Bay Area notables who died in 2016

Dianne de Guzman | December 30, 2016 | Updated: December 30, 2016 10:30am
This year has become known for being a time when several political figures, pop culture icons and artists have died, leaving many to mourn their loss.

The Bay Area had its own share of notable figures who died this year, many whose achievements will live on in everything from improvements to our public transportation and contributions to the arts to political successes.

Paul Kantner of Jefferson Airplane and Jefferson Starship was one of the Bay Area locals that died this year. Scroll through the gallery to see more from 2016.
have a photo of, but whose accomplishments are still felt today.

**Darlene Oliveira, 74.** Known figure in the LBGT community, local political activist. Jan. 22

**Jay Payton, 90.** Comedian, dancer, doo-wop singer and all-around entertainer, master of ceremonies for many Bay Area nightclubs and concert venues. Feb. 5

**Catherine Shen, 68.** Former editor at The Chronicle, journalist and director of communications for the School of Public Health at the University of Washington. March 31

**Proverb Jacobs, 80.** Former Raiders lineman who played six seasons in the AFL and NFL. April 18

**Charles Gatewood, 73.** San Francisco photographer known for taking photos of the subculture with "edgy subjects" with his work shown in Time, Rolling Stone, the New York Times. April 29

Final goodbye: Roll call of some of those who died in 2016

Will the Oscars 'In Memoriam' Be the Biggest, Saddest Ever?

Mark Leno looks to be first out of the gate for SF mayor's race
Blanche Hartman, 90. Former San Francisco Zen Center abbess and teacher. May 13

Monsignor Eugene Boyle, 94. Catholic priest known for his social justice work in support of fair housing and better treatment for gays in the church. May 22

Ken Harvey, 86. Bay Area newspaper reporter and editor. June 15

Ron Goben, 88. Longtime Bay Area reporter and newspaper editor at the Palo Alto Times and Peninsula Times Tribune. June 20

Jacques Terzian, 94. Sculptor and founder of Hunters Point artist colony. Aug. 6

John Ellenby, 75. Computer engineer and founder of Grid Systems, credited with playing a role in paving the way for laptop computers. Aug. 17

Thomas C. Benét, 89. San Francisco journalist, longtime Chronicle reporter and editor. Sept. 7

John E. Hirten, 90. First executive director of the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association and former head of Rides for Bay Area Commuters. Sept. 18

Jean-Louis LeRoux, 89. Musician and principal oboist for the San Francisco Symphony, and conductor of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra and co-founder of the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. Sept. 21

Melvin Grumbach, 90. San Francisco pediatrician, longtime professor of pediatric endocrinology at UCSF and expert on hormone development in children. Oct. 4

Arthur Lloyd, 91. Served on the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and the San Mateo County Transit Agency and was an advocate for public transportation. Dec. 4

Fred D. Fletcher, 96. Chief negotiator and executive secretary of the San Francisco-Oakland...
From David Bowie to Carrie Fisher, these are some of the celebrities, politicians and other public figures we lost this year.

Media: SFGATE.com