



**Environmental
Nature Center**

Environmental Nature Center
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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GATHERING TO HONOR ROBERT SHELTON TO BE HELD AT ENVIRONMENTAL NATURE CENTER

*“Memory walk” and casual, social gathering will celebrate the life
of former Newport Beach city manager and councilman.*

Newport Beach, Calif., January 18, 2017 – A memory walk and casual, social gathering to celebrate the life of Robert Shelton will be held on Saturday, January 28th from 12:30 to 2:30PM at the Environmental Nature Center (ENC), 1601 E. 16th Street, Newport Beach. A 59 year resident of Corona del Mar, Robert passed away in November at the age of 93.

Barbara Shelton, wife of Robert, and his three children, Peter, Wendy and Tom Shelton invite all interested friends and colleagues to attend. Refreshments will be served. (Rain or shine; flat shoes recommended). Please RSVP to RobertSheltonMemorial@gmail.com. Photos and comments for the memory walk are also welcome and can be emailed to the same address.

Following the resignation of John J. Sailors, the first City Manager of Newport Beach, a young, 32 year old Robert Shelton was the City Council’s “unanimous choice out of a list of sixty applicants” to fill the empty position, according to Dora Hill, the 1956 Mayor. He was extremely qualified having served as Administrative Officer in the city of Santa Barbara for 2 years prior, a field representative of the County Supervisors Association of California and Assistant City Manager and Personnel Officer of Modesto. He had also worked on studies and reports for the Hoover Commission in Washington D.C and was co-author of “California State Government – A Guide to its Organization and Functions”. And, he managed to fit 2 years of Navy V-12 Officer Training and served as an Ensign with the US Navy Reserve in the Pacific Fleet’s Amphibious Forces from 1944-55, in between his undergraduate and graduate studies at Pomona College and U.C. Berkeley.

In addition to serving as Newport’s second City Manager, Robert was also a member of the Newport Beach City Council from 1965 to 1970. He was Sr. Vice President, Government Relations, at the Irvine Company for 10 years and then a consultant to that company and others for many years to follow. He was instrumental in the negotiations that created Topanga Canyon and Crystal Cove State Parks and the Upper Newport Bay Reserve.

On top of being a great father and husband, Robert was also an avid volunteer for many local organizations including United Way, South Coast Rep, Hoag Hospital, and the Environmental Nature Center.

In 1980, he was humbled by his recognition as Citizen of the Year, by the City of Newport Beach.

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About the ENC

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and sustainably designed, LEED Platinum certified learning center. For over 40 years, the ENC has been shaped and caressed into a 3.5 acre landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 28,000 students and thousands of visitors annually, the ENC is recognized as a leader in science and social science education providing opportunities for increasing our community's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

The ENC recently purchased property to develop a nature play area, and construct our community's first nature based preschool. With a mission of providing quality education through hands-on experience with nature, the ENC inspires all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community's foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. For more information call 949-645-8489, or visit www.ENCenter.org. The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

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