Vester Dick, photographer of Monterey Bay, dies at 76

By ANNA MARIA BASQUEZ
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — The man who put the Monterey Bay area on postcards for all to see died Saturday after a lengthy illness. He was 76.

Vester Dick Photographer

Vester Dick, who in 1950 established a color postcard business in the Monterey Bay area, will be remembered by his work, which will live on, friends said.

"There are hundreds and hundreds of pictures in people's homes that he took," said his wife Esther

Dick, who he was married to for 52 years.

The first image Dick caught on film was of the Great Wall of China, which he shot while riding on a train, family members said.

Mr. Dick was a native of Shang Hang, China, where he was born to a missionary family in 1922. The family later moved back to the United States. He attended Windsor Grammar School, Reedle High School and junior college. He joined the Army in 1942 and served in China. Burma and India.

He returned to the United States in 1946. He moved to Los Angeles with his wife, where he worked for Keystone Photography. In 1947 they moved to Santa Cruz. He worked for Ed Webber's Photo Shop and also took pictures for the Sentinel.

In 1950, he established a color postcard business covering this area. He also worked as a missionary photographer with the Sudan Interior Mission, an English-language magazine read throughout Nigeria.

He bought the commercial photography department of Webber's in 1960 in partnership with Pete Amos, who also worked for Webber's.

He made it into Vester Dick Photography. He sold the business in

1979 when he retired. The business is still in operation.

Mr. Dick was a former president of the Northern California Photography Association. He received his master's degree in photography from the Professional Photographers of America. He was a member of High Street Community Church.

He is survived by his wife; daughters Marilyn Turner of San Jose and Kathy Truxton of Salinas; sisters Verna Richert of Fresno and Wilma Wall of Reedley; two grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews and cousins.

A memorial service will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Mount Hermon Conference Center Auditorium, 37 Conference Drive.

Contributions are preferred to the Nigerian Youth Camp, c/o The Master's Mission, P.O. Box 547, Robbinsville, NC 28771-0547, or to the Mt. Hermon Campership Fund, P.O. Box 413, Mt. Hermon, CA 95041.

Smith & Arnolds Chapel of the Four Seasons is handling arrangements.