

**Mister  
Livermore Herald**

*Maitland R. Henry*

**1890-1976**

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Livermore  
Herald

Maitland R. Henry

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## The Obituary

LIVERMORE -- Maitland R. Henry, 84, former editor and publisher of the Livermore Herald (now Tri-Valley Herald) died Monday July 26, 1976 at Valley Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Henry had been in poor health for the past eight years since suffering a stroke in the fall of 1969. Most recently, he was in a rest home in Pleasanton.

Funeral services for the veteran newspaperman will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in the chapel of Callaghan Mortuary. Visitation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

A native of Dixon, Ca., Mr. Henry came to Livermore in 1899 when his father, Arthur L. Henry, purchased the Livermore Herald from W. H. Ellis and Sherman Wright.

Maitland Henry graduated from Livermore schools and served in the U.S. Army in World War I.

In 1921, his father died and 'Mait' as he was known to friends, became publisher of

the Herald. He remained at the helm of the newspaper 44 years through many changes in the community, growth and mergers with other local papers. In 1965, the paper was sold to Floyd Sparks, who still owns it today.

For many years, readers of the Herald followed Mr. Henry's personal column "Reflections by MRH," which he even continued for a time after selling the paper.

In 1934, he was elected president of the California Newspaper Publishers Association and his paper won many awards statewide for weeklies over the four decades that he ran it. He also was a member of the California Press Association.

Always interested in active participation in community affairs Mr. Henry was a past president of the Livermore Lions Club, past commander of the Livermore Post of the American Legion, former vice president of the Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association, past secretary and lifetime honorary member of the Livermore Rotary Club, former secre-

tary of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, a past chairman of the Livermore High School Board of Trustees.

He also had been chairman of the Livermore Library Board of Trustees, president of the old Livermore Historical Society, secretary of Company I, California Old Guard, recipient of the Livermore Aerie of Eagles Outstanding Citizen of the Year award in 1961, recipient of the 35-year award from the Boy Scouts of America and served on the BSA Twin Valley District Committee, member of the Livermore Boosters, the Mosaic Lodge F. & A. M. and First Presbyterian Church of Livermore.

Mr. Henry was instrumental in initiating the city's observance of its centennial in 1969 but suffered a stroke before his plans were fulfilled. The Maitland R. Henry School on Alameda Drive was named in his honor.

Surviving him are two sons Arthur L. Henry of Livermore and Robert R. of Sunnyside; one daughter, Mrs. Nancy Lyons of Davis; one brother Alan Henry of Pleasanton.

ton; two sisters, Miss Lois Henry of Livermore and Mrs. Alma Rasmussen of Pleasanton, and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eva, in 1969 and a daughter Mrs. Jean Atkin.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Valley Memorial Hospital Fund or the American Cancer Society.

(UPDATE: Since this was written in 1976 two facts have changed: Mr. Sparks sold the paper in 1985, and Miss Henry died in 1981.)

## The Editorial

Maitland R. Henry served his community well. He was respected as publisher and editor of the Livermore paper for 44 years, devoted much of his time to community service, and was looked up to by others for direction in many worthwhile endeavors.

He had followed in his father's footsteps taking over the reins of the paper in 1921 upon the death of the senior Mr. Henry who had owned it since 1899. From then until 1965 'Mait' Henry each week produced the Herald which touched the lives of thousands, helping the community of Livermore grow from a rural ranching community of 2000 to more than 30,000 by the time of his retirement in the mid-sixties.

His popular front page column "Reflections By MRH" was a part of the reading habits of his loyal family of subscribers over the years.

He was a noted historian for the valley, and served as the first president of the old



Livermore Historical Society. He was a ready source of information on the community's past, even after his retirement.

Maitland Henry epitomized the dedicated weekly newspapermen so familiar to Americans during the first half of the Twentieth Century, always interested in promoting his town, his newspaper and helping many people along the way. His loss will be felt not only by his family but by thousands who knew him well in the more than four decades that he was Mister Livermore Herald.

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#### CREDITS & COLOPHON

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