

(1939-40). Upon graduating from college, Betty Lou and her family moved to Fullerton. The town has never been the same.

Many of Betty Lou's accomplishments occurred while acting in the capacity of single parent to her two sons after her 19-year marriage ended in divorce. While holding down her full-time teaching positions, donating hours of volunteer time and being a single mother she somehow managed to attend night school classes at Whittier College ultimately earning her Master's degree.

Betty Lou Stevenson loved teaching. During her 35 years as a 7th grade math teacher a minimum of 5,000 students passed through her classes and achieved success. Irving Wright, Betty Lou's principal at Wilshire Jr. High, spoke for most of those who knew her when he stated that he admired her tremendously and considered her a wonderful lady. In addition to teaching math at both Wilshire and Nicholas Junior Highs, Betty Lou worked on the yearly Christmas program. Her tireless devotion to her students, school and fellow staff, earned her recognition from the school board for "Distinguished Service to the Fullerton School District."

In 1972 Betty Lou became President of the Fullerton Elementary Teachers Association (FETA). The only walkout in the history of the Fullerton School District occurred the following year. A key factor in the resolution of the negotiations impasse was her participation and leadership.

Volunteering was an essential part of Betty Lou's life. She was a charter member and supporter of the Heritage House at the Fullerton Arboretum spending many a Sunday as a docent, sharing her love of Victorian history with visitors. During the week she often led tours through the House for school groups. Betty Lou loved working at the Heritage House because it reminded her of her happy childhood in Portland and the house that she was born in, which still stands today in a historical neighborhood. Betty Lou also served as a docent for the Art Alliance at Cal State Fullerton, leading groups of high school students through the art galleries.

Upon her retirement Betty Lou devoted even more time to her volunteer efforts. She kept a daily calendar by her telephone to keep track of all her activities. As her calendar shows, being involved in up to four separate activities in one day was not unusual. At the time of her death, she was an active member in 9 major organizations, including the California Retired Teachers Association; PEO; Continuing Learning Experience at Cal State; Delta Kappa Gamma; charter member of AAUW. In all these groups Betty Lou served as President and helped out in any way she was needed, from serving as an officer to serving on the clean-up committee. In short, Betty Lou was a truly dedicated volunteer.

Betty Lou had many varied interests from her decorated egg collection featured in an exhibit at the library, to bridge, to reading and traveling to learn about different cultures. Betty Lou was stylish and hats were one of her trademarks. At St. Andrew's church where she was a member for over 50 years, she was affectionately referred to as the "hat lady." She organized and worked in the parish Clothes Closet from its inception in 1986 distributing clothes to the homeless.

Some of the essence of Betty Lou can be understood from her own words in 1998. Thararat Charconsontichai, a graduate student at Cal State who extensively interviewed Betty Lou for "The Life Story of

Elizabeth Louise Stevenson," said, "Optimism, or the belief that whatever happens will be good, is the essential theme she employed in explaining herself and her life to me." Betty Lou put it this way: "I am an optimist even when I face troubles. I was disappointed that my marriage did not work. That was difficult for me. But I never looked at the bad side. I am basically not a down person. Of course I have disappointments; we all have those. But I always look for something that helps. Nowadays it is not easy to live without an education, especially for women. Women should develop skills to help themselves if such a thing as divorce happens." Betty Lou's career as a teacher and lifelong volunteer for groups with educational missions, underscored her commitment to seeing ideal realized.

At the memorial service, the eulogy was delivered by Father Mark Shier, Rector of St. Andrews. Most fittingly, at the conclusion the audience rose and gave a standing ovation for the life of Betty Lou Stevenson—a life from which we can all gain inspiration. The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations in Betty Lou's name be made to Fullerton Arboretum or CLE.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MRS.  
ERIS L. RUDMAN

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 1999*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Eris L. Rudman and the preserved prairie named in her memory located in Frankfort, Illinois.

Forty-five years ago, Mrs. Rudman made Frankfort, Illinois her home. She had just served our country in the Korean War as 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps and received combat decoration while serving in an evacuation hospital. Upon arriving in Frankfort, Mrs. Rudman actively developed and maintained the village's first park long before it was acquired officially by the park district. She also indulged in gardening and the people of Frankfort can still appreciate her toils by strolling down Nebraska and Locust streets and gazing at the crab apple trees she and volunteers had planted years ago.

Her community spirit did not end with the environment. Mrs. Rudman served on the Frankfort Planning Commission for sixteen years. She also played an integral role in the publishing and editing of the Frankfort News, a weekly community newspaper, for twenty-three years. In 1984, Mrs. Rudman was named Frankfort's first Citizen of the Year. She was also Grand Marshall of the Frankfort Fall Festival Parade in 1994. Sadly, Frankfort lost this civic minded patriot three years ago in 1996.

The Eris L. Rudman Prairie in nearly four acres of land located south of the Frankfort Public Library parking lot. It was recently planted with a variety of spring and fall blooming flowers. There are 3,100 plants in all which have been complimented with six different kinds of grasses.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the life of Mrs. Eris L. Rudman, the years of her community building activity, and the prairie which bares her name.

HONORING STUART A.  
VANMEVEREN

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 1999*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only to extend congratulations to a national figure, but also to tell you how proud I am this honoree hails from, and lives in, my home town of Fort Collins, Colorado. Mr. Stuart A. VanMeveren, the District Attorney who has served Larimer County for twenty-seven years, has been elected the new president of the National District Attorneys' Association (NDAA).

This organization is the largest national professional organization specifically serving the needs of prosecutors in the United States. NDAA is truly a national organization which represents the interests of prosecutors not only from major metropolitan areas, but rural communities like those found in Larimer County.

I have known Stu for fifteen years, but now I'm looking forward to working more closely with him as he directs the NDAA testifying before congressional committees, working with the U.S. Department of Justice, and other federal agencies on matters of public policy affecting the safety of America's communities.

The National District Attorneys Association is going into its fiftieth year of service. I cannot think of a more qualified individual to lead NDAA into the twenty-first century. Stu VanMeveren truly embodies the mission statement of NDAA which is "To be the voice of America's prosecutors and to support their efforts to protect the rights and safety of the people."

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN ALEXANDER  
J. SABOL ON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE UNITED STATES  
NAVAL RESERVE

**HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 1999*

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Alexander J. Sabol for his distinguished career and retirement from the United States Naval Reserve.

Captain Alexander J. Sabol was born in Stuebenville, OH, on December 14, 1952. He was raised in the steel town of Weirton, WV, and graduated from Weir Senior High School in 1970. In December 1974, he graduated from West Liberty State College, WV, with a bachelor of science degree in business administration with a speciality in marketing.

Captain Sabol entered the Navy through the Aviation Reserve Officer Candidate Program at Pensacola, FL, in August 1974 and was commissioned an ensign on April 1975. He was assigned to training squadrons VT-1, VT-2, HT-8, and HT-18 at NAS Whiting Field, FL, from March 1975 to July 1976 and earned his wings and was designated a naval aviator in July 1976.