



CUTTING, THOMAS W

Aug. 9, 1924 - May 20, 2013

Resident of Scotts Valley

An exceptional man passed away May 20, 2013, Thomas W. Cutting.

My father, my mentor and the finest man I will ever know. Born in Redwood City, Calif. in 1924, he was 88 years old. Dad grew up in Redwood City and enjoyed a bountiful childhood. His college career was interrupted by the outbreak of WWII where he served his country in the US Army as Staff Sergeant in the 96th Infantry Division. The division was nicknamed "the dead eyes". He survived several beach landings including Okinawa, and was a decorated hero earning two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star and a Presidential Citation for extraordinary heroism. His humble nature and solemn dedication to his family, friends, community and his country will be forever remembered. He was a true hero, but never spoke of his heroics or military decorations.

He returned from the war and finished his college career at San Jose State earning a Bachelor's degree in business, and charmed one Marylynn Bacon into becoming his wife. They graduated college, moved to Santa Cruz and started a family. My father took a job at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk as manager and stayed at the Seaside Company for almost 30 years. It was a great childhood growing up on the beach, my sister and I were blessed by such a life. Upon leaving the Seaside Company he went on to become a successful retailer in Downtown Santa Cruz operating Pants Plus for many years.

My father was not content to just do his job, he tirelessly gave his time to the community that he loved. He was involved in so many service groups including the Lions, Elks and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. For many years he was involved with the Miss Calif Pageant, serving as its Executive Director, a position he truly was passionate about.

Fifty years of marriage to my mother ended with her passing and he remarried longtime family friend Beverly Mork. After her passing he moved back to his home in Monteville Park in Scotts Valley where

he met Marilyn Gideon who he fell in love with and she became his loving companion to the end. His talents and integrity were in demand again, and he once again gave his time and energy to his Park community.

He leaves his son and daughter in law, Steve and Debbie Cutting and his grandson Shawn Cutting all of Friday Harbor, WA; his beloved and caring daughter who was with him till the end, Sally Ann Cutting of Scotts Valley, and his loving companion, Marilyn Gideon of Scotts Valley.

One of the 'greatest generation' this country has ever known will be laid to rest with full military honors at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington. He was a true hero, best friend, loving father and tireless community leader, he will be missed beyond words....Love you Dad