

## Robert Dana Agnew



Robert (Bob) Dana Agnew passed away on Jan 6, 2024 in Anaheim, CA. after a brief illness. Bob was born on Dec 18, 1937 in Altadena, CA. He graduated from Pasadena High School, Pasadena City College and from Whitter College in 1959 with a degree in Sociology. After graduation, he worked as a counselor at Orange County Juvenile Hall.

1963, he married Janice Louise Rosenberg. They had known each other almost all their lives as they had grown up in the same neighborhood in east Pasadena. They settled in Orange, CA. Bob became a Deputy Probation Officer. He supervised juveniles.

Bob was an artist. He was always interested in arts and crafts. This led to the designing and sale of string art do-it-yourself kits. The Agnew String Art kits were produced by family and friends in their garage and sold in needlework stores. Eventually, Bob sold the company to the Spinnerin Yarn Company. He continued to design the kits and write the instructions while Spinnerin made and sold the kits.

In 1976, the family moved to a house in an old avocado grove in Orange Park Acres in the hills of east Orange. Bob started carving avocado wood when one of the trees died. He found that the wood was beautiful when finished. He made large abstract designs that were sold by the Sculpture House Gallery in Carmel Highlands, CA. His long hanging chains were made from walnut. He described his work as "continuous curves." In 1990 he retired from the Probation Department and devoted his time to making sculptures in his garage workshop. The gallery sold over 100 large sculptures.

When it became work instead of fun, he stopped carving and tried other art forms. He became known for his unique abstract water color paintings. He won several awards for them. He liked word games and played Scrabble with a local group. Bob even made a word game, "Across Words" that was published in the national Scrabble publication. Bob & Janice spent a lot of time traveling in the western U.S. and Canada. First, they had a tent, then a VW camper, then a small RV trailer and then a timeshare. They stayed in over 40 different timeshares.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Dianne Marie, and his parents Thomas Leon and Alice Marie Agnew. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Janice, his twin brother Thomas Edwin, his sister Catherine Eleanor Agnew Smith, son Jeffrey Dean Agnew, daughter-in-law Mimi Agnew and his grandson Justin Chadwick Agnew.