

# **Bruce Arthur and Barbara Diane Thompson**

Oak View, CA

Barbara was born January 4, 1929 in San Francisco, CA to Harvey and Madeline McBride. She passed away July 20, 2014 from end stage Alzheimer's disease. In the 1960s she was very active as an actress performing regularly at the Ojai Art Center. Barbara was very involved with fund raising for the Children's Home Society Chapter in Ojai. In addition, she was a legal secretary for the Law Offices of Thompson, Lyders, Laing, and McCasle in Ventura until Bruce Thompson's appointment to the Municipal Court in 1978. Afterwards she became a member of the Ventura County Medical Center Auxiliary where she spent two decades volunteering her time. After Bruce retired they both became active motorhome travelers throughout the United States.

Bruce was born October 28, 1925 in Enderland, ND to Bruce and Effie Thompson. He passed away September 8, 2015. He enlisted at age 17 in the Army Reserve and was called to active duty January 1944 serving in Italy as a tail gunner on B-24 bombers. The combat missions were over Germany, Austria and northern Italy until the war ended July 1945. He was awarded the Air Medal with Cluster and honorable discharge November 1945.

After WWII, he attended the University of California at Berkeley, spring 1946, graduated in 1949 with a degree in psychology and a member of the honor society. At college, he met the love of his life, Barbara McBride and they were married in 1950. Bruce attended University of California School of Law (Boalt Hall), Berkeley and was awarded Walter Rothschild Scholarship in Law, 1951-1952. He graduated 1953 in the top third of his class.

They moved to Ojai, CA and he worked for the Ventura County District Attorney's office as a law clerk. He was admitted to practice law in January 1954 and appointed Deputy District Attorney; promoted to Assistant District Attorney in 1957, and finally appointed District Attorney of Ventura County March 1, 1961 for term ending in 1963. He established his private practice from 1962-1978 and was the Ventura County Bar Association President in 1966. Bruce was appointed as Judge for Municipal – Superior Courts from 1978-1992 after which he retired.

Bruce and Barbara are survived by their daughter Terry Hartsuck and husband David, and their son Mark Thompson and wife Cecilia and their children and

grandchildren. They both were entrusted to the Neptune Society and requested no services.