

OBITUARIES

'Hope L. Wheelwright Of Famed Ranch Dies

Mrs. Hope L. Wheelwright, 60, who helped her husband, George W. Wheelwright III, develop the famed Green Gulch Ranch at Muir Beach after World War II died yesterday at the ranch after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Wheelwright, who was born Hope Livermore in New York City, spent most of her childhood living at Cerbeif Cerf, a 750-acre chateau near Paris. The chateau is a working farm, but is a place so prized by the French government that it was designated a national monument following both world wars, eligible for government funds to repair war damage.

Wheelwright, who worked on polarization for the Navy during World War II, is the co-inventor of the Polaroid Land Camera. He told an interviewer that he had never worked with the land, and began the development of the Green Gulch Hereford breeding ranch at the urging of his wife.

The agricultural chateau on which Mrs. Wheelwright spent her childhood was a property of her family. "She loved it," Wheelwright said today, "and she often told me that if I died, she would return there to live."

The Wheelwrights met and were married during the second World War and at the close of the war, moved to California and purchased the Green Gulch Ranch. It has been described as "an emerald oasis among the brown hills."

Wheelwright was the first farmer in California to use the law to prevent his farm from becoming a town. He signed an agreement with Marin County last year that the farm will be used only for agricultural purposes for the next 10 years.

Mrs. Wheelwright attended schools in England and in France and was graduated from Foxcroft, a girls finishing school at Middleburg, Va. Although she wished to teach, she was unable to because she had never obtained a college degree.

She became knowledgeable in the Laubach method of teaching reading and writing to individuals, however, and instructed many people in it, helping them to go on to better jobs, her husband said.

She was active in the Experiment In International Living, a student exchange program and was responsible for bringing more than 100 young people from foreign countries to the United States.



HOPE L. WHEELWRIGHT
Green Gulch Ranch owner

She was active in P-TA work, and was recently elected to the board of directors of the Bay Area Urban League.

Mrs. Wheelwright and her husband both were active in Synanon, beginning their interest with the Synanon program at Tomales, and later extending their interest to the Synanon work throughout California.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Constance Boden of Marble Head, Mass.; two sons, Arthur B. Richardson of Mill Valley and Philip Richardson, doing graduate work in oceanography in Rhode Island; and two stepsons, George W. Wheelwright IV of Santiago, Chile, and Michael C. Wheelwright of Santa Barbara.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made. The family prefers memorial donations to Contreras Research Foundation, Imperial Beach, Calif., and to Synanon Inc., Santa Monica.