

This garden was dedicated in 1981 to my late husband Earl Miller, who was a great lover of the outdoors, as am I. In fact, we met in the summer time during a trip that my father and I took to Sequoia National Park and later in 1918, I married Earl. Earl had received his degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado and his love for the outdoors eventually guided his choice in careers. After a brief period of working for the City of Long Beach following World War I, Earl partnered with George Sully. Their firm Sully-Miller became a major road building and construction company that paved some of the most prominent streets in Long Beach, including Ocean and Anaheim Boulevards. You know, after a long day of business, Earl would retreat to the greenhouse in the backyard of our Park Estates home to tend his beloved Symbian orchids until he found relaxation and peace. He loved flowers, wild or in gardens, on drives through the local countryside he often wondered out loud why the fire of the California Golden Poppy was not quenched by the sea of Blue Lupin growing right next to them. On our vacations in Oregon, he would almost, but not quite, forget to cast his fly line for a rainbow trout as he stood upon the bank of a stream covered with buttercups and bog orchids or forget-me-nots, and while traveling abroad it was the plants and the flowers that gained his attention. In England, he drove happily along the country roads, sweet with wild rose hedges. He could never forget the daffodils of Kew Gardens. He cherished his memories of the tulip fields of Holland, the red poppies of Italy and the never to be forgotten first of May days in France, when almost everyone wore lilies of the valley. Perhaps this man was more pleased with the flowers of the countries which he visited than by the ruins of castles or cathedrals. It is my hope that this garden, like the travels that Earl and I enjoyed throughout our life together, will create a memorable experience for each visitor. May you pause and reflect on the natural elements and may this garden bring peace to those who seek it, and joy to those who find beauty in it.