



The Alford American Family Association

Serving the Alford community over 25 Years
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Eleanor Jane Thomas Nye

AAFA #0280

Charter Member

May 18, 1922 – December 12, 2015

Eleanor Jane Thomas Nye passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 12, 2015, at the age of 93.

Eleanor was born in Colton, Colorado, April 18, 1922. She was the daughter of Myrilla Elizabeth Thomas (nee Johnston) of Roseville, Illinois, and Joseph Neer Thomas of Monmouth, Illinois. After moving with her family to San Diego at an early age, she attended San Diego High School and later UCLA when only 16 years old. Eleanor pledged Pi Beta Phi. Afterwards, she moved to the Bay Area and worked as an engineer's assistant in the Kaiser Shipyards in Oakland, where she met Robert Ruric Nye, an engineer, who was born in Carrizozo, New Mexico, November 4, 1918. They were married in 1943, moved to Southern California and had two children; Pamela Elizabeth Nye, born April 12, 1944, and Robert Ruric Nye, Jr., born October 11, 1949, both in Pasadena, California. The family moved briefly to Ojai, California to be near Robert's mother, Hildred Nye, and then moved to Montecito, California where they lived from 1959 to 1972. After Eleanor was divorced, she travelled extensively throughout the world eventually settling in Paso Robles until 2009, and eventually landing in the Gardens of the Gables of Ojai. She is survived by her daughter and son; as well as her grandchildren, Braden Bentley Powell and Kristen Honda-Powell; and great grandchildren, Reece Powell and Kai Honda.

Eleanor was quite the nomad. Known for her unusual Christmas, birthday, and wedding gifts, she often travelled to visit family and friends to the far reaches of the world. Among her adventures were; attending a wedding in Southeastern India, skiing in Austria, visiting Paris, Rome, and attending Oxford University in England. Her sense of humor remained with her, as did her love of music and dancing.

A lifelong Episcopalian, she has attended, off and on, the Ojai Episcopal Church of Saint Andrew's since 1956. Her faith was a cornerstone for her life. Eleanor was a member of the Ojai Garden Club, book reading clubs, and served in many charities throughout the years. Holding education at the forefront of her life, she attended many adult continuing education courses both at UCSB and abroad. Bright and precocious, she was a handful for friends and family alike which served to leave a bright trail of smiles wherever she went.

Her memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2015, at 2:00 PM, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at the corner of Bristol and Ojai Avenue.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to either The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy at PO Box 1092, Ojai, CA 93024, or the Ojai Valley Museum at PO Box 204, Ojai, CA 93024.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ted Mayr Funeral Home, 3150 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, CA. Condolences may be sent to TedMayrFuneralHome.com.

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Copied from the [Dignity Memorial](#) web page.