

## **Larry Thompson**

I was born at Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City and was raised in the Palo Alto/Los Altos area. I have 2 younger sisters, who also made the move to Windsor some 35+ years ago, to raise their families as well.

I went to Homestead High School in Sunnyvale, DeAnza College and later attended San Jose State University, pursuing an Engineering degree with an option in Computer Science.

I grew up with an active family that enjoys Camping, Snow Skiing, Boating, Sailing, Water Skiing and Dirt Bike riding. During my senior year in high school, I became the youngest rider to ever qualify for the United States ISDT Team – International Six Day Trials (unofficially known as the “Olympics” of motorcycle racing). I was sponsored by KTM of Austria and rode the ISDT in Austria 1976. The following year I was sponsored by Yamaha International and rode the ISDT in Czechoslovakia 1977, as a member of the 4-man Silver Vase Team.

After my 2 years of Racing and while attending College, I trained to become a National Ski Patroller. I patrolled China Peak/Sierra Summit & Alpine Meadows ski resorts frequently. The highlight of my Patrolling years was the 1982 Alpine Meadows avalanche. I was just certified in Avalanche Rescue the day before....and was now involved in a 5-7 day Rescue/Recovery Operations, for 7 missing persons. During my Patroller years, I gained a passion to provide better Medical Aid to my patients. I soon took an EMT course and loved it! This soon became a pivotal point in my career choice, from an Engineering path...now towards a Medical/Fire Service path. After obtaining my EMT certificate, I was hired to work in the Emergency Department of Saint Agnes Medical Center, in Fresno, CA. A very progressive Hospital of its time with a Heli-pad & Helicopter, a CT Scanner and a Cath Lab....all cutting edge technology then. I later worked for Clovis Ambulance, working the Metro-Rural areas in the Valley and I was also contracted to provide Medical coverage for the PG&E Helms Hydroelectric Project, in the eastern Sierras. All our patients were Medi-vac via Helicopter, due to the remote locations of the project. A great experience!

I later attended Stanford Medical Center Hospital’s Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic program. After graduating, I worked for Santa Clara Valley paramedics-SCV Paramedics, stationed in downtown San Jose, Ca.

After working a couple years in the “combat” zone.... I moved to Sonoma County, worked for a few local Private Ambulance Companies and flew as a Tactical Flight Paramedic for the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Helicopter Unit. All the while, I was in search of a more sustainable career, as a Firefighter/Paramedic. I soon was hired by the Marin County Fire Department and enjoyed a 28-year career with them. During my Fire Service career with MCFD, I became a Fire Service Instructor and was 1 of 3 EMT Instructors providing on-going continuous education for all our Firefighters and adjoining agencies. I also proudly served on the newly formed Marin County Urban Search and Rescue Team-USAR, both as a Medical Specialist and a Collapsed Structure Specialist.

As most know, many Firefighters usually have a “side job”. Mine became teaching EMT. In 1996 I became the EMT Program coordinator for the College of Marin. I developed and ran this program for 10 years, before signing-on to teach for the Santa Rosa Junior College programs here in Windsor, at the Public Safety Training Center. Also in 1996, I became a founding member and Fire Captain with the Lake Pillsbury Fire Protection District. I retired from the Marin County Fire Department in 2015, yet I continue to teach EMT at SRJC part-time and serve as the Fire Chief for the Lake Pillsbury Fire Protection District.

My wife Carol and I have been married for almost 35 years now. Before having kids, Carol was an Operations Manager for the UCSF Medical Center department(s) of Surgery. After our two daughters began school, Carol decided to stay home to raise our girls. While raising our girls, Carol became involved as a Volunteer with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Search & Rescue Team. She was not only a team member but also was a K-9 Search Dog Handler, with our Bloodhound “Daisy Duke”. She continues to Volunteer for Sonoma County Search Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team.

We are lucky that our daughters, Corrine & Courteney, both live near-by these days after attending College.

Corrine worked as a Mental Health Counselor for Sonoma County, is married to a good man, she is a great mother for their 2 sons (Westyn & Carsyn).

Courteney finished her Veterinarian – DVM doctorate almost two years ago, is now working at the Middletown Veterinarian Hospital, is a super Auntie to her nephews and is currently dating a good man. Carol and I are especially “blessed” to be close and participate with our family(s), and proud to see them be successful in their careers and beginning their own families.

Carol and I continue to stay busy with Teaching & Volunteering. (EMT, Volunteer Fire Chief, SAR Treasurer, SAR K9 Trainer) We soon plan to retire altogether, thus allowing us more time to Travel and spend more time with our daughters & grandchildren