

Otis Chandler and the Rise and Fall of the Times Dynasty

Otis Chandler was born in Los Angeles on August 23, 1927. His father, Norman Chandler, was the publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*, and his mother, Dorothy Buffum Chandler, was a prominent socialite. Chandler attended Stanford University and Harvard Law School, but he left law school before graduating to join the family business.

In 1960, Chandler became publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*. He was just 33 years old, and he quickly set about making his mark on the newspaper. He hired a new editor, William F. Thomas, and together they transformed the *Times* into one of the most respected newspapers in the country.



Privileged Son: Otis Chandler And The Rise And Fall Of The L.A. Times Dynasty by Dennis McDougal

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Under Chandler's leadership, the *Times* won 13 Pulitzer Prizes, more than any other newspaper in the country. The paper also became known for its aggressive investigative reporting, which often exposed corruption and wrongng.

In addition to his work at the *Times*, Chandler was also involved in a number of other business ventures. He was the chairman of the Times Mirror Company, which owned a number of newspapers, television stations, and other businesses. He was also a director of the Atlantic Richfield Company, the Los Angeles Country Club, and the California Institute of Technology.

Chandler was a powerful and influential figure in Los Angeles. He was a close friend of Governor Ronald Reagan, and he played a key role in the development of the city's downtown area. He also helped to found the California Plaza, a large office and retail complex in downtown Los Angeles.

However, Chandler's later years were marked by controversy. In 1985, he was accused of having an affair with a 22-year-old woman. The scandal led to his resignation from the Times Mirror Company.

Chandler died in 2006 at the age of 78. He was a complex and controversial figure, but he was also a major force in the development of Los Angeles.

The Rise of the Times Dynasty

The Chandler family has been involved in the newspaper business for over a century. Otis Chandler's grandfather, Harrison Gray Otis, founded the *Los Angeles Times* in 1881. The paper quickly became one of the most important newspapers in the West, and it played a key role in the growth and development of Los Angeles.

Otis Chandler's father, Norman Chandler, took over as publisher of the *Times* in 1917. He continued to expand the paper's reach, and he also helped to found the Times Mirror Company.

Under Otis Chandler's leadership, the Times Mirror Company became one of the largest media companies in the United States. The company owned newspapers, television stations, and other businesses. Otis Chandler was a shrewd businessman, and he helped to make the Times Mirror Company a very profitable enterprise.

The Fall of the Times Dynasty

However, the Times Mirror Company's fortunes began to decline in the 1980s. The company faced increasing competition from other media outlets, and it also made a number of bad investments.

In 1985, Otis Chandler was forced to resign from the Times Mirror Company after it was revealed that he was having an affair with a 22-year-old woman. The scandal damaged the company's reputation, and it led to a decline in its stock price.

The Times Mirror Company continued to struggle in the 1990s. The company sold off a number of its assets, and it eventually filed for bankruptcy in 2000. The company's assets were sold off, and the Times Mirror Company was dissolved.

The Chandler family's grip on the *Los Angeles Times* ended in 2000, when the paper was sold to the Tribune Company. The Tribune Company is a large media conglomerate, and it also owns the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Baltimore Sun*.

The Legacy of Otis Chandler

Otis Chandler was a complex and controversial figure. He was a brilliant businessman who helped to build the Times Mirror Company into a major media empire. However, he was also a man who was flawed by personal and ethical problems.

Despite his flaws, Otis Chandler made a significant contribution to the development of Los Angeles. He was a strong advocate for the city, and he helped to make the *Los Angeles Times* one of the most respected newspapers in the country.

Otis Chandler's legacy is a mixed one. He was a successful businessman, but he was also a man who was involved in a number of scandals. However, there is no doubt that he was a major force in the development of Los Angeles.



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