



Elliot “Yo” Swanson

Aug. 15, 1931 to Nov. 5, 2021

Elliot (Yo to his friends) was born and raised in Jamestown, NY. With a BA from Ohio Wesleyan University. and a BS in Electrical Engineering from MIT, he spent the first 15 years of his career selling electronic systems and computers in four East Coast locations for IBM, GE and Ampex. At the end of 1970 he and his wife decided to emigrate with their daughter, 6, and son, 4, to start a new life in Australia. Living in a Sydney suburb for most of the next 19 years, he joined Sperry Univac to sell large scale computer systems. After 12 years, he launched an entrepreneurial venture to build pollution control systems which had him commuting between Sydney and the U.S. until the family settled in San Jose just before the 1989 earthquake. His wife died in 1993. Elliot met Alice a few years later at a San Jose Chamber Music Society concert where she was the Volunteer Coordinator and member of the Board of Directors.. She suggested he join the Society's Board. He did and they married in 1997 after which he recruited her to join the San Jose Opera Guild's Board. He then served on both boards as Treasurer, and President of the Chamber Music Society for more than 22 years.

Alice and Elliot’s favorite travels together were cruises to the Baltic Sea, Hawaii and Alaska. Elliot introduced Alice to his favorite cities up and down the U.S. East Coast and places in Australia. Elliot and Alice have returned over the last 24 years to visit many wonderful U.S. and Canadian State and National parks. Together they have five children, fourteen grandchildren, and the six great grandchildren.