



## Thomas Jeffery Owens

April 5, 1927 - July 18, 2015

Thomas J Owens

Born April 5, 1927 to Thomas S Owens and Elizabeth (nee Knotts) Owens in Raymond Washington.

In 1940 Tom's family moved to Corvallis to live on the Knotts farm. (Located on the north side of Good Samaritan Hospital). Tom was a sophomore at Corvallis High. Tom enjoyed school, especially Theater and acting. During his senior year he was Student Body President. Tom graduated with class of 1945.

Tom then attended Oregon State College for two years before enlisting in the United States Air Force for three years. One of Tom's duties was teaching history to the children of the base personnel.

After his military time was up, Tom enrolled at Whitman College, graduating in 1954. From there he went to Willamette Law School. He graduated in 1957. His first job was as a Deputy District Attorney in Coos County. Later he joined the Jackson County (Medford) DA's Office as a Deputy DA. He later became the DA of Jackson County.

In about 1983 Tom entered private law practice in Medford. Tom moved back to the family farm in 1984 following the passing of his mother. In about 2002 the farm property was sold to the Greenbelt Land trust, the hospital and the City of Corvallis.

Tom was preceded in death by his father and mother, his sister Virginia Owens Baker, and a nephew Mark Owens Baker. Tom is survived by nieces

Catherine Ann Martinelli, Susan King, and nephew Karl Baker Jr and his wife LoAnn. Tom wanted to recognize his special lifelong friends: Dr William (Bill) Paul of Corvallis; Ilione Morrison of South Beach, OR; Charlie Shoecraft of Chattanooga, TN; Dick Courtwright of Medford, OR. Tom was very grateful for outstanding care he was given in the Baker residence. Priscilla Stinson of Philomath and Cynthia Murillo of Salem provided outstanding care and service to Tom during his last several years.

# Tribute Wall

CM

“ *God Bless Uncle Tom, RIP.  
Love, Cathy*

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**cathy martinelli** - September 15, 2015 at 09:35 PM

JM

“ *From all of us at Greenbelt Land Trust, we pass along our condolences to Tom's family. We really enjoyed the time that we spent with Tom over the years, and look forward to continuing his family's legacy at the farm.*

*While all of our staff have their own favorite memories of Tom, mine has to be sitting on the front porch with Tom about 6 years ago, looking over incredible, ancient books and family photos that he brought out of the house. He would dust each book and photo off, and proceed to tell a wonderful story about it. I loved hearing about his family and the farm through Tom's eyes.*

*He will be missed, and our thoughts and best wishes go to his extended family and friends.*

*Jessica McDonald  
Greenbelt Land Trust*

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**Jessica McDonald** - August 07, 2015 at 12:00 PM