



James W. Norris

April 7, 1920 - July 27, 2014

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James W. Norris was born in Valley City, North Dakota on April 7th of 1920 to William Melville Norris and Mable Louise Norris. He attended college at the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks.

James moved to Santa Barbara in 1952 when he became a partner at Ogilvy, Gilbert and Morse Insurance agency. When he retired in 1998 as President of Ogilvy, Gilbert, Norris and Hill, the company was one of the most respected insurance agencies in Southern California.

He had two wonderful wives, the first being Dorothy Lou Martin, whom he married in 1944. Dorothy died suddenly in 1963. In 1964, he married Lida Ann Martin.

With his two loving wives, James raised two children, Victoria Ann Marrin and James Barnum Norris.

James W. Norris was very active for many years in insurance association work, having been past President of the Independent Insurance Agents of Santa Barbara as well as the Independent Insurance Agents of California. He was Chairman of the Sycamore Fire Committee, which gave guidance to those who lost their homes in the Sycamore Canyon Fire of 1977. He also assisted many families that lost their homes in the Painted Cave fire of 1990 in obtaining additional payments from their insurance companies.

He was a recipient of the Ramsden Memorial Award, the highest recognition

given by the Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West.

James W. Norris also gave freely of his time to assist non-profit organizations. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Santa Barbara for 45 years, and was their "Man of the Year" in 1969. He had served as Chairman of the Tri-Counties District of the Children's Home Society, and as Director of the American Red Cross, Boys Club of Santa Barbara, the Better Business Bureau, and the Music Academy of the West.

He was also Director of the Santa Barbara Cemetery from 1965 until just a short time before he passed.

James W. Norris was admired by everyone who knew him, and was well-loved by his friends, and especially by his family.

He is survived by his daughter and son, Victoria Ann Marrin and James B. Norris and grandson Mark James Linder, who miss him dearly.

Grave side services take place at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday, August the 6th. Friends and acquaintances are encouraged to come and pay their respects to this remarkable man.

Cemetery Details

Santa Barbara Cemetery

901 Channel Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
(805) 969-3231

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 6. 10:30 AM (PT)

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(805) 969-3231

Tribute Wall

JD

“ *My grandma Iris Points worked for Jim Norris for 39 years. I remember when I was a little girl going into the office and grandma taking me into Mr Norris office to say hello. Such a nice man. He was very good to my grandma and she loved him very much. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. Julie Duval*

julie duval - August 11, 2014 at 10:13 AM