



MARJORY GUSEWELLE PHILLIPS (Class of 1937)

Marjory Gusewelle was born in October, 1920 in the Las Vegas Hospital. Her parents were both schoolteachers who moved from Missouri to Searchlight in 1918. They moved to Las Vegas in 1923. Their first home was at 4th and Bridger. They moved to a larger house on 6th Street in 1936.

Marjory attended the Fifth Street Grammar School and graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1937 as salutatorian of her class. She spoke at the commencement services on "World Problems, Our Problems". She had been student body treasurer in 1936-37, was in the Honor Club and Torch Honor Society, and was business manager and associate editor of The Desert Breeze. She was also editor of the yearbook, which at that time was called the Boulder Echo.

Marjory graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1941 with majors in Journalism and English. After graduation, Marjory worked for the Reno Evening Gazette. She married George W. Phillips and moved to Las Vegas in 1944. They had two children.

In 1953, Marjory became President of the Las Vegas Junior League. The League maintained a craft workshop for the blind, as well as a thrift shop to fund their many projects in the community.

Marjory was on the Executive Committee of the University of Nevada Alumni Association in Southern Nevada and received the Alumni Service Award for strengthening memberships in Southern Nevada. Marjory was on the sponsoring committee for the fund drive to raise \$35,000 to help buy the land for the new Nevada Southern campus in Las Vegas. Between the help of the Junior League and the efforts of students, the amount was easily raised.

In 1958 Marjory was asked by Governor Grant Sawyer to be a member of the Nevada School Survey Commission, a fact-finding body to investigate financial and administrative problems of public elementary and high schools in Nevada. She was also a member of the Juvenile Survey Commission appointed by the judges of the Eighth Judicial District Court. She was the only woman appointed by Governor Sawyer in 1961 to the Centennial Committee of the State of Nevada. She spoke at many community clubs and

organizations statewide to publicize their efforts, and coordinated the ceremonies to unveil a commemorative medallion design in April, 1964. In recognition of her efforts, Marjory was honored with the Nevada Saving and Loan Association's "Outstanding Citizen Award".

Marjory was a founder of the Southern Nevada Historical Museum and a moderator in 1977 for the Las Vegas Sun's Youth Forum, where Clark County High School juniors and seniors exchanged viewpoints on world issues.

Marjory enjoyed painting in watercolors. She died in January, 1978.

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.
If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact Dave@lvhsaa.com.

WWW.LVHSAA.COM