

Mr. David Kyle Thurber

April 29, 1942 - January 17, 2025

David Kyle Thurber, Esq. passed away on January 17th, 2025, in Santa Barbara, California at the age of 82 years old. David was born in Arcadia, California on April 29th, 1942, to Kyle Nelson Thurber and Lily (Postlethwaite)Thurber.

David attended Arcadia High School, then went on to complete his bachelor's degree in English at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He finished his education in 1969 with a Doctorate in Law from USC Gould School of Law, graduating in the top ten of his class with Law Review distinction.

During his early years as a lawyer, David moved to Canada to teach law at York University, Toronto while also providing legal aid to the Indigenous Peoples of Canada. When he returned to the United States in the early 1980's, he continued his practice quickly rising to a senior partner in a Santa Ana, California law firm. He then moved to Santa Barbara in the mid-1990's to practice law from his own office. Highly active in the Santa Barbara legal community, he was a Board Member of the Santa Barbara Women Lawyers, President of the SBWL (2004) and Executive Board President of the Santa Barbara Legal Aid Foundation.

Outside of his legal work, David also had many personal interests. He had a great love of animals and plants, especially orchids. His collection of

cymbidiums and epiphyllum orchids was stunning and he would spend hours repotting his orchids to keep them healthy. David was an avid reader and music was a passion. There was always some music playing in his home....Leonard Cohen, The Band, Gordon Lightfoot, Bob Dylan, and Bad Company, to name a few.

The only time music wasn't playing is if a USC football game was on the television or a fabulous tennis match. And his sense of humor, quick wit and storytelling was legendary.

David is survived by his daughter, Jeanne Thurber Tierno (Tony), his sons, Kyle Thurber and Raphael Thurber (Corie). He also leaves behind his granddaughter, Cassidy MacRae (Matt), his two grandsons, Mateo Thurber and Lucas Thurber and his two great-grandsons, Sterling MacRae and Griffin MacRae. David is also survived by Stan Thurber (Ruth), his brother.

He will be missed immensely.

Remembrances may be left at <https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

Tribute Wall

MC

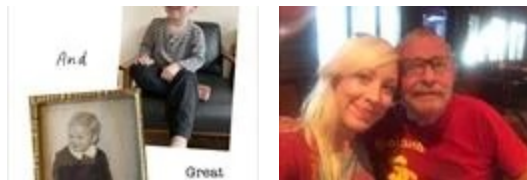
“ I was David's first cousin but the time we had together showed us as close as any brothers could be. We were 2 peas in a genetic pod that would defy any argument of our simalarity. If we had had more time together, the amount of required bail would have grown higher and higher. In short, the time we shared was some of my most treasured, and the time was never enough.

David was one of the most gentle people I've met. Soft spoken unless challenged by anyone of a lesser intelligence, David was non judgemental and open to listen to anyone's differing points of view. A beautiful open mind that I will miss terribly until we meet again on the other side. I hope you know how much I loved you David.....Godspeed my dear friend.

Mark Cavender - March 21, 2025 at 11:17 AM

CZ

“ I love you so much Poppy!!! The amount of amazing memories I have with you are treasures. From San Juan Cap to New York to Santa Barbara to Vegas and Texas you have always been a well of information and laughs. You always had something to teach me, witty humorous jokes we laughed so hard at, and a wealth of appreciation for the arts and music to pass down. You were young at heart always, getting us both into trouble in the best ways, sassy as all get out and never without a hug to give. I could go on and on. Thank you for making my life far more interesting and wonderful. You will be here everyday in the faces of your great grandchildren and in their squealy “ooooooooohh”s. May there be Leonard Cohen playing, a burger in hand, a G&T on the table and a USC game on with all the intellectually stimulating conversations you loved.



Cassidy Elyse Zellmann - January 28, 2025 at 07:56 PM

JE

He would love this

Jeanne - January 29, 2025 at 10:06 AM

JT

“ I love you, Dad. Thank you for all the hugs, the laughs, and glasses of wine shared. Thank you for teaching me all about football, sharing our passion for USC game day, showing me such an appreciation for music, and teaching me how to make snow angels. I will miss our debates, holding your hand, and your fantastic smile.
Jeanne

Jeanne Tierno - January 28, 2025 at 04:59 PM

PT

Rest in Peace Dave

Phyllis Thurber-Moffitt - January 28, 2025 at 05:12 PM

KF

I met you first when I was just an awkward young preteen girl. You were kind and had a strong sense of protection to this blossoming young woman. I always admired you. You shined a new light and vision into my world, as I know you did with so many others. Rest in peace. You will be remembered with love.

Kathy Forster - January 28, 2025 at 05:39 PM

KT

I Love you Dad. i will miss you.

Kyle Thurber - February 01, 2025 at 09:05 AM