



2025 Education Honoree—Dr. Peggy Deal Redman

We honor the remarkable legacy of Dr. Peggy Deal Redman—a lifelong educator, community leader, and proud resident of La Verne whose impact continues to echo through classrooms, campuses, and city streets.

Born on May 6, 1938, Peggy was raised in a family where education was both profession and purpose. Her mother, a beloved kindergarten teacher, and her father, an early pillar at Mt. San Antonio College, passed on a passion for learning that would define Peggy's life.

A natural leader from the start, Peggy broke barriers as the first girl to serve as Student Body President at Emerson Junior High and was named Outstanding Senior Girl upon graduation. She went on to earn her Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Mathematics, graduating Magna Cum Laude and earning recognition in Who's Who for the class of 1960.

After marrying fellow educator Don Redman and raising their three children—Jerry, Larry, and Donna—in La Verne, Peggy balanced family and community with unshakable grace. She was named Progress Bulletin Woman of the Year in 1967 for her civic dedication, including work with the YWCA, PTA, and Little League. Growing up on Second Street, her family always said, "There's no place in the world like Second Street."

Peggy's pioneering spirit led her to create Bonita Unified School District's Program for Mentally Gifted Minors, where her innovative curriculum lit a spark in students that still burns brightly in their memories. She later returned to the classroom at Roynon Elementary before stepping into higher education leadership at her alma mater, the University of La Verne.

There, she earned her doctorate and transformed the Teacher Education Program, expanding it from 30 to more than 400 graduates each year and growing its reach across the state. Through this work, she helped shape thousands of future educators, leaving a legacy that stretches far beyond the city limits.

Even amid personal trials—including a courageous battle with ovarian cancer—Peggy remained deeply committed to the La Verne community, serving on the Planning Commission for 11 years and contributing to the Lordsburg Downtown Committee. Her voice and vision helped preserve the small-town spirit that makes La Verne home.

She is also a published author, sharing her wisdom in *Don't Smile Until December and Other Myths About Classroom Teaching* and *Reviving the Soul of Teaching*, coauthored with her cousin Terry Deal.

As we observe this place in her honor, we recognize a life lived in service—to students, to family, to community, and to the transformative power of education. Dr. Peggy Deal Redman has not only walked this path—she paved it for others. Let this place forever reflect her spirit, her legacy, and her unwavering belief in the value of teaching.