

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

LAVINA TOMMIE SNELGROVE MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established 2004



Lavina Tommie Snelgrove
1919-1999

The Lavina Tommie Snelgrove Endowment was established by Tod Snelgrove in honor and memory of his beloved wife, Tommie. Born on a farm in Ellis County, Texas, Lavina Thompson was the fourth of five children. As the only girl in the family for 13 years, she was known as “sister” as a child; close family members continued to refer to her by that name all of her life. She attended county schools: Midlothian High School (class of 1936) and John Tarleton College. At Tarleton, she was nicknamed “Tommie.”

After one year of college, Tommie worked for Sears, Roebuck and Company and later for North American Aviation, where she met Tod Snelgrove, whom she married in 1943. In 1945, when Tod’s company transferred him to California, they moved to Manhattan Beach. There she was an active realtor for over 25 years. During that time, Tommie worked as a salesperson and as a broker for several realtors, eventually opening her own office in 1972. She was known in her field for her integrity and professionalism, building her successful business on positive relationships with people. Tommie often said that the “worthy woman” in Proverbs 31 was the first realtor.

Tommie served her community as a director on the South Bay Board of Realtors, president of the Robinson School PTA, president of the Socratic Toastmistress Club, and for many years as a Sunday school teacher. She had a living faith and was an active lifelong member of the Church of Christ. Tommie was also a longtime contributor to the Associated Women for Pepperdine (AWP) and supported children in need.

She was a loving wife and devoted mother and grandmother, blessed with a daughter, Kathy Ann Snelgrove, and granddaughter, Maggie Snelgrove.



SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

The Lavina Tommie Snelgrove Memorial Endowed Scholarship is given annually to Seaver College students affiliated with the Churches of Christ who are in good standing in all areas of the University.