

J. Sweeney Item #23 BBS 6-17-14

CHAPPIE

Many knew him as Gene, Geno, or Chappie;

Most knew him as friend

He served our County in many venues, most notably as Supervisor, Assemblyman, Congressman, and then returned as Supervisor where we sat side by side!

I first knew him as another pear grower hauling our Pears to the Placerville Fruit Growers.

We got him elected to the Assembly in the primary by sending Democrats a short pencil stamped "Write in Chappie for Assembly"¹ The Democrats got a law passed that year eliminating the opportunity to vote across party lines in the Primary !

He taught me how to count in politics: as a Supervisor you needed two more votes, as an Assembly Member 40 more and as a member of Congress 217 more!

Many four wheelers have a vivid memory of Gene standing on his rock at the top of Big Sluice helping people get over the Rubicon Trail.