

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION

As we all might agree, life for humans and their furry friends can be complicated. Creating an estate plan that offers financial security for our family, friends, and yes, our friends from the animal kingdom, is a responsible action to take. This brings us to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation's heroine.... Dianne Boranian. She designated the Foundation as the sole beneficiary of her estate – the largest gift in the Foundation's history.

Where did this spirit of generosity begin for Dianne? Dianne grew up by the train tracks in East Los Angeles in an Armenian family. Jobless men continually passed through this area, hopping off one train or waiting for another. They often came to her home asking for food. Instead of turning these men away or giving them tidbits, Dianne's mother invited them into her home and made dinner for them. After dinner and conversation, she sent them on their way with a full stomach, the feeling that they were valued, and a lunch for the next day. One day Dianne asked her mother, "Why do you do this?". Her mother replied, "You never know when you might be entertaining an angel."

These examples of generosity had a major impact on Dianne's life. She brought food to people experiencing homelessness and rescued many animals. Her love and dedication to her rescued pets was evident throughout her life. Upon learning the role and mission the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation plays in our County to help animals, she believed naming the Foundation in her estate plans would be the best way to extend her legacy of compassion even when she would no longer be with us. She named the foundation the sole beneficiary of her trust.

We are sad that Dianne has passed; however, we are certain that she is in the company of family, friends, and her beloved pets that went before her. Dianne will forever be the foundation's heroine. Her generosity will allow the Foundation to maintain and create many programs to help the animals and their families served by the Department.

Dianne, our friend, we extend our heartfelt thanks and may you rest in peace. Your memory is a blessing to the Foundation and the animals of Los Angeles County.