



## Elizabeth "Betty" Cook

February 23, 1941 - December 29, 2023

Elizabeth "Betty" Barry, Frazier, Cook passed away peacefully Dec. 29, 2023 at Cottage

Hospital, Santa Barbara with family by her side, she was 82 years old.

"A Force of Nature" Betty lived life to its fullest.

Betty was born in South Dakota, February 23, 1941. The daughter of Bill and Mary Barry. The

Barry family moved to California in the early 40's. with Betty's older sisters, Barbara and Pat, to

find work. They settled down in Los Angeles. Eventually moving to Torrance, California.

In Junior High and High School Betty was a ferocious reader and a true Tom Boy. She loved to

play with the boys in pick up football games and her favorite sport, basketball.

She taught many

young boys how to throw a football and do layups.

After graduating from High School in 1959, Betty enlisted in the United States Women's

Marines, and went to Parris Island, South Carolina for Boot Camp. After 13 weeks of grueling

training, Betty was stationed in Hawaii as a teletype operator. She was proud of her work in the

com center during the Cuban Missile Crisis. After Hawaii Betty was stationed

at El Toro Air  
Station, California.

While working in the com center, Betty met her husband, Tom Frazier. While at El Toro, Betty had her first child, Tom. Betty was Honorably discharged from the Women Marines in 1964.

Betty settled down in Orange County and would move to Texas with her husband and son.

Moving back to California, Betty would have her second child, Michelle, in 1969. After her

divorce, Betty became a hardworking, single mom. Raising two young children, Betty would work full time and attend Junior College part time at night.

In the early 1970's, Betty and her two children moved to San Luis Obispo.

Again, working full

time, raising her children and attending Cal Poly SLO, Betty would earn her BA Degree in

Business Administration, at the age of 38.

After graduation Betty worked for SLO County Social Services as an Accounting supervisor for

over 20 years. Betty was known for her hard work and sense of humor.

After retirement, Betty was not one to, as she would say, "sit on my fluffy butt," and would

proceed to join many SLO organizations. Among them: the Catholic Young Ladies Institute,

Women's Marine Association, Marines Honor Guard, American Legion, The Eagles, Master

Gardeners, the Red Hats, usher at Cal Poly football games and the Gourmet cooking club. Betty

was not just a member of these organization, but a hardworking officer, holding many

positions, from secretary to president. Betty also started her own business at home, Tax

Preparer, she had many clients, many who became friends for life.

Betty loved to cook. You would walk into her house and be welcomed by the smell of

homemade bread and other amazing foods.

Tragically in 2018, Betty's son Tom passed away at the age of 51. Though heartbroken, Betty

never lost her sense of humor or the constant drive to keep active.

Betty loved her dog, Victor. They went everywhere together. At the age of 76, Betty and Victor

set out across the US in her little Chevy compact, to attend the 50 th anniversary of the Women's

Marine Boot Camp Parris Island, South Carolina. Scared the heck out of her family for sure.

Betty loved many things, but especially her huge family. From her children, grandson, sisters,

and brothers. To her cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Betty was preceded in life by her parents, Bill and Mary, sister Barbara, and son Tom. She is

survived by her daughter Michelle, grandson Michael, sisters Pat and Joann, and brother Bill

and Steve.

Betty's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Cottage Hospital of

Santa Barbara, who treated her so kindly in her final days. And to Reis Mortuary and Los Osos

Cemetery for making the final tough decisions easier and respectful.

A celebration of life for Betty will be organized in early 2024.

SEMPER FI, Betty

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JAN 11. 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM (PT)

Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory  
991 Nipomo Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 544-7400  
k.reis1958@gmail.com  
<https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

## Funeral Service

JAN 11. 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM (PT)

Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory  
991 Nipomo Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 544-7400  
k.reis1958@gmail.com  
<https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

## Burial

JAN 11. 2:00 PM (PT)

Los Osos Valley Memorial Park  
2260 Los Osos Valley Rd  
Los Osos, CA 93402

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ On behalf of the Women Marines Association, I want to offer our sincere condolences at the loss of your loved one. Please know of our thoughts and prayers. It is our profound hope that you can take comfort in knowing your beloved Marine has left this life to take up her rightful place in Heaven. As the 3rd stanza of the Marines Hymn reads, “If the Army and the Navy ever looked on Heaven’s scenes, they will find the streets are guarded by United States Marines.”

*Semper Fidelis.*

*Melinda Townsend*

*WMA National Chaplain*

*chaplain@womenmarines.org*

*womenmarines.org | Facebook | Instagram*

*HQ: 401 Edgewater Place, Suite 600, Wakefield, MA, 01880 USA*

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**Melinda Townsend, Chaplain WMA** - April 22, 2024 at 05:21 PM

DJ

“ Betty was a good friend. Her humor and kindness was so appreciated. We met through church and Old Mission school. She was deeply spiritual and maintained a wonderful spirit despite hardships and loss. A great woman

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**Donna Jones** - January 08, 2024 at 01:13 PM

TH

“ I loved my aunt Betty, she was the fun aunt. One of the best memories I have is when I stayed with her for a week when I was around ten years old. She was a single mom at the time and even though she barely had two nickles to rub together she found a way to have all my favorite foods. We had tacos, hamburgers, Fritos things like that. We had so much fun and laughed so hard we cried. I will never forget that. And then when I had kids they would go to her house often and she became the fun Aunt for them. Rest in peace Aunt Betty we love you 💕💕

Theresa - January 05, 2024 at 03:14 PM

DK

“ It has been a privilege for most of my 68 years to be a friend to Betty and her entire family. They have been my family from another Mother! It is with profound sadness that I bid her a fond farewell. Betty was one of those people who cast a powerful presence when she entered a room, without even saying a word. Now if she had something to say, you'd better take a seat and listen intently. On those occasions I usually got some sound advise, or good humor from a caring friend. Betty lived life at full throttle with incredible spirit and heart. She was fiercely loyal to family, friends, community, and her country. Betty was a United States Marine to the very last moment on this mortal coil! God just called her back to active duty.



David Keith - January 05, 2024 at 03:01 PM

JT

“ I knew Betty -- "Boots" -- mainly through our joint participation in the Veteran's & Memorial Day ceremonies at Los Osos Valley Memorial Park and I always enjoyed our conversations as two veterans. I would also often see her at the Cal Poly football games where she served as an usher. Always upbeat and always had a smile for me. She'll be missed. Semper fi, Betty!

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**John Tiffin** - January 04, 2024 at 09:10 PM