

In Memoriam

Doyce B. Nunis, Jr. 1924-2011

On January 22, 2011, Professor Doyce Blackman Nunis, Jr. died in Los Angeles at the age of 86 of complications following surgery. A member of the Board of Editorial Consultants for *The Journal of San Diego History* since the mid-1970s, Professor Nunis also served as editor of the Historical Society of Southern California's journal, *The Southern California Quarterly*, for 43 years. In 2005, the Los Angeles City Historical Society gave him a special award for his "outstanding contributions in the areas of Los Angeles and California History."

Doyce received his bachelor's degree from UCLA in 1947, master's from USC in 1952 and doctorate from USC in 1958. He taught history at the community college level and then became a professor at UCLA and later at USC, from 1965 until his retirement in 1989. He wrote and/or edited a number of outstanding books on California and Western American history. In this capacity he was able to offer ongoing advice as a peer reviewer regarding potential articles for San Diego's history journal. Doyce was a generous colleague who was willing to help all who sought his counsel including students, fledgling authors, and writers established in their fields.



Doyce seemed destined to become a historian of the west since he was born in a log cabin without running water or electricity on May 23, 1924, in Cedartown, Georgia. After serving in the Navy, he moved to Los Angeles where, in addition to his history activities, he became a book collector, patron of the arts, research associate of the Huntington Library, and supporter of the new Los Angeles Cathedral, where his funeral mass was held on February 18, 2011.

Doyce Nunis will be missed by those he served in San Diego and by his fellow editors throughout the country. He will be long remembered by those who knew him and by all those who read his many works.