



# **Fred Rodrick Blecksmith Jr.**

MAR 23, 1937 - FEB 16, 2026



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# Fred Rodrick Blecksmith Jr.

MAR 23, 1937 - FEB 16, 2026

**F**red Rodrick Blecksmith, Jr.  
Sunrise: March 23, 1937, | Sunset: February 16, 2026

Fred Rodrick Blecksmith, Jr., a life-long San Diego, CA resident, lived a life marked by purpose, generosity, and deep commitment to community. He passed peacefully on February 16, 2026, at the age of 88.

Fred was a licensed architect having graduated from of Cal Polytech University, San Luis Obispo. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects devoting decades to shaping San Diego's built environment. His professional career spanned civic commissions, public-serving facilities, and thoughtfully designed residences. He embraced the principles of mid-century and California modern architecture — valuing clean lines, honest materials, natural light, and spaces designed around the people who inhabit them. Awards include American Institute Architects Outstanding Achievement and Exceptional Achievement. Fred served as President of the American Institute Architects Office, San Diego and on various community boards.

Beyond his professional life, Fred was a spirited adventurer and competitive sailor. A Life Member (#17) of the San Diego Yacht Club, he owned numerous boats — sail, motor, and electric — reflecting his lifelong affinity for the sea. In 1977, he founded the All-Girls Crew, creating space for women in a sport then dominated by men. Fred's belief in inclusion and mentorship gave rise to a group that still gathers monthly, four decades later.

Fred found joy in snow skiing around the nation. He served as Corporate Secretary of the Torrey Pines Ski Club and found fellowship as a member of the Bachelor Club of San Diego. Wherever he was, he brought laughter, leadership, and a generous heart.

A lover of art and a generous philanthropist, Fred supported the San Diego Foundation, where a room was named in his honor, and the Point Loma Foundation, where a tree was planted for his generous contributions to the community.



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Preceded in death by his parents Fred and Margaret Blecksmith. Fred is survived by his beloved wife, Sandy Clifton. Together, Fred and Sandy shared not just life, but purpose — a shared belief in service, generosity, and community.

A Celebration of Life will be held Tuesday, March 24th from 1–4 PM at the San Diego Yacht Club. Friends and family are invited to share memories at <https://www.greenwoodsd.com>.




## Events


**Fred Rodrick Blecksmith Jr.**

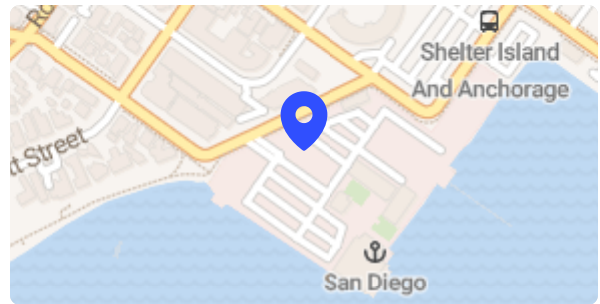
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### Celebration of Life

 **Tuesday**, March 24, 2026

 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM PT

 **San Diego Yacht Club**  
1011 Anchorage Lane, San Diego CA 92106





## Tribute Wall

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**Sandy Clifton** posted:

Love and miss you everyday, Smiley. Love, Smiley

March 15 at 9:57 AM



**Ladies Of Agc** sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Blecksmith family.



March 12 at 4:44 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Fred by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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