

*Dale and Virginia Leipper  
Book of Memories*

*Warren and Dorothy  
Thompson*



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Dear Dale and Virginia

We were pleased to receive the invitation from your children to contribute favorite memories of you both on the approach of your half-a-century wedding anniversary. My thoughts range back over a friendship and professional association of almost as many years, and I have chosen to write a testimonial of long association for family and friends.

My fond early recollection is of the first post-World War II graduate class in oceanography at Scripps Institution in La Jolla. There in September 1946 a quite remarkable group of nearly all veterans from all of the services, most trained as weather forecasters, came together to study under the tutelage of Dr. Harald Sverdrup and his exceptional faculty. Some of this group, like you Dale, were married and lived in an enclave above the campus while we bachelors resided in town, so there was limited opportunity for me to get to know Virginia at that stage. However, we students shared hours upon hours of lectures and came to know one another very well. In the late 1940's, when our professional interests began to diversify, I would drop by Dale's office to find out how his coastal fog study was going, and later what the Marine Life Research Program that he ably headed was doing.

In early 1950 two events occurred which brought the Leippers and Thompsons together as families--this time in Texas (by then Dodie and I were married). Dale accepted the rare opportunity to build from scratch and to head a department of ocean sciences at Texas A&M College. Almost at the same time an exceptional opportunity came for me and fellow student Paul Horrer to undertake a large research project for the United Gas Pipe Line Co. of Shreveport on how to lay a major pipe line across the Atchafalaya River delta and miles out into the Gulf of Mexico. United's investment was too big to entrust to two small contractors so through Dale's timely and able intervention the financial management was handled as Project 25 by the Texas A&M Research Foundation. That project gave a boost to the young Foundation and, in turn, to Dale's new oceanography department.



While I ran the field program for that project Dodie and I lived for a year in the small town of Franklin in coastal Louisiana in the heart of Cajun country. We then moved to College Station where I resumed graduate studies in oceanography--in Dale's department this time. There we bought a house a few doors from Dale and Virginia, and also near the Bob Reids. Our families were all in an early stage with more children to arrive later. There was a lot of interaction among us so that we came to know the Leipper family well and enjoyed many good times together.

In June 1953 I was awarded the Ph.D. degree (with Charles Bates), the first in oceanography by Texas A&M, and Dodie and I said goodbye to our Texas friends and headed west to Monterey where I accepted a faculty appointment at the Naval Postgraduate School. In the following years we kept in touch with Virginia and Dale through Christmas cards, the Letters from Oceanographers that Dale had initiated, and a few professional visits to College Station.

A long and fruitful period of renewed close association began when Dale and Virginia moved to Monterey and Dale assumed the chairmanship of the newly designated Department of Oceanography at the Naval Postgraduate School. I enjoyed those years of professional and personal contact with Dale, which continued after Dale retired. I miss our frequent get-togethers over lunch.

Dodie and I recall with fondness and miss the hospitality of the Leipper home. In College Station Virginia set a table, sometimes at a moment's notice, for seemingly innumerable guests brought home by Dale. In Monterey Virginia organized and led the Oceanography Wives Group. And at year end she and Dale would host a friendly Christmas party for the oceanography people, accompanied by Dale at the piano. A truly generous and gracious team.

So it is that Dale's and my professional careers intertwined over a considerable number of years. Our association with Virginia and Dale over all those years has been a really pleasant one for us.

Our fondest regards go with you on this happy anniversary.

With love,

Warren and Dorothy Thompson



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Happiness to both  
of you!  
Patty + Leslie





With this remembrance  
Come wishes, sincere,  
For a shower  
of happiness  
Year after year!

ms. Jones

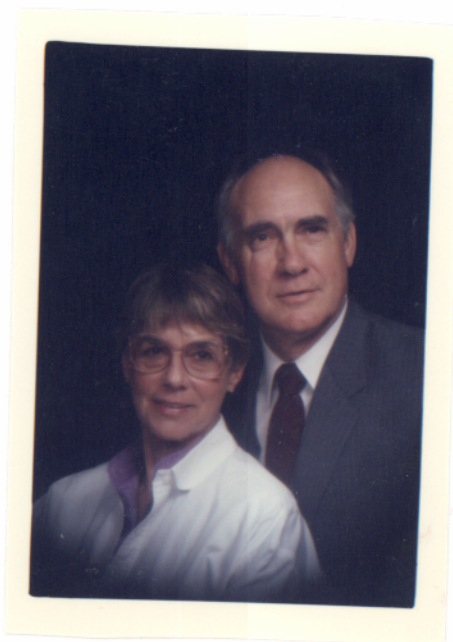
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true  
Because it's nice  
to remember  
you.

Mr & Mrs Ewel Jones



*Dale and Virginia Leipper  
Book of Memories*

*Marlin and Kay Thrasher*





Hale and Virginia

Our best wishes and Congratulations  
on this special day -

We have many pleasant memories  
of our years as neighbors, with  
our dogs, cats and plants!

Fay and Helen Thresher



*Dale and Virginia Leipper  
Book of Memories*

*Kay  
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With glad, good  
wishes  
for your happiness  
always.

Betty Lepper



A gift for the girl  
Who'll be married soon,  
And a wish for a  
LIFELONG HONEYMOON!

Aunt Julia



May these happy hours  
be a prelude to one  
sweet song—your  
whole life long.

Best Wishes from  
Rhea, Ed, Phyllis & Marjorie



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*Jeanine and Steve Tucker  
Steve Tucker*





8 May '92

My very best wishes for a  
very happy anniversary &  
for many, many more  
to come - I'm sorry  
we cannot help celebrate.  
(I'll be installing acoustic  
transponders on the Jumbo  
Tuck Ridge with some people  
from the U.S.G.S. in mid May.)  
We do intend to visit one of  
these days, however - probably  
some time after the first  
of the year - Very sincerely,  
Steve



Nothing holds a home together  
as well as love.

Happy Anniversary!

To Dale & Virginia



We have warm memories of both  
of you! Wish we could be with you  
on this grand occasion. Our thoughts  
and love will be there, though!  
Truly, Steven Tuck