



Dickenson, Howard George

Napa, CA

383rd Inf Co C

Howard George Dickenson A man of unflagging courage and indefatigable spirit, passed away on April 10, 2010 at the age of 86 in Napa. As ever, his wife Dawn was at his side.

Born on July 6, 1923 in Oakland, California, Howard was the only child of Alta Jane and Howard Harold Dickenson, a Napa County Supervisor of 16 years. Howard was a fifth generation Californian, hailing from pioneers who traveled west alongside the Donner Party in 1846.

Howard moved to Napa with his parents in 1927. He graduated from Napa High School in 1941, where he was senior class president and Most Valuable Player of the football team, also earning honors as a member of the All North Bay League team. Howard entered UC Berkeley in 1941 and remained a proud Old Blue for his entire life. He played "Ramblers" football and rugby for Cal before entering the service, and was president of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity and a member of Skull & Keys and Beta Beta. College was interrupted in 1942 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served in the 96th Infantry Division, Company C, 383rd Infantry Regiment, as a Scout, Rifleman and Sharpshooter in the Asia-Pacific Theater, landing in both Leyte and Okinawa, where he was wounded in battle. In addition to the Purple Heart, he was awarded the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Two Bronze Battle Stars, and the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with Two Bronze Battle Stars. Along with his band of brothers in his division, nicknamed "The Deadeyes," he was subsequently awarded the Bronze Star. The Deadeyes are one of only a handful of entire divisions ever to be awarded The Presidential Citation for Extraordinary Heroism.

After the war, Howard graduated from Cal in 1947 and entered Hastings Law School, earning his law degree in 1950. Soon after, Howard returned to Napa and wed Joanne Cardiff (DePuy), with whom he raised three children- Georgine (George-Thrse), Chuck and John. Howard embarked upon his lengthy and

successful legal career in 1951, hanging his shingle in downtown Napa. He associated briefly with Jim Boitano, before Boitano was elected district attorney.

In 1964, Howard joined forces with Joe Peatman and Jim Fogarty, founding the venerable law firm bearing their name- Dickenson, Peatman & Fogarty. Howard married his soul mate, native Napan Dawn Pelissa Hoxsey in 1979. Together, they traveled the world and entertained friends, enjoying life to its fullest. Time spent at their table included great food, fine wine and lively conversation.

Howard is survived by his wife, Dawn; daughter George-Thrse; son Chuck, his wife Janine and their sons Adam and Kevin; son John, his wife Margarita and their sons Marc, Miguel and Ian; stepson Andrew Hoxsey, his wife Nancy and their daughters Kendall and Morgaen; and stepson David Hoxsey and his wife Angela. In lieu of flowers, donations in Howard's memory are appreciated to The Queen of the Valley Medical Center Foundation, Napa Valley Hospice, or a charity of your choice. Never at a loss for words, Howard is fondly remembered raising his glass in a grand salutation to his family and friends. A celebration of Howard's life will be held at Howard and Dawne's home on May 6 at 11:00. Interment will be private at the George C. Yount Pioneer Cemetery.