Letter to the Editor The New York Times Joe Lelyveld 229 W 43rd St. New York, NY 10036

This letter is written in reference to the obituary in the New York Times, August 20, 2002, by David W. Dunlap for Benjamin C. Thompson, Architect, who died on August 17, 2002. The heading for the article is, "Benjamin C. Thompson, 84, Architect of Festive Urban Marketplaces, Is Dead."

A glaring omission in the obituary is any mention of Mary O. Thompson, to whom Mr. Thompson was married for twenty years and who was and is the mother of his five children.

We request that the New York Times print a statement to include the following facts: Mr. Thompson married Mary Okes of St. Paul, MN, in 1943, was divorced in 1963, and then married Jane McCullough in 1970.

SARAH P. HARKNESS Lexington, Massachusetts, Sept. 16, 2000 and Long term friends, neighbors and associates of Ben and Mary Thompson