

Lois "Jimmy" Snyder Herron
1905-1996

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR OF FACULTY AFFAIRS AND
RECORDS, EMERITUS

B.S.; M.S., Advertising and Marketing, University of Illinois, 1934
California State University, Fullerton From March 23, 1959 To July 1, 1974
Birth: January 10, 1905; Death: March 16, 1996

Lois Snyder Herron, a Champaign County Illinois native, had lived since 1958 in North Orange County, California. She died on March 16, 1996 in her home in Anaheim. She was born in Penfield, Il, the daughter of Peter M. and Mabel Sharp Snyder on January 10, 1905 and grew up in the East Central Illinois communities of Rantoul and Urbana where her father was a local merchant/grocer. Following the award of a Bachelor of Science degree by the University of Illinois, her career began in the advertising and promotion departments of two State Street Chicago retailers, Carson Pirie Scott & Company and The Fair Store. From there she moved to New York City where she did editorial and news coverage for two fashion trade publications, Fur Trade Review and the Dry Goods Economist.

She returned to the University of Illinois in Urbana in 1931 as administrative secretary to Dr. Henry Ward, in his post as executive secretary for the American Association for the Advancement of Science and as editorial assistant to Novelist William Byron Mowrey. During this period she continued her studies and received her Master of Science degree in advertising and marketing at the University of Illinois in 1934.

Subsequently she served a year in Sarasota, FL., as assistant to W.B. Mowrey before returning to the University as editorial assistant to Father John O'Brien at the Newman Foundation. In 1938 she was named secretary to Dr. David John Davis, Dean of the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago, with the responsibility of preparing and maintaining the department's financial budget. She remained there until 1942.

She was married to Horace S. Herron in 1941 and soon thereafter his career took them to Galesburg, Illinois. There she returned to retailing as Office and Credit Manager of Block & Kuhl Department Store. Later she was named assistant registrar and recorder at the Undergraduate Division at the Galesburg branch of the University of Illinois.

In 1950 the couple moved to Arizona where she held administrative positions in the Public School System of Tucson and Southern Arizona School for Boys before affiliating with the University of Arizona as secretary to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Following their move to California in 1958, Lois was the fourth employee named to the staff of Dr. William B. Langsdorf, president of the newly organized Orange County State College in Fullerton in 1959. She remained in the dual post of Executive Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the President before being named Director of Faculty Affairs and Records all through the college's

transformation to University status until her retirement in 1974, at which time she was the first woman to be given Emeriti status. During her 15 years with CSUF, she watched the college grow from its fledgling beginnings with five full-time and several part-time faculty members. Presently the University is a high rise multi-million campus with a full-time faculty of 715 and an enrollment of 22, 600.

After her retirement, she enjoyed a decade of travel and community activities with friends and associates before ill health forced her to curtail her activities - but not her enthusiasm for nor her keen interest in local and regional events, organizations, and people. In addition to her status as a Founder of Orange County State College and membership in the Emeriti of California State University, Fullerton, she was named a member of the Orange County Historical Society and CSUF Arboretum. She and her husband were charter members of the Valencia United Methodist Church in Placentia, CA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and her brother, Lisle. She is survived by a host of caring and loving friends as well as two cousins, Donald and Robert Payne, of Champaign, Illinois, three nieces, Joan Herron and Nancy Herron Scott of Eureka, Illinois, and Ruth Herron Shasteen of Sullivan, Illinois, and two sisters-in-law, Vivian Herron of Savoy, Illinois, and Julia Herron of Centreville, Virginia.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the Valencia United Methodist Church in Placentia. Graveside service and interment will be at a later date in Maple Grove Cemetery in Milford, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Valencia United Methodist Church, 2050 Valencia Avenue, Placentia, CA 92670-2040 or to the Fullerton Arboretum at California State University, Fullerton, CA 92634.

Submitted by
Julia Herron
Lois Herron's sister-in-law
March 27, 1996