

Phillip C'de Baca, Owner of Pet's Rest

Phil has been an integral part of Pet's Rest Pet Cemetery & Crematory since 1972, when he and his wife (Irene) took over the business from Irene's parents, the original owners (Earl and Julia Taylor). Originally only a "five-year plan," Phil and Irene ran Pet's Rest together until her passing in 2002. Phil has been taking care of the facility, and handling the needs of their customers, since then, as the sole owner and operator.

For Phil, the ability to help ease the suffering and loss felt from the death of a dear animal companion makes running Pet's Rest a rewarding experience, especially when people tell him that "what he does matters." By ensuring that grieving pet owners can be with their pet until the very end, and providing the means to memorialize them, he strives to make Pet's Rest a compassionate refuge open to everyone and all animals (large or small) for years to come.

His introduction to Pet's Rest, though, came much earlier: Phil came to work here in 1964 as a different kind of summer job while going to college and waiting to be inducted into officer training during the Vietnam War, and ended up married to the boss' daughter. Although not originally intending to follow in the family business, it became evident that this was the right fit.

Phil, a native San Franciscan, has lived on the Peninsula for the majority of his life, with a stint in New Mexico during his early years – Phil is the son of a shipfitter, who moved here temporarily during World War Two to build Liberty Ships. Animals have always been a part of his life. Along with still owning a farm in New Mexico, Phil can be regularly seen with "Lord" a big-hearted Rottweiler, who makes a point of greeting everyone at Pet's Rest.