

In Memoriam

Donna Knox Sefton 1927-2014

The San Diego History Center owes a great debt of gratitude to Donna Knox Sefton. Throughout her education at San Diego State College, where she majored in history, Donna was always fascinated with San Diego's beginnings. She wrote a lively article entitled "Justice in Old Town" for the 1956 issue of the San Diego Historical Society *Quarterly* as it was then called. Starting as a volunteer, Donna became the San Diego History Center's all-time most generous donor. In



addition, as the daughter of former Mayor Harley Knox, she left all of her father's papers and photographs to the San Diego Research Archives.

Born on October 5, 1927, Donna Marilyn Knox was the second of three daughters of dairy farmer Harley Knox and his wife, Bessie. Donna grew up on the farm in southeast San Diego during the Depression, and remembered how her parents would provide work in exchange for meals for those in need. She attended San Diego High School and graduated with honors. A member of Tri-Delta Sorority, she graduated Cum Laude from San Diego State with a BA in History and a minor in Spanish. Donna then joined American Airlines in Chicago and served as a bi-lingual flight attendant.

Donna married the late Thomas W. Sefton, president of former San Diego Trust & Savings Bank, on April 15, 1951. Together they had daughter Laurie Jo and son Harley Knox, and four grandchildren. Harley followed in her footsteps as a history major at the University of San Diego. The Sefton family has contributed

widely to San Diego and funded numerous civic projects including the Sefton Room at the Serra Museum and the Sefton Board Room at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Donna always took an active role in the San Diego community. Her interests included numerous local groups and institutions, such as the ZLAC Rowing Club, Ltd., and the Wednesday Club. She served as president of The Junior League of San Diego, in which she was a sustaining member. Donna was also a Trustee Emerita of the San Diego Natural History Museum and a former board member of the Timken Museum of Art. She was instrumental in having a history written of her father's life as both a successful dairy farmer and respected politician during the difficult times of World War II and its aftermath. The book was published in 2002 under the title of *Harley Eugene Knox: San Diego's Mayor for the People 1943-1951*.

As president of the J.W. Sefton Foundation, Donna supported many San Diego organizations including the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, Boy Scouts of America San Diego-Imperial Council, Mercy Hospital Foundation, The San Diego Museum of Art, the Presidio Little League, the Zoological Society of San Diego, the San Diego History Center and especially its *Journal of San Diego History*. According to her family, of all her interests and accomplishments, Donna's greatest love was trail riding in the peaceful and beautiful mountains of the Pecos Wilderness in New Mexico. This is where she truly felt at home.



Donna Sefton riding in New Mexico. Photo courtesy of the Sefton Family.

Donna Sefton was fun-loving, kind, and full of adventure. She will be greatly missed by her family and her legion of friends. Her sparkling smile, generosity of spirit, and warm sense of humor will be forever remembered by all those who knew her.

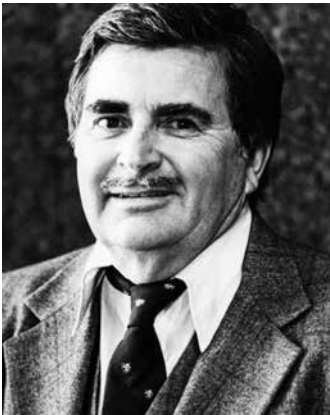
In Memoriam

Ray Brandes 1924 - 2014

Dr. Raymond S. Brandes, director of the San Diego Historical Society and editor of its journal *Times Gone By* from 1965 to 1967, passed away on April 16, 2014, at his home in San Diego. Born in Coronado on January 2, 1924, he was baptized at the Cathedral in San Diego and was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Barrio Logan. Brandes attended local grade and high schools, graduating in the class of June 1941. He joined the U.S. Army during WWII and served six years in the infantry, including combat in five European countries.

Brandes attended the University of Arizona from 1958 to 1965, obtaining his BA and PhD degrees in historic site archaeology and Western American history. He served as Arizona's second State Historian and as Assistant Director of the Arizona Historical Society, where he helped to develop one of the major historical institutions in the West and founded their journal of history.

Brandes began his teaching career at the University of San Diego's College for Men in 1967 and, after the merger with the College for Women in 1972, continued as Professor and Dean of the Graduate School for 31 years. During that time he directed over 125 Master's theses at USD on subjects related to the American West and San Diego. Brandes is listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Outstanding Hispanic Scholars*. He published 21 books and over 300 reports on historic buildings in San



Diego, as well as numerous articles. Books include *Frontier Military Posts of Arizona* (1960 and 2012); *San Diego: an Illustrated history* (1981); and *Coronado: The Enchanted Island* (with Katherine Carlin, 1998). He also edited *Brand Book Number One* of the San Diego Corral of the Westerners in 1968

A direct descendant of the Machado family, founders of Old Town, Brandes translated and edited the diary of Juana Machado Wrightington. In 1965, he directed archaeological and historical research at the Spanish Royal Presidio of San Diego, and in 1967, began archaeological work at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. He was the founder of the San Diego Congress of History in 1966, and a founder of the San Diego Baseball Historical Society.

In 1989 Brandes was awarded the "Distinguished Historian Medal" by the University of Arizona. He was awarded the Medal of San Diego de Alcalá in 1996 for distinguished service to the University of San Diego when he retired as

a professor emeritus and a member of Phi Alpha Theta. Ray Brandes has left a lasting legacy of historical inquiry for the people of San Diego. He is survived by his wife Irma Dolores Montijo, seven children, ten grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

In Memoriam

Neil Morgan 1924 - 2014

Neil Morgan, a member of the Editorial Board of *The Journal of San Diego History* since 1974, died Saturday, February 1, 2014, at his home in La Jolla after a long illness. He was 89. Morgan, a noted journalist, author and civic force in San Diego for more than six decades, will be well remembered by San Diegans and all those keeping an eye on the city's progress.

Neil Bowen Morgan was born February 27, 1924, in Smithfield, North Carolina.



His father was a Baptist minister and part-time journalist. Morgan graduated from Wake Forest College in 1943 and joined the Navy as an officer during World War II, which brought him to San Diego. He fell in love with the city and devoted his career to furthering its future.

Morgan worked from 1950 until 1992 for the *The San Diego Union-Tribune* in positions including columnist and editor. After serving as the newspaper's travel editor and associate editor, Morgan was named editor of the *Evening Tribune* in 1981 and remained in that position until the newspaper merged with *The San Diego Union* in 1992. He continued writing at the newspaper created from the merger of *The San Diego Union* and the *Tribune* in 1992 as Senior Columnist until 2004. He continued his writing for the nonprofit Voice of San Diego, a news and opinion website that he helped start. After being forced out of the merged *Union-Tribune*, Morgan helped investor Ralph B. Woolley Jr. found the Voice of San Diego website devoted to investigative journalism and commentary.

"San Diego ranks as the Western city most transformed by its waves of settlers," he wrote in the 1963 edition of his book *Neil Morgan's San Diego*. He also wrote *Yesterday's San Diego* (with Tom Blair, 1976); *Above San Diego* (with Robert Cameron, 1990); *Dr. Seuss & Mr. Geisel: A Biography* (with Judith Morgan, 1996); *San Diego's Navy: An Illustrated History* (with Bruce Linder, 2001). Additional books include

The California Syndrome and *Westward Tilt*, a social history of migration into the American West that has become a standard reference.

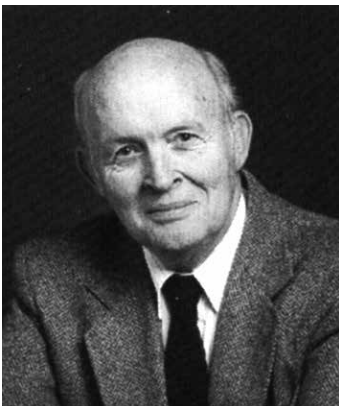
Morgan began working for the *San Diego Daily Journal* in 1946 and became a city columnist in 1948. When the *Journal* was absorbed by the *Evening Tribune* in 1950, he continued his Crosstown column and became one of the most respected and visionary voices in the region. Among other timely topics, he encouraged the founding and community support of UC San Diego. Morgan's ideas were always on the cutting edge. He predicted Torrey Pines Mesa as an emerging hub of international research and biotechnology. In 1981 he proposed the inclusion of the contiguous Mexican community as part of the San Diego region.

In 1988 he was given San Diego State University's Fourth Estate Award as an outstanding figure in journalism, and the keynote speaker was his friend Walter Cronkite, the former CBS TV news anchor.

In November 2000, he was recognized with the first Chancellor's Medal awarded by UC San Diego. Through the years Morgan's columns earned many honors, including the prestigious Ernie Pyle Award for human interest writing.

"Neil has taught us that, when you live in a region blessed by nature and circumstance, you have a duty to safeguard those blessings," said Robert C. Dynes, who was UCSD chancellor at the time. "In my view, he was the best journalist San Diego ever had," said his longtime friend Bob Witty, former director of the San Diego History Center and the Copley News Service.

Neil Morgan's wit and insights will be missed by all those who followed his career and writings about San Diego and its residents. He was a true media icon—controversial—but well loved by his legions of followers in his community. Morgan is survived by his wife, travel writer Judith Morgan; his daughter, Jill Morgan; and grandson Adam Morgan Berey.



In Memoriam Donald C. Cutter 1922-2014

Dr. Donald Cutter, a member of the Board of Editorial Consultants for *The Journal of San Diego History* since 1974, died on April 4, 2014. Cutter was an expert in the history of the Spanish and Mexican periods in California and assumed the role of Father Junípero Serra for a Chautauqua program that toured the state in August 1992. He encouraged his former students Dr. David Weber

(San Diego State University) and Dr. Iris Engstrand (University of San Diego) to become part of the San Diego Historical Society in the early 1970s and serve as editors for this Journal.

Born in Chico, California on January 9, 1922, Cutter grew up in Oakland and received his AB degree in Spanish (1945) and his MA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley (1950) during the era of Herbert E. Bolton's influence on the history of the Americas. Cutter began his teaching career at San Diego State College (1950-1951) and then moved to the University of Southern California (1951-1962). After a year in Spain, he accepted a position at the University of New Mexico (1962-1982), where he retired as Professor of History Emeritus. From there he held the O'Connor Chair for the History of Hispanic Texas and the Southwest at St. Mary's University in San Antonio (1982-1989).

Cutter wrote numerous scholarly works on Spanish California, including *Malaspina in California* (1960); *California in 1792: a Spanish Naval Visit* (1990); *Malaspina and Galiano: Spanish Voyages to the Northwest Coast, 1791 & 1792* (1991); *The Writings of Mariano Payeras* (1995), for which he received the Norman Neuerburg Award for Distinguished Research and Writing in Early California History; and *Quest for Empire: Spanish Settlement in the Southwest* (co-authored with Iris Engstrand, 1996.) Cutter lectured widely in Spain and Mexico in both English and Spanish, and served as a translator and editor of *Diary of Ensign Gabriel Moraga's expedition of discovery in the Sacramento Valley, 1808* (1957); and in Spanish, *Tadeo Haenke y el Final de una Vieja Polémica* (with Laurio H. Destéfani, 1966).

Always a proponent of a fair settlement for land lost by Native Americans, Cutter served as chief historical consultant for the Council of California Indians in one of the first cases heard before the California Land Claims Commission (1950-1960), as historical consultant for the Jicarilla Apache Tribe (1964-65); and as Director of the American Indian Historical Research Project (1967-1970). His legions of students learned a balanced perspective about the role of Franciscan missionaries in California and their interactions with the natives they encountered.

Cutter, who continued his archival research and writing career until a recent illness, is survived by his wife, Charlotte Lazear Cutter, nine children—several of whom have continued in the history profession—fifteen grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren,

