

Legal Aid Society of Orange County (LASOC) will host a memorial service to remember and celebrate the life of Patricia "Pat" Herzog on October 26, 2010 at 2 p.m. at 2101 North Tustin Avenue, Santa Ana.

Patricia "Pat" Herzog, a groundbreaking leader and respected advocate for public interest law passed away on October 1, 2010 in her home in Corona del Mar, California. She was 88 years old. A true pioneer in the legal field, Pat pushed through the divide of gender roles to become one of the first female attorneys in Orange County.

In 1955, after passing the bar without ever setting foot in a law school classroom, Pat opened her first office as an independent attorney on Bush Street in Santa Ana. Soon, Pat's male counterparts in Orange County were sending her clients who could not pay. It was the flood of poor clients unable to pay for an attorney which inspired the Orange County Bar Association to create LASOC. Pat became the first lawyer of LASOC in 1958, dividing her office in half, and devoting one desk to her practice, and one desk to LASOC.

Pat was known throughout the legal community for Sullivan vs. Sullivan, a case in which she argued before the California Supreme Court that individuals who put their spouses through professional schools have the right to share in future earnings of that career, even after divorce.

Pat will be remembered by those who knew her personally and professionally, as well as by those who are grateful for her active and long-standing involvement with LASOC.

The memorial service will take place at LASOC's offices (2101 North Tustin Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92612) at 2 p.m. The Board of Directors and Staff of LASOC invite you to come and join the commemoration of her life. Justice Sheila Prell Sonenshine, LASOC Board President R. Thomas Peterson and LASOC Executive Director Robert J. Cohen will be among the individuals who will pay tribute to Pat's legacy. RSVP: Annie Tung or Kieli Joplin, LASOC Fund Development Coordinators, (714) 571-5200 x 244 or fdcoordinator2@legal-aid.com.