

Harry L. Maynard



Harry L. Maynard of Ventura California passed peacefully at home, at the advanced age of 97 on March 2, 2025. He was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years, Carolyn Messersmith Maynard, his six-year-old son, Harry Lee, Jr., and his five siblings, of whom he was the eldest. He is survived by his daughter, Linda, son-in-law Russ Charvonia, granddaughter Alissa, grandson Keith and Keith's wife Kendall, and two great grandsons, Tanner and Hudson. His greatest pleasure in life was time spent with family, especially Alissa and Keith.

Harry was born on November 5, 1927, in DeWitt, Iowa. He resided in Ventura, California beginning in 1952, with a brief time spent living in Burbank. He graduated from DeWitt High School in 1945. He attended colleges in New York and Iowa, culminating in a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Math, Physics, and Physical Education from the University of Northern Iowa. He was in the Navy V-5 Aviation program which ended with the conclusion of WWII, after which he went into teaching. He was the math, physics and PE teacher at Stewart High School in Iowa, where he was also the girls' basketball coach. It was there that his star forward, Carolyn, caught his eye and a romance led them to marriage in 1952.

Sports were important to him, even as a man of slight stature. He played semi-pro football and coached many youth teams. He supported agriculture in Ventura County through FFA, Ventura County Parks Preservation Foundation, and was an ardent golfer.

He and Carolyn moved to Ventura, California in July of 1952, where he taught in the El Rio School district for a time. He later moved to a career in finance, from which he retired as President of American Commercial Bank (now Mechanics Bank). He made many loans on a handshake and always trusted people for their word. He was especially proud of the fact that many businesses in Ventura were founded on financing he arranged.

He and Carolyn traveled the world, touching every continent except Antarctica. They traveled the US in their Winnebago, and he and his buddies delivered Winnebagos to new owners from Iowa to Ventura. The stories are legendary. Harry and Carolyn took many cruises, and they enjoyed taking family with them, especially grandson Keith when he was a little boy.

Harry was exceptionally involved in community activities, inevitably ending up in leadership positions. He was president of the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, Buenaventurans, Ventura Trade Club, Ventura Civil Service Commissioner, Redevelopment Agency, Central Ventura Association, Campaign Chair for the Arnez Program Center for the Girl Scouts, Little League coach, founding director of the Boy's Club, founding director and coach of Ventura Youth Basketball Association (VYBA), American Legion, Ventura Downtown Lions, American Bankers Association, California Bankers Association, Ventura Farm Bureau, and was a Ventura County Fair Board Director and Treasurer. He served on the boards of Community Memorial Hospital and Ivy Lawn Cemetery for several decades.

Harry was a Freemason, raised in San Buenaventura Lodge No. 214 in 1960. He was Master of the Lodge in 1968 and became active in California Grand Lodge beginning in 1976. He served as Assistant Grand Treasurer and then rose to become Grand Master of Masons in California and Hawaii in 1982-83. He was a triple valley member of Scottish Rite, serving as Personal Representative for our Valley, and became a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason in 1979. He was in many auxiliary organizations in the Masonic family, and was part of the Al Malaikah Shrine Temple starting in 1963, serving as Orator in 1985. He was part of "Brownie's BBQ Crew" that raised more than \$250,000 for the Shrine Hospital system, along with other Masonic charities, one New York steak barbeque at a time.

He was also active in the Masonic youth orders, including an Honorary membership in Job's Daughters Bethels 89 and 217, Ventura Chapter Order of DeMolay, and Grand Cross of Colors with Rainbow for Girls.

His awards and accolades from organizations he supported are too many to name. One of which he was especially proud is the Harry L. Maynard Distinguished Professorship in Mathematics Secondary Education at the University of Northern Iowa.

He was passionate about Public Education and he believed it is the pathway to security, prosperity, and democracy. In his 80s he volunteered in the classroom of Fran Buker at Poinsettia Elementary School, where his daughter and granddaughter attended as children. For as long as he was able, he watched over Alissa and they watched every single Disney movie (on VHS!) together. Harry was the first in line at College Pharmacy to make sure Alissa had every newly released Beanie Baby. He was exceptionally generous to family and friends, including Carolyn's family, his family members in Iowa, and individuals in Ventura who made his acquaintance and needed a little boost. Harry was the cornerstone of our family and community.

The family would like to thank the wonderful care team at Aegis Living Ventura for their loving, compassionate, and highly competent attention to Harry for the past two years.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial tributes can be made to the:

Masonic Center for Youth and Families,
(<https://masonichome.org/youth-and-families>).
c/o Grand Lodge of California.
1111 California Street.
San Francisco, CA 94108.

Views from Ventura Valley, the Ventura County Scottish Rite News, Volume XLVII, Issue number 2. Published 4 to 6 times a year by the Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies, 487 Appletree Ave, Camarillo, CA 93012-5148. This publication is distributed free of charge to all members. For further information call 805-415-3776.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the address above. The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Ventura, Orient of California acknowledge the authority and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

Upcoming Events

Our next event will be our Remembrance and Renewal observance, followed by our stated meeting on Monday, April 14. *Dinner will be FREE for this event (as long as you make reservations!).* It will be at Oxnard Masonic Center. Dinner is at 6:30 pm. If you will be joining us for dinner, reservations are required; contact Ill. ∴ Knight Harold Bogner, 33°, at

hbogner@smartsourcellc.com

or (805) 218-1648, no later than Friday, April 11. There is No Charge for Dinner. Unfortunately, the menu is not set at this time.

Our May stated meeting will be on Monday, May 12. Cost is \$20. As above, please contact Illustrious Harold for dinner reservations by Friday, May 9. The stated meeting will be held in the Lodge Room.

Orvene S. Carpenter



Orvene Carpenter, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and esteemed community leader, passed away peacefully on February 19, 2025, at the age of 100. Born on January 31, 1925, in Paris, Arkansas, Orvene was the eighth of nine children born to Elmer and Susie Carpenter. All his siblings preceded him in death.

Orvene's early life was rooted in the hardworking spirit of rural Arkansas. He grew up on a cattle and hay farm instilling in him a strong work ethic that would define his life. He also excelled in athletics, playing as a forward on his high school basketball team and later for the California Army National Guard.

His love story with Georgia Rae
continued on page 5

From the PR's Quill

Ill John F. Lowe, 33°

YOU ARE NEEDED!



If you have not heard, the lodge room at the Oxnard Center has been remediated and repainted. We are now back to Stated Meetings in our usual home. We miss your attendance!

Our April 14th meeting contains our annual Remembrance and Renewal program. Also known as *the Mystic Banquet*, it serves as a memorial service honoring the Knights of the Chapter Rose Croix who have passed on during the preceding year. This observance strengthens the ties of brotherly love, past and present.

We meet together to break the bread of fraternity, to reconcile ourselves with those we may have offended, and to drink the wine of refreshment and renewal. Thus, we celebrate the lives of our departed refreshment and renewal. Thus, we celebrate the lives of our departed

Brethren and promise to abide by the New Law, the Law of Love, with our present Brethren and all mankind.

In this celebration, we also commemorate the lives all those who labored to improve mankind and were rewarded with betrayal, punishment, and death. Whether poet, religious leader, scientist or social reformer, all who seek to elevate humankind may be considered as Brethren. Masonry is duty, and its practice, often fraught with personal sacrifice, requires the performance of duty for the good of humanity.

May we meet together on the 14th to remember our Brethren and to begin anew as friends.

Additionally, our Valley needs your help in serving as an officer. Unfortunately, our Master of Kadosh found it necessary to resign, and that office is open. Please consider stepping in to a rewarding position serving our Valley and our Brethren. The serving officers offer guidance and thus ensure your success. Will you serve?

Your attention is also requested to the funeral service of Illustrious and Most Worshipful Harry Maynard. Illustrious Harry was, to say the least, an involved Mason and citizen. He served as Master of San Buena Ventura Lodge in 1968, and Grand Master of Masons in California in 1982-83. He was Personal Representative of our Valley for many

continued on page 5

Orvene Carpenter

Continued from page 3

Marvel began in the fourth grade in Arkansas. They reconnected in Port Hueneme, California, in 1943 and married in 1946. Their marriage spanned 75 years until Georgia's passing in 2021.

Orvene was a proud veteran, serving his country with distinction. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in July 1943. He served in the South Pacific with the 4th Marine Air Wing during World War II as a tail gunner in a Dauntless dive bomber and earned an honorable discharge in November 1945. While a member of the California Army National Guard 40th Infantry Division, they were called to active duty in Korea in September 1950. Throughout the Korean War, he was the Senior enlisted man of the division Post office, rising to the rank of Master Sergeant, and returned home after his discharge in May 1952.

His commitment to public service extended beyond his military service. Orvene began his career with the U.S. Postal Service in Port Hueneme in February 1946, rising to the position of Postmaster in 1970. He continued his postal career as Postmaster in Oxnard from March 1975 until his retirement in 1986.

Orvene's dedication to his community was further demonstrated by his remarkable 32-year tenure on the Port Hueneme City Council, serving from 1964 to 1996, making him the longest-serving council member/mayor in the city's history. He was also a respected member of Masonic Lodge 341 of Oxnard, which he joined in 1955, serving as Master of the Lodge in 1963. He was also a member of several Masonic-affiliated organizations.

Orvene was a loving patriarch. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Georgia Rae, his sons Gerald and Dennis, his daughter Janice Bogner, and his grandson Trevor Carpenter. He is survived by his grandchildren: Jeremy Carpenter, Megan (Carpenter) Hamlin, Geoff DeCesari, Jonathan Carpenter, and Janelle (DeCesari) Anderson. He also leaves behind nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, who will cherish his memory.

Orvene Carpenter's life was one of service, dedication, humor, and love. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and the community he served so faithfully.

A graveside service was held on, March 11, at the Conejo Mountain Memorial Park in Camarillo, with a reception following. David VadBunker did the Masonic committal at the graveside. Harold Bogner acted as Chaplin along with Geoff DeCesari - who also participate in the committal service. Following that the Flags were presented.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Orvene's service to country and community by donating in his name to the Gary Sinise Foundation or the Shriner's Hospitals.

Orvene was a fixture in the Scottish Rite, as well as in Oxnard Lodge #341, and the local community. He will be greatly missed by our membership and the community.

More information may be found at:

<https://www.conejomountain.com/tributes/Orvene-Carpenter>

From the PR's Quill

Continued from page 4

years. In the Ventura community, Harry was involved in, or led, many committees, boards, and organizations.

The services will be held on Saturday April 5th, beginning at 1:00 P.M. in the Ventura Masonic Center located at 482 E. Santa Clara. The family will be honored by your presence.

Fraternally, John

For Those Who Need our Prayers

*We seek in prayerful words, dear friend,
Our heart's true wish to send you,
That you may know that, far or near,
Our loving thoughts attend you.*

Robert 'Dee' Matson, (805) 647-6728

John Klopstein, (805) 486-0602

Ron Robinson, (415) 855-1027

Please give these people a call, pay them a visit,
or drop them a card or letter, to let them know that
they are in our thoughts and prayers.

If you know of a distressed brother, please
contact the Secretary (alittle93012@gmail.com,
(805) 415-3776) or one of the other officers.

For Those Who Have Crossed the Bar

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call from me,
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea.*

*For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face,
When I have crossed the bar.*

Orvene S. Carpenter crossed on 2/19/2025

Harry Lee Maynard crossed on 3/2/2025

FREEMASONRY BUILDS ITS TEMPLES IN THE HEARTS OF MEN AND AMONG NATIONS.

Useful Contacts

Officers of All the Bodies

Personal Rep of the SGIG...III. ∴ John F. Lowe, 33°	(714)392-2692	johnflowe@verizon.net
Treasurer.....Tag Gilbert, 32°	(805)558-8469	tag653@gmail.com
Secretary.....III. ∴ W. Andrew Little, 33°	(805)415-3776	alittle93012@gmail.com
Almoner..... <u>Mark T. Torrez, 32°</u>	<u>(805)290-3200</u>	<u>mark.torrez0983@hotmail.com</u>
Orator.....J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH	(805)241-6968	jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Prelate.....III. ∴ Harold W. Bogner, 33°	(805)218-1648	hbogner@smartsourcelle.com
Assistant Expert..... <u>Pat Riggs, 32° KCCH.....</u>	<u>(805)984-1453</u>	<u>wpatrickriggs098@gmail.com</u>
Director of the Work.....		
Class Director.....Michael D. Blodgett, 32° KCCH..	(805)390-0114	mdblodgett@gmail.com
Tyler.....John 'Tony' Thomas, 32°	(805)643-4559	tony@jrthomasintl.com

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master.....Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32° KCCH	(805)649-8177	sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Senior Warden		
Junior Warden.....		

Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master.....J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH	(805)241-6968	jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Senior Warden		
Junior Warden.....		

Council of Kadosh

Commander..... <u>David F. Contreras, 32°</u>	<u>(805)504-3889</u>	<u>teslaslight@verizon.net</u>
1 st Lt. Commander		
2 nd Lt. Commander.....		

Consistory

Master of Kadosh.....		
Senior Warden		
Junior Warden.....		

Other Workers

Dinner Reservations.....Harold W. Bogner, 33°	(805)218-1648	hbogner@smartsourcelle.com
Membership, VMAP Chair J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH	(805)241-6968	jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Stagecraft.....Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32° KCCH	(805)649-8177	sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Stagecraft Emeritus.....Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH	(805)625-3296	mgmetzler@aol.com
Newsletter Editor.....III. ∴ W. Andrew Little, 33°	(805)415-3776	alittle93012@gmail.com

Recent changes are underlined.

You can email us at vcscottishrite@gmail.com.

Web site: <http://venturascottishrite.org>

**“WHAT WE DO FOR OURSELVES DIES WITH US. WHAT WE DO FOR OTHERS AND
THE WORLD REMAINS AND IS IMMORTAL.” – Albert Pike**

Ventura County
Scottish Rite Bodies
487 Appletree Ave
Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

2025

Views from Ventura Valley
April - May

Page 8

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

For Reservations email hbogner@smartsourcellc.com, or call (805) 218-1648

Sat	Apr	5	Service for PGM Harry Maynard, 1:00 PM, Channel Islands Lodge #214, Santa Clara and California St, Ventura
Mon	Apr	14	Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm (<i>Reservations by Apr 11</i> , Dinner FREE with reservation!), Remembrance and Renewal at 7:30, Stated Meeting follows. Note: Dinner is free for those who make reservations by Apr 11.
Mon	May	12	Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm (<i>Reservations by May 9</i>), Stated Meeting follows
Mon	Jun	9	Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm (<i>Reservations by Jun 6</i>), Stated Meeting follows

