

[CLICK TO CALL NOW](#)

[USEFUL FORMS](#) | [GET FREE INSTANT QUOTE](#) | [DIRECTIONS](#)



EDWARD FRANK KLIMA

Edward Frank Klima

July 30, 1934 ~ January 17, 2026



Klima, Edward Frank, 91, of Vero Beach, Fla., passed away peacefully at home on January 17, 2026. Born July 30, 1934, in Catskill, N.Y., he lived a full and adventurous life devoted to science, family, sports and the outdoors.

Ed graduated from the University of Miami with a BS and MS in Biology.

While at Miami, he played basketball for the Hurricanes (go Canes) as a forward. He later received his Ph.D. from the University of Utah.

He began his career in the early 60s in Panama City, Panama, with the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission as a fishery biologist. In 1962, he joined the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries as a shrimp biologist, working in Panama City, Fla., and Pascagoula, Miss. From 1973 through 1976, Ed held numerous positions as a senior administrative Marine Biologist. He later spent four years in Washington, D.C., (Fisheries and USAID) where he helped spearhead legislation establishing the 200-mile limit, later known as the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. In 1977, he returned to serve as Director of the Galveston Laboratory (NOAA), a position he held until his retirement in 1993.

Throughout his career, Ed was widely respected for his scientific research, particularly his work on shrimp fisheries and the preservation of endangered sea turtles, specifically head-starting the Kemp's-Ridley species. Ed published more than sixty scientific journals. In collaboration with fellow scientists and the U.S. Shrimp Association, he helped develop Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs),

significantly reducing sea turtle mortality while supporting sustainable fishing practices.

Ed traveled extensively for work and pleasure and loved cooking and enjoying adventurous cuisine. He was an avid basketball player, hunter and fisherman. He embraced challenges and problem-solving throughout his life, including in retirement, where he enjoyed investing in the stock market and trading options.

He is survived by his wife, Judith Rox-Klima; his daughter, Dawn Zieren, and her husband, Ken Zieren; his son, Lance Klima; grandchildren Brett Zieren (Debbie), Blake Zieren (Natalie), Bryan Zieren (Bailey), Jack Klima, and Lily Klima; great-granddaughter Harper Zieren; stepdaughter Darcy Price (Rick) and their children (Sonny, Kaylee, Jamie); Shannon Vidaurreta (Henry) and their children (Monica, Carlos); Sarah Williams (Casey) and their children (Carter, Jackson); and Andrew Lujan (Heather) and their son (Theodore).

Ed will be remembered for his intellect, curiosity, dedication to science, and lasting contributions to marine conservation and fisheries management. He embraced life fully, always seeking new experiences and adventure.

He will be dearly missed. We rest assured that Ed is in the arms of his loving Savior and Lord.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Treasure Coast Hospice Foundation or a charity of your choice.

A private celebration of life to follow.

Arrangements are by Thomas S. Lowther Funeral Home & Crematory, Vero Beach.



Share

Let the family know you care by sharing this tribute.

Condolence

Sunny Sellers - Friend

January 22, 2026, 10:21 pm

Judy and all the family- so sorry for your loss Sending prayers and hugs for your comfort and peace May Ed RIP in God's arms eternally

Sharyn Sproule - Friend

January 22, 2026, 10:49 pm

May Ed rest in piece. He will be missed.

Deanna and John Corona - Friend

January 22, 2026, 11:17 pm

We warmly remember Ed as an incredibly kind, generous and caring man who loved family and embraced life. His brilliance shone through everyday activities, whether reading about current events or economics or the stock market, or even just having conversations over coffee and Judy's amazing banana bread. We feel his light and love and wish him eternal peace in heaven.

Sandy charland - Friend

January 22, 2026, 11:34 pm

So sorry for your loss. Enjoyed Ed so much talking about stocks. Very kind and helpful person. ❤️❤️❤️

Kathy Rowell - Friend

January 23, 2026, 12:26 am

So sorry for your loss Judy! Thinking of you during this painful and difficult time.

Sandy Kesslering Casey - Friend of the family

January 23, 2026, 2:34 am

So very sorry for your loss of such a wonderful man to you Judith and your families. May he rest in peace, and may the good memories provide comfort.

Cathy Collier and Eric Grabowski - Friend

January 23, 2026, 9:57 am

Eric and I enjoyed hearing all of your stories and adventures. Unfortunately we never got you and Judy out on our boat to go fishing. You were such a great neighbor to mom and dad, especially me when I moved down. Always full of life, you will be missed our friend!

Marie Teller - Neighbor

January 23, 2026, 2:27 pm

Dear Judy and family, Our deepest condolences, Ed was a very nice man, your family is in our prayers.

Shirley Vincent - friend

January 24, 2026, 12:57 am

Dear Judy, I am so sorry to hear of Ed's passing. He was such an interesting man. George and Ed were quite the pair! Although I didn't always agree with them, they provided a lot of interesting times. I've missed having George around just as I am sure you are missing Ed. Love from Shirley

Susan Kelly - Friend

January 24, 2026, 5:48 pm

Judy and family, Hoping and praying for for peace for you all during this time. Susan Kelly

Kathy Vogt - Friend

January 27, 2026, 12:20 am

So sorry for your loss, Judy! Praying for you and your family during this difficult time! Cherish the wonderful memories you made together with Ed here on earth and look forward to a sweet reunion someday in Heaven! May he rest in peace!

Leave A Condolence

Your Email Address Will Not Be Published. Required Fields Are Marked *

Your Message

Name

Email

Relation



I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

SUBMIT

Quick Links

Cremation Options