

Adjournment - Esther Cramer

Colleagues, I would like to adjourn today's meeting in memory of Esther Cramer.

A native of La Habra, she was a noted historian and author of several books chronicling the history of north Orange County. Her first book, "La Habra, the Pass through the Hills," chronicled the city's early history and garnered awards in 1970 from UC Irvine, the American Association of State and Local History and in 1992 from the Southern California Historical Society.

In 1973, the Alpha Beta supermarket chain hired Cramer to pen its history with the publication of "The Alpha Beta Story."

The historian also co-edited the 1988 publication, "A 100 Years of Yesterdays," which was published in conjunction with Orange County's centennial celebration.

She was then commissioned by Brea officials to write the 1992 book, "Brea, the City of Oil, Oranges and Opportunity," which celebrated that city's 75th anniversary.

She was a Charter member of the Orange County Historical Commission and served continuously since 1973.

She died April 15 at Keck Medical Center of USC in Los Angeles after a long bout with cancer. She was 85.

Esther's husband, Stan, died January 7 at the age of 86. The couple was married 63 years and had three daughters: Cynthia Freeman, Melinda (Ward) Ching and Janet Buddle, and six grandchildren.

(A public memorial service honoring Esther and her contribution to Orange County history will be held sometime this summer).