



Scotty Thorp was welcomed 'home' to the cement boat pier at Seacliff Beach Wednesday.

Cement Ship 'Fixture' Scotty Thorp Given A Big Welcome

By JOHN McNICHOLAS
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Scotty Thorp, 72, for years was a permanent fixture on the cement boat pier at Seacliff Beach where he came almost daily to fish until two months ago, when old injuries and a tumor in his left leg forced him to have the limb amputated above the knee.

Thorp was back at the pier Wednesday with his new artificial limb, and a group of friends and acquaintances he made over the years on the pier were there to welcome him back with a lunch in his

honor.

"Friendship is something money can't buy," said Thorp, and "it's good therapy for us old folks to come down here. When we're not fishing, we're visiting."

Thorp said he "did a bit of fishing, and a good lot of hunting as well" in his native England, where he had two farms in Yorkshire. It was there that he injured his leg racing motorcycles in his youth.

He moved to Canada to work in oil refineries in 1954, and now lives in Capitola with his wife, Muriel.

Margie Dodson, who said she's been

Scotty's fishing partner since he taught her to fish several years ago, said he was having some trouble covering the 200 yards from the parking spaces for the disabled to the end of the pier. Scotty agreed it was "a good long way to walk" with his crutches and the cast he still wears.

However, Dick Menefee, state Department of Parks and Recreation manager for the Pajaro Coast Area, said, "With salmon at the end of the journey, Scotty will find the incentive to get to the end of the pier."

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