



twice!" Ruth said. It was on their honeymoon that Ruth's memories started to flood back, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Bill took a luxury liner back to the States, and Ruth followed six months later on the army transport ship reserved for war brides.

When they pulled into San Francisco a few months later, the adventure was only just beginning for the girls, with an unexpected twist along the way.

They arrived on a Sunday and it was against the Dockers union laws to tie up the boat, so they dropped the anchor and stayed on the harbour for a night – the same night there was a prison break-out at Alcatraz.

"There were boats everywhere and big search lights. I was telling the girls, isn't this wonderful, San Francisco came out to greet us!"

Bill and his parents were on the dock the next day and immediately whisked Ruth away to show her off to the rest of the family.

The couple lived in America for the next 15 years with their four children until they moved back to Australia at Bill's insistence.

"I didn't want to come back, I was still the flavour of the month and loved the spotlight," Ruth said with a cheeky grin. It's now close to seven decades since they first met, but say their marriage is as strong as ever.

They've always taken separate holidays, to pursue their separate interests – for Ruth it was scuba diving while Bill's interest has always been with trains.

"Then we'd come back together again and we'd have another honeymoon," Ruth told me.

"We stopped counting after 150 honeymoons."

It's clearly a case of opposites attracting, but it's been working for Ruth and Bill for a long time.

"How opposite can you get?" Bill piped up.

"I said early on I hope you have no plans to change me because this is what you get, and I have no plans to change you," Ruth added.

"Your life should be just the way you want it to be."

▶ Ruth has recently self-published a book about her life, *Pavlovas to Popcorn*, which can be ordered via her website at <http://www.frostmedia.com.au/ruthfrost>, or by calling 5444 7190.

