

## A VISIT WITH JACKIE AND RAY DEHNE . . . .

**Jackie and Ray Dehne have been members of the First United Methodist Church of San Diego, longer than many of us have been alive. Their joint memories can take us back many years into the past.**

**Jackie Dehne had always been a member** of First United Methodist Church. Her parents were married by Dr. Linder at the 9<sup>th</sup> and C Church. Jackie's grandfather attended First United Methodist Church before it moved to 9<sup>th</sup> and C.

In her childhood, Jackie attended Sunday School and remembers Dr. Linder teaching the new members class when she was in elementary school and receiving her Bible.

Jackie and Ray got married at the 9<sup>th</sup> and C Church and although the minister, at that time, was Dr. Stanley McKee, Dr. Linder married the couple. Ray said that Dr. Linder had a great sense of humor. He told him to face him during the marriage ceremony because he was afraid he wouldn't see Ray if he turned sideways (Ray weighed about 128 pounds at the time). He also told Jackie that Ray would be a good provider because you can always count on death and taxes. Ray was a mortician!

Ray was an usher at the Mission Valley church for many years, but began his ushering career in the balcony down at 9<sup>th</sup> and C ushering at their Sunday evening service. This was around 1948.

Jackie sang in the church choir for 38 years. They both remember the move to Mission Valley. They also remember the Green Thumbers who were members who volunteered to help landscape the new campus. The Dehnes both agreed that the church has always had great preachers.

Note: Jackie Dehne passed away 10 days later on May 19, 2005.

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