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Carol Woods Nelson '32

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1928 Normal St. Campus. Sphinx Sorority & Fraternity Wheelbarrow Race on a side street. 1 sorority girl in each vehicle, I was in one. Played cello in S.D.S.C. Orchestra, Dr. Fred Beidleman, conductor.

1929 Chi Theta sorority formed by 12 girls from other sororities. Dean Ada Caldwell said she would give the new sorority 6 months to live. We are still having annual Reunions. 64 yrs.

1930 Muddy new Campus on College Ave., full time Tractor to pull our cars out of adobe parking lot.
I lost 1 yr. of school to illness, did not graduate, in May 1932 married Richard A. Nelson. Never sorry. We had 3 children: Richard A. Nelson, Jr, Nancy Carol Nelson (Mrs. James H. Bell), William Woods Nelson. Had a wonderful, busy life. Many short trips, camping, surf fishing. When children all growing up, took them on a Coast to Coast — Border to Border trip of U.S.A. in our travel trailer. Fun & educational.

1949

Family Orch. In 1938 an uncle started "Hayes Ave. Hot Shots", our Family Orchestra. Our whole family participated. We still meet every April, sometimes 3 or 4 generations. Two cousins bring their instruments & come from Maine.

Activities My husband's business was Nelson Thomas & Co., office furniture, in San Diego. We were very active in 1st Presbyterian Church here, and later New York Ave. Presbyterian in Wash. D.C.

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My husband, Dick Nelson, who had attended Univ. of Nebraska & S.D.S.C. was active in Kiwanis, President of the S.D. Downtown Club. Also Goodwill Industries of America, Inc. Was National President for 8 yrs. Many Community activities in S.D. At different times,

3 U.S. Presidents

Dick & I had the privilege of meeting & talking to 3 Presidents of the United States: Dwight Eisenhower, Gerald Ford, Lyndon Johnson. We met with Pres. Eisenhower a second time & on this occasion he invited us into The Oval Office. We were thrilled; not even any Security! He was truly a great man.

Arlington Cemetery

On a 4th of July in the 1950's Dick was asked to lay the traditional Wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

1961

After Dick retired from business, he was asked to come to Washington, D.C. to run the Davis Memorial Goodwill Industries. It had 400 disabled workers, a fleet of 32 trucks, & 14 stores in 3 different states. Very challenging. He loved it. In our 8 yrs. there we had many interesting experiences, but flew to California twice a year to welcome 4 new grandchildren.

1969

Dick retired again & we moved back to California, the Long Beach - Lakewood area. He died in 1974.

As a widow, I was still active as a volunteer & in church work. Taught church school classes from Kindergarten thru grade 12. In San Diego, Dick & I had taught a College Age group. Then later

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& Young Married Couples Groups.

Ever Since college I have enjoyed doing Calligraphy for individuals + organizations. Taught " to 5th + 6th graders in several schools.

Travel Travel: Hawaii, Europe, Caribbean, parts of South America, Panama Canal.

Family I have 3 children, 12 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. Am so fortunate!

In June I will be 93 yrs. old, still playing cello in Family Orchestra, and now living in Carmel Retirement Village at the above address.

P.S. In our extended family, 20 members have been students at S.D.S.U. starting with Aunt Nancy Woods in 1916. It was then called The State Normal School.