

Class Song, to the Navy tune, "Anchors Aweigh", My suggestions for the motto, class flower, and colors were also selected. A standard senior ring had been used for years, but I thought we might be different, so I designed a new one for our class. The jeweler said it could be used, and even though a little more expensive than the old ones, my classmates voted to purchase it. In spite of all this, however, I did not attend my own graduation, because we were in Annapolis for my brother's graduation. I had arranged for my absence; delegated class work; and got my diploma after we returned, when nobody, but the principal, was still at school.

After Donald was stationed in California in 1931, we sold our Rapid City properties and drove to Long Beach, to live near mother's parents, brother, and sister. I entered Junior College, and began working part-time at the first J.C. Penney Store to open in Long Beach. We made frequent trips to the Naval Hospital at San Diego, to visit my brother, who was in the hospital. I was a pre-law major and had membership in Hammurabi, a pre-legal society. I was the student Manager of the J.C. Baseball Team and earned a school letter "L". I sang in both the Mixed and the Male Quartettes. The tenor in the Mixed group was Kenny Baker, who later became a movie star and became famous by singing on the "Jack Benny Show", before Dennis Day. I was the baritone in the men's group, and we became Junior College Quartette Champions. Outside of school, I took voice lessons; sang with the Los Angeles ^{ORATORIO} ~~Oratorical~~ Society; the Alford Singers; and the Old Fashioned Revival Hour Radio Broadcasts from Long Beach and

and Hollywood. I was the bass soloist for the First Baptist Church in Hollywood, and I won an Estedfad contest for voices under 21. Then I won a professional scholarship with Maestro Braggiatti, but he died suddenly in Hollywood, before I got to use it.

I received my AA degree from Long Beach Junior College in 1934 and was admitted to Occidental College that fall. My Aunt Grace had graduated from Oxy in 1912 and wanted me to go there too. I got my BA degree in 1936, with a major in Economics and minors in both Sociology and Speech Education. I was a member of Phi Gamma Delta, and a "Fiji Sire", when my son became a Fiji at Kansas State University. I was selected for Phi Kappa Delta, an honorary Economics fraternity, the Tiger Claws Booster Club, and both the men's Glee Club and the Male Quartette. I was a member of the Dramatics Club and had a part in several of the college plays. I sang with the select Chapel Choir. This was a small group who were the cast for the ^{four} ~~three~~ act Opera, "Martha". This was the first full opera ever sung at Occidental, since it was the only time they had voices suitable for operatic singing performances. We worked on it for a year.

I matriculated twice at the University of Southern California. I was elected Vice-President of the Graduate Students Association, and in charge of programs. I received a Certificate in Social Work in 1937. I had taken a Los Angeles County Civil Service examination for the job of Probation Officer, and actually went to work before the Graduate School semester ended. I became a Counselor at Forestry Camp 10, LaVerne, California. This camp, for the care and treatment of unemployed, truant, and delinquent

teenage boys, was so successful that the Federal Government patterned the C.C.C. camps after it. Then, only the delinquents, handled through our Juvenile Court, were sent to the County Camps. Eventually, there were five camps for both boys and girls.

The second time I attended the Graduate School of Social Work at USC came after WW II. Due to my service-connected injuries, I had financial help from the Veterans Administration, under Public Law-16. I wrote my thesis throughout most of the year and received my Master of Social Work (MSW) degree in June, 1949. My specialty was Psychiatric Social Work, and I was awarded membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the National Honor Society for Sociologists. After graduation, I gained membership in the American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers and was a charter member of the National Association of Social Workers.

I had met Helen Jane at my uncle's home in Long Beach on February 11, 1933. This was on the occasion of a reception for my cousin, Leonora Vickers. These two families had been friends in Mitchell, South Dakota, before the Vickerses came to California, and the Saxes moved to Portland. We became friends, and I started to date her shortly afterwards. We then attended both Long Beach Junior College and Occidental College together, although she was a year behind me. We went together for six years, through school, work, and teaching before we married on February 11, 1939, at the Episcopal Church in Long Beach. We have four children: Virginia Ann born April 4, 1941; Dorothy Louise born May 22, 1944; and Melissa Joyce born August 29, 1949 (all in Los Angeles); and Donald Herbert born at Medford, Oregon September 21, 1952.

(When Melissa was little, she would call it Metfurt, and we all still use that term most of the time).

While still at Medford, Oregon, television came to that city in 1953. Our church quartette was asked to make a few singing commercials. On opening day, our family of six were presented on the "tube", as the "typical American family". Upon moving to Kansas, we first lived on the station, in a completely rebuilt house. Then in 1962, we bought a house in Leavenworth which was close to the Third Avenue School. I became Secretary and the Convention Delegate for the Kiwanis Club and went to the National Conventions in both Miami and Toronto. We had a men's quartette which helped with the entertainment at meetings. I was a member of the Community Concert Committee and sang leads in the production of "Guys and Dolls" twice at the Staff and Command College at Fort Leavenworth. I was the Choir Director, for a time, at both the First Baptist and the Christian Churches of Leavenworth. For a short period, I was also the soloist at the Christian Science Church. I became soloist for the First Baptist Church in Hollywood and the Presbyterian Church in Lenexa, Kansas. I felt the need to be ecumenical and always joined each church where I worked, except for the Christian Scientist Church.

Due to the nature of my employment, we moved several times and the children had a variety of experiences to which they adjusted readily. When we moved from Oregon to Leavenworth, Kansas, we thought our language sounded like everyone else's. But, in her English class one day, while talking about accents,

the teacher said to the others: "like Virginia's accent", and was she surprised.

The two oldest girls went to Kindergarten and Grade School at the Fremont School in Alhambra, California. Then all three girls went together to the Eagle Point School in Oregon. They would ride the bus from Camp White, where I was stationed. In 1952, we built a new house in Medford and moved there right before Donald was born. Virginia then attended Medford High for two years, while her sisters went to the grade school near our home on Winchester Avenue. We went to Kansas in 1957, and all four were graduated from Leavenworth High School. Donald was the only one to finish under one school system. He had gone to Third Avenue School, (where his mother taught), Junior High, and Senior High. His graduation Class of 1970 was the "Century", or the 100th class, to graduate from Leavenworth High School.

I remained a Probation Officer until December, 1942, when I received my Commission, as an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve. I went on active duty January 1, 1943, and was terminated with the rank of Lieutenant, January 31, 1946, at the close of WW II. I was thrown aboard the ship LSM-50 during a typhoon in October, 1944. My back and hip were injured, and I was hospitalized at Noumea, New Caledonia, New Hebrides Islands, in the Pacific Ocean. While recuperating at the hospital, I organized a male glee club composed of patients and Navy Corpsmen who worked there. The pianist was a dentist. We sang Christmas Services and others, because we were the only performing group in the Islands.

After discharge and leave, I began working for the Veterans