

## Tom Mason's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

The Valley of the Sun HCSC partners met in April at the Shalimar Country Club in Tempe, Arizona to honor **Tom Mason** on his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Tom's family was present including his companion, **Shirley Johnson**, Tom's son **Larry** and his wife **Mary** who live in Hawaii, Tom's daughter **Judy** and her husband **Guenther** from California, and Tom's daughter **Barbara** who lives in Prescott, Arizona.

After an old-fashioned lunch, a beautiful carrot birthday cake was shared along with the singing of "Happy Birthday". Tom was also presented with birthday cards from members and friends and Vyda Bridwell presented him with a poster "**Celebrating a Century of Greatness**". Tom also had several tables of JCPenney memorabilia including a letter recommending he be hired, his 50 year pin presentation in 1986 awarded by W. R. Howell, many newspaper articles, and other awards of achievement. During his career, Tom also had several store visits from James Cash Penney who loved to visit Tom's store.

Tom Putman, President, shared many details of Tom's life and accomplishments over his 39 year Penney career and the fact the he has been retired for 40 years. Tom is very active, continues to drive, and attended the National HCSC convention in 2013 receiving recognition as a Century Club Member. He plans to attend the 2016 National Convention in San Antonio. After retirement, he and his wife traveled to 55 foreign countries, went twice around the world, visited all 50 states, made 19 overseas bus tours, visited all but one Canadian Province, and went on 15 cruises.

Since his retirement in 1975, Tom worked for 11 seasons at the Indian Wells Country Club in California. Over the last 14 years, Tom has worked as part of the Bell Silvercraft Club and has handcrafted close to 1,500 pieces of jewelry including bear paw pendants and earrings.

After our clubs birthday celebration, Tom had two more weekend celebrations with well over 150 in attendance. Tom continues to amaze us all with his positive attitude and enjoyment of life.

In honor of Tom Mason, the club made a donation to the HCSC Foundation.

Pictures from the event are on the following pages.....



*Tom Mason*



*Daughters Barbara and Judy, Tom and Son, Larry*



*Barbara, Judy & husband Guenter, Shirley Johnson, Tom Mason, son Larry and his wife Mary*



*Karat Cake – Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Tom*



*Tom Putman, President congratulating Tom Mason at the "poster, announcing" – A Century of Greatness*



*Presentation of Karat Cake Tom Putman to Tom Mason*





**Group Picture of attendees: Back Row – L to R – Jim Rotsch, Sam Page, Laurie Page, John Elliot, Judie Elliot, Tom Putman, Gary Leathers, Lew Langer, George MacNeven, Harold McCann  
Front Row – L to R – Vyda Bridwell, Shirley Johnson, Tom Mason, Nancy Putman, Terri Leathers, Shirley Langer, Maureen MacNeven, Marilyn McCann**



**Top Picture: Back Row – Daughter Barbara, Son Larry and wife Mary Front Row – Shirley Johnson, Tom Mason and Daughter Judy and her husband Guenter**

**Right Picture: Photo of Tom Mason receiving his 50 year pin from W.R. Howell in 1986**

