

Helen French

Helen French was born and raised in Nebraska. After high school graduation she went on to attend and later graduate from Business College in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1949 Helen married her husband Bill, a native Californian from Glendale. At the time Bill was completing his final year of law school. In 1951 Helen and Bill moved to San Francisco where began his practice as a Corporate Attorney. Helen also worked while living in San Francisco and has fond memories of riding the cable car to work.

Later the French family moved to Downey, where they called home for the next 40 years. Bill and Helen are the proud parents of two daughters; Susan and Julie. Susan is an Assistant School Superintendent in La Quinta and Julie teaches school in Palmdale.

Helen is a life long Republican, and her first presidential ballot was cast for Dwight D. Eisenhower. She was a member of the Republican Women in Downey for forty years, and was very active in Richard Nixon's first bid for presidency. Helen has volunteered for countless campaigns including the presidential ones of Ronald Reagan, Bob Dole, George H. W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

Ten years ago Helen and Bill moved to Upland. Thanks to Louise McDaniel we now have Helen as a member and Bill an Associate member.

Helen and her husband of 57 years have enjoyed traveling a great deal to countries such as the Orient, South America, Canada, Bangkok, Thailand, the Philippines, Japan, England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Ireland. They have also enjoyed much of the beauty and wonder the United States has to offer. Their most recent trip was to New York City, to attend their grandson's wedding. Their grandson is a graduate of The Naval Academy in Annapolis and their granddaughter, who just graduated from high school, will also be attending Annapolis.

Helen has enjoyed many hobbies through the years including cross country skiing, hiking, leisurely walks, cooking, entertaining, and playing bridge.

