

Robert “Bob” Berman



Robert “Bob” Berman was born in New York in June, 1920. At age 16 years old, he moved with his family to the Los Angeles area as his father wanted to be an actor.

Bob enlisted in the Navy at the age of 21 years. He was a Signalman on the USS Maryland battleship for four years. Bob says he was paid \$124 per month but had nowhere to spend it as he was always at sea! The ship was damaged during the attack on Pearl Harbor, but she was repaired and took part in dozens of battles in the Pacific. Bob was on the bridge for each confrontation. Bob is the only living survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack in Kern County.

When the war was over, he returned to the LA area where he worked for Pep Boys and eventually opened his own automotive shop. He married and had two children. Upon retirement, Bob and his wife decided to move to Bakersfield to be close with their son, Michael. They moved to Glenwood Gardens (now Brookdale Riverwalk) in 2011 where he has continued to live. He lost his wife to Alzheimer’s Disease.

He celebrated his 103rd birthday at Brookdale surrounded by friends, family, and dignitaries. Bob and his favorite dance partner, Marilyn Radoumis, entertained the audience with their lively dance moves. Residents of Brookdale all said they love watching Bob dance!

Bob said his secret to living 103 years is to keep a tune in your heart and a boogie in your step and you will be fine! If you want to catch Bob dancing, just go to Brookdale Riverwalk’s happy hour at 4 PM on Wednesday and Friday. Bob and Marilyn attend regularly and dance the night away.