



## Timothy John Gerdts

July 25, 1957 - August 26, 2024

Timothy John Gerdts of Kingsburg passed away on August 26, 2024. A cherished family-oriented man, Tim dedicated his life to his loved ones whose branches extended well into the hearts of those around him.

Tim leaves behind his loving wife of 43 years, Sherry Gerdts; sons, Chad (Karen) Gerdts and Derek (Chelsea) Gerdts; mother, Janice Gerdts; father, Marvin Gerdts; siblings, Kerry Gerdts, Doug Gerdts, and Sheri Costa. He is preceded in death by his in-laws, Jo and John Carter.

As a farmer's son with deep generational roots, Tim was taught the importance of hard work and integrity at an early age. After graduating from Sanger High School, Tim furthered his education at Fresno State, where he achieved a bachelor's degree in plant sciences. His professional life was largely dedicated to Burchell Nursery. Over his 38-year tenure, he was instrumental in the nursery's breeding program, introducing over 70 varieties of fruit trees, leaving a perpetual mark on the agricultural landscape of the Central Valley. His sales work supported the planting of numerous orchards across California, Arizona, and Mexico. Tim was known for building lasting relationships with growers, several becoming great friends. Tim's philosophy was simple: "I'm not building sales, I'm building friendships." A sentiment that rang true for anyone who had the pleasure of crossing his path. Tim was outstanding not just for his professional expertise, but for his ability to forge

lasting connections, always emphasizing the value of relationships.

Tim was an enthusiast of life's simple pleasures. From embarking on his Harley Davidson across the country, rooting for the San Francisco Giants and 49ers, or enjoying a sunset dinner with friends and a good bottle of wine, always leaving room for dessert and coffee. On the weekends, he enjoyed watching NASCAR, an action movie, or doing projects around the home. Tim was devoted to his family and always cherished the time he spent traveling with them. He loved catching a game in San Francisco or Spring Training in Scottsdale, relaxing in Lake Tahoe with his wife, and adventuring at his favorite place with his sons; Hawaii. No matter where Tim went, he always made sure to make friends along the way.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, September 4th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel, 1588 Lincoln St, Kingsburg, CA.

A funeral service to honor Tim's life will be held on Thursday, September 5th at 10:00 AM at Grace Church of the Valley, 1101 Marion St, Kingsburg, CA. A private family-only interment will follow at Kingsburg Cemetery, and a reception welcome to all at the Kingsburg Gun Club, 2246 Gilbert Dr., Kingsburg, CA.

In lieu of flowers, Tim wished for donations to be made to the Fresno Rescue Mission.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Kingsburg Cemetery

12782 E. Clarkson Avenue  
Kingsburg, CA 93631

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP 4. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel  
1588 Lincoln Street  
Kingsburg, CA 93631  
(559) 897-2908  
<https://www.creightonchapel.com>

## Funeral

SEP 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Grace Valley Church  
1101 Marion Street  
Kingsburg, CA 93631

## Burial

SEP 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Kingsburg Cemetery  
12782 E. Clarkson Avenue  
Kingsburg, CA 93631



# Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Timothy John Gerdts*



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**Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel** - September 04, 2024 at 03:09 PM

RM

“ *We are so grateful to have met and become friends with Tim, Sherry and their family. He had a wonderful heart, was an amazing friend and a kind soul. We will always miss you Tim. Rod & Monica.*

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**Rod & Monica** - September 04, 2024 at 09:10 PM

PM

“ *Patricia M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Gerdts.*

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**Patricia M.** - September 04, 2024 at 07:00 PM

NE

“ *Niels E. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Gerdts.*

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**Niels E.** - September 04, 2024 at 06:12 PM

MW

“ Mark W. planted a grove of 10 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Gerdts.

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**Mark W.** - September 04, 2024 at 05:46 PM

SW

“ My sincere condolences to Sherry and the Gerdts family. Having worked with Sherry years ago, I had the opportunity to get to know Tim. He was smart and carried himself with a high degree of integrity. Most of all he was easy to talk to and even easier to like. He was a good man and respected by anyone who crossed his path.

*Steve Wigh*

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**Steve Wigh** - August 30, 2024 at 04:39 PM

YO

“ Tim, a man of integrity. Once he accomplished one task, he was on to the next one. It's best said that he had such tenacious, commitment and loyalty for whatever he had his heart involved in. He demonstrated great worth work. Always had a positive attitude and was fully committed to whatever he had going on in his life. He spoke beautiful words of the life he shared with his wife Sherry. I believe he was sharing because I was just married at the time and besides he was one who had wisdom like a father figure. He would often talk about his sons and how one day he would love to have grandchildren. I was truly blessed to have been able to work with him for the while that I did at Burchel Nursery. His wisdom is something I will truly value and appreciate for the rest of my life. I am so blessed to have met him. He was a one-of-a-kind man. I told him one time. Tim, you are a good man! And he said you would really be impressed if you met my wife. Whenever he had some paperwork that needed completing in the office, he would share of his bike rides or plans with his family on the weekend. He loved life and you could see he was having a great time living it.

*Tim! Buddy! Friend! Brother in Christ!*

*You will always be in my heart. I hope you knew you impacted my life and made a difference in it. As I'm sure this was the case for many others.*

*Utmost Gratitude,  
Yolanda~*

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Yolanda - August 29, 2024 at 09:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Timothy John Gerdts.*



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August 29, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ *From all of us at Burchell Nursery planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Gerdts.*

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**From all of us at Burchell Nursery** - August 29, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ *Tim has always been a true farmer at heart. An undeniable asset to our industry. I will always be grateful for the countless hours spent summer pruning, discussing varieties and just tossing around new farming ideas. I will always consider him a dear friend. Blessing Sherri, Derrick, and Chad. Hugs kisses and tears.*

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**Blake Carlson** - August 28, 2024 at 08:39 PM