC).

From his early youth, Jay was attracted to the magic of theater. After acting in several student productions in high school and college, he began what became his lifelong career as a production stage manager, starting with the USC production of the Broadway hit, *Follies*. For the next 38 years, he applied his organizational and creative talents to more than 100 theatrical productions, traveling to venues in 340 towns and cities, including extensive tours in Canada, China, Korea and Japan. Among the musical productions he managed were *Blast*, *South Pacific*, *Singin’ In The Rain*, *Camelot*, *A Chorus Line*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Cirque Ingenieux*, and his personal favorite, *Crazy For You*.

Jay’s interests extended well beyond theater. When he wasn’t behind the scenes at venues around the world, he was visiting local museums and galleries, building an extensive personal collection of art in all its forms — photography, drawings, paintings, potteries, and sculpture, all of which he rotated through his Green Valley showplace home.

Over the years, Jay lived in Los Angeles, New York City, and Louisville, Kentucky... but Green Valley was always his home base. He spent most of his last 20 years there amid its wooded splendor, indulging another great passion of his: gardening. Jay loved the beauty of nature in all its manifestations. He was happiest planting, trimming, and installing art works among the bountiful trees, plants and flowers of his home on the hill.

Jay’s love of life and wondrous spirit were a reflection of what he expressed as his life

goal: to help people. Nothing pleased him more than responding to the needs of his family and vast circle of friends and neighbors. He relished his role as the most accessible professional handyman — painting, plumbing, hanging artwork, gardening — always ready to apply his remarkable artistic eye and considerable technical skills to whatever needed beautification or repair.

Among the many who treasured Jay are his brother-in-law Giancarlo Esposito and his lifelong friend Curtis Gutierrez; along with his nieces Shayne Esposito, Kale Esposito, Syr Esposito, Ruby Esposito, Hana Craft, and nephew Bodhi Craft; and his cousins Jeannine Ball (Greg), Michael McManigal, Kathy Fanberg (Scott), Craig Undine (Herman), Bradley Undine (Sandy), and Kurt Undine (Amy).

At Jay's request, we will not be having a memorial. Instead, contributions may be made in his honor to support his sister Jill's non-profit organization: Kids for Peace.

Checks may be mailed to: 1302 Pine Avenue Carlsbad, CA 92008 or visit <http://www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org>

# Cemetery

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## **Rockville Cemetery**

4219 Suisun Valley Rd.

Fairfield, CA, 94534

# Comments

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“ One of the most beautiful, kind, and generous individuals I've ever had the honor and privilege to meet.

**Heidi Kirk** - May 11, 2020 at 06:50 PM

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“ Gloria, Joy, Jill: Jay was one of those unique souls without whom the world is for the worse, a sadder and drabber place than before. He was kind to me when I was young, he was very kind to us when we last saw him at one of his productions, and my parents often told little stories of his kindness and hospitality when they visited NY. His enthusiasm in talking about his creation and collection of art was always contagious. My condolences. Miss you all.  
Love,  
Doug Merritt

**Doug Merritt** - September 24, 2019 at 08:23 PM

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“ Gloria, Joy and Jill. I am sorry I did not know of Jays passing sooner. My heart goes out to you all. I hope you find peace in your good memories.  
Much love,  
Frances Merritt Nash

**Frances Nash** - September 22, 2019 at 01:21 PM

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“ Jay was the brightest light for me during my days here at Sea Ranch. He loved this place. And I loved him.

Shar Wallander

**Shar Buhlig Wallander** - August 29, 2019 at 06:46 PM

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“ Jay is the brightest light for me during my days here at Sea Ranch. He loved this place. And I loved him.

Shar Wallander

Shar Buhlig Wallander - August 29, 2019 at 06:39 PM

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“ Mac, back in Nebraska our hearts are heavy. Thinking of you and your family. We are so sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Bob & Betsy Nelson (NAIFA President 9-11-2001)

Bob Nelson - August 22, 2019 at 04:48 PM

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“ Hello Friends, I met the McManigal family when in kindergarten. They share their love, and it touches many. Jay's enthusiasm and creative soul will be missed. Heartfelt Regards, Lisa South Begin

Lisa - August 16, 2019 at 09:45 PM

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“ Hola: to everyone who knew Jay, positive energy. He is a wonderful person and a high school friend with me and my beloved little sister, Jackie Page Crockett. Cuidate, Cora Page/FHS-76

CL Page - August 15, 2019 at 03:05 AM

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“ Dear McManigal Family,  
Please accept my condolences for your loss as I am truly saddened by his passing. I knew Jay and his sisters Joy and Jill from the Fairfield Seahorses swim team and then at Fairfield High School. He was a good friend and always had a smile. I am so sorry.  
Sincerely,  
Gary Miller

Gary Miller - August 14, 2019 at 07:53 PM

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“ Wow I’m speechless he was an amazing person I lived at the corner of green valley and remember him well so sorry for your loss Debbie Wink

**debbie** - August 14, 2019 at 07:19 PM

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“ Last night after I got the news about Jay, I pulled out a couple of the old super-8 films we made in high school. Jay was one of my go-to actors, and I wanted to see him again. He and I lost track of each other after college, but we managed to reconnect on Facebook about three years ago. I'm grateful I got to "message" with him again, but I feel cheated that I never got the chance to "see" him again. He was such a gentle soul and great human being. My condolences to his entire family. He is missed...

**Kevin Tenney** - August 14, 2019 at 10:55 AM

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Dear McManigal family

Jay left far too soon but I will hold memories of our 30 year friendship in my heart forever.

Jay and I worked together several times but more importantly we shared times outside of theater, laughs and giggles and wonderful hugs. He was always welcomed at my home and stayed with me several times in New York including one Thanksgiving. We would spend hours talking, and I remember once, when he was in NYC for an interview, staying up and catching up on live and loves til we heard the birds singing.

The angels come for this angel before I got to see him. We chatted on the phone several times after he came home.

I send you my love and deepest condolences.

You are all in my heart.

Bernita Robinson

**Bernita Robinson** - August 13, 2019 at 12:33 PM



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Jay: simply a kind and gentle human being who loved people and life. Having known the McManigal Family for several decades, continues to be such an honor, privilege and blessing. I have so many fond memories of all of them that I will always cherish. I'll be forever grateful for the times that we all shared and particularly for the wonderful laughs. I'm so very grateful that I was able to especially share in Jay's life in his latter years. The McManigal family will always remain as my dear friends. Now that Jay's work here is completed and he has gone on to bigger and better things, I look forward to the day when I will see him again. Praying and desiring for the Lord's peace to be with all of you now and always.

Agape,

Iva & The Jackson Family

**Iva** - August 19, 2019 at 11:59 PM



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Dearest Gloria and family,

The angels came for Jay much sooner than we planned, but we will always have memories of the time he spent with us and the happiness he brought.

Love and prayers, Barb and Bob Pelascini

**Barbara Pelascini** - August 12, 2019 at 10:14 PM



“ Ida Hurd lit a candle in memory of Jay Marshall McManigal



Ida Hurd - August 12, 2019 at 06:14 PM

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“ I had the honor of being in the cast of Crazy for You with Jay at the helm! It was my first time touring and Jay went out of his way to be sure I was ok and took time to talk to me about whatever was on my mind. I was going through a lot of family issues and Jay was always there to offer a hug:) I'm so sorry to hear of his passing. His smile was infectious and his voice is one you don't forget. Rest easy Jay...love,Jena xo

Jen Maiello - August 12, 2019 at 04:29 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Bryan-Braker Funeral Home - August 12, 2019 at 01:24 PM



“ Jay is one of the brightest lights during my life here at Sea Ranch. He truly loved this place. And I truly loved him.

Shar Wallander

Shar Buhlig Wallander - August 29, 2019 at 06:32 PM