

# WARD OVERTON PAYNE JR.

1919 - 2014 | Obituary | Condolences



Ward Overton Payne Jr. age 95, died of natural causes at home in Laguna Woods, CA. Born May 18, 1919 in Dallas, TX. His wife Ruth of 66 years preceded him in death April 7, 2009. A cousin, Joanne Bobo, St Mary's, GA; nieces, Marcie Hancock/Hasselberg, Santa Cruz, CA, Margaret Benson, Los Gatos, CA and Elizabeth Gomez, Woodcrest, TX; nephew, James Jessup, Tracy, CA; godson, William Silsbee, Birmingham, AL; godson, Ward Brickner, Locust, NY survive him.

Ward served in [WWII](#), as 1st Lieutenant, he was ordered to combat duty on the German-Belgium border where he was a platoon leader in battles of Huertgen Forest, Ardennes, and across the Rhine at Remagen. He was wounded and sent to the General Hospital, Liege, Belgium. For his combat actions while with the 9th Infantry Division, he was awarded the Silver Star, [Bronze Star](#), [Purple Heart](#), and Combat Infantry Badge, as well as 3 battle stars.

He also served in the [Korean War](#) and was promoted to Captain with the 40th Infantry Division. He was awarded the additional Bronze Star and Cluster to his Combat Infantry Badge and one battle Star (2nd Korean Winter Campaign).

We love you Wardo!

Memorial Service Saturday September 27, 2014, Laguna Woods Clubhouse #2 Gate 12 11am to 3pm.