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## Bruce E. Bradbury Papers

### Collection number: Coll2008-022

ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives  
Los Angeles, California

Processed by:

Michael C. Oliveira

Date Completed:

January 7, 2008

Encoded by:

Michael C. Oliveira

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Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.



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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Bruce E. Bradbury papers

**Dates:** 1942-1991

**Collection number:** Coll2008-022

**Creator:** Bradbury, Bruce Edgar, 1923-1992

**Collection Size:** 2 archive cartons, 1 archives half-carton, 1 oversize box.2.4 linear feet.

**Repository:** ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives.

Los Angeles, California 90007

**Abstract:** Photographs, correspondence, and other materials relating to the life and family of Bruce Bradbury (1923-1992). The documents include family correspondence, photographs, and 8-mm home movies. Other photographs, correspondence, and materials document Bradbury's service in the United States Merchant Marine, his creative writing (including a typescript of his novel *Who Are You, Billy Bingleman?*), and his interest in motorcycles and tattoos.

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: English

### Access

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

### Publication Rights

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### Preferred Citation

Box #, Folder #, Bruce E. Bradbury Papers, Coll2008-022, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.

### Acquisition Information

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Date and method of acquisition unknown.

### Processing Information

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### Biography

Bruce Edgar Bradbury was born in Indiana (possibly Albion) on May 15, 1923, to Edgar J. and Lucille Enger Chappelle Bradbury. A member of the National Honor Society, he graduated from high school in 1940 and went on to attend Northwestern University. He later graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy and served as a deck officer on the Mesh Knot. In the mid 1950s, he relocated to Los Angeles, where he pursued his interests in creative writing, motorcycles (he appears to have been a member of the Saddleback Motorcycle Club of Orange County), and tattoos. He died in Los Angeles on April 13, 1992.

### Scope and Content of Collection

The bulk of the collection consists of photographs of Bradbury's service with the United States Merchant Marine, outings with the Saddleback Motorcycle Club of Orange County, and images of himself and family. The collection also includes 7 reels of 8-mm home movies dating from the mid-1950s, and a typescript of his novel, *Who are You, Billy Bingleman?* Bradbury's personal papers include identity, membership, and business cards, along with documents relating to his Merchant Marine service, and his interest in tattoos. Other papers include correspondence and personal papers of his mother, father and brother.

### Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Bradbury, Bruce Edgar, 1923-1992

Gay motorcycle clubs--Los Angeles, Calif.

Merchant marine

Photographs

Tattooed people

Box 1 : 1-2, 5-9 ; **Personal 1923-1991**

1-3 ; 3 : 1-2

Box 1 : 1           **Personal correspondence and documents 1939-1991**

Box 1 : 2           **Identity, membership, and business cards 1954-1985**

Box 1 : 6           **Motorcycle club program, Coronation of Oedipus Rex LVII 1990**

Box 3 : 1-2       **Photographs circa 1923-circa 1990**

**Tattoos and piercings 1974-1991**

Box 1 : 5           **Business cards, flyers, miscellaneous 1974-1982**

Box 1 : 5           **PFI Quarterly magazine October 1977**

Box 1 : 5           **Illustrated Men newsletter May 1990-November 1991**

Box 1 : 7 - 2 : 3   **Who Are You, Billy Bingleman? (novel) circa 1960**

**Physical Description:** Typescript; 6 folders.

Box 1 : 3-4; 3 : 3 **Family 1929-1976**

4 : 1(Oversize)

Box 4 : 1(Oversize) **Edgar J. Bradbury's certificates as Freemason 1929-1966**

Box 4 : 1(Oversize) **Family cemetery map no date**

Box 1 : 3           **Family correspondence and documents 1929-1966**

**Home Movies circa 1958-1960**

**Physical Description:** 8-mm film; 1 x 7-inch reel ; 1 x 5 1/2-inch reel ; 5 x 2 3/4-inch reels.

- Box 3 : 3                    **"Family, Neighbors, Steam Engines" 1956-1959**  
**Physical Description:** 8 mm film; 1 x 7-inch reel.
- Box 3 : 4                    **Films addressed to Edgar J. Bradbury circa 1958**  
**Physical Description:** 8 mm films; 3 x 2 3/4-inch reels ; 1 empty reel.
- Box 3 : 5                    **Films found with Edgar J. Bradbury films circa 1958**  
**Physical Description:** 8 mm films; 1 x 5 1/2-inch reel ; 2 x 2 3/4-inch reels.
- Box 1 : 4                    **Memorial cards of family and friends, family cemetery map, petition for probate 1930-1976**