Lois Jessop

Constance Lois Jessop, former registrar of the Henry George School in New York and later assistant of the Henry George Institute, died April 14, 1996, in a nursing home near Albany, NY. She was 91. As instructed, her ashes were strewn across the sea that united her homes.

Lois Jessop was born in England. A dancer and actress, she also lived in other parts of Europe and in Africa, where she was married briefly. Working with Alfred Hitchcock, she decided to become a director, but World War II changed those plans. She served in civil defense in England. After the war she and her sister emigrated to Canada and then to the United States. She joined the staff of the Henry George School in the 1950s and became assistant to Bob Clancy in 1971.

Ms. Jessop regaled friends with stories of her past, including her roles as dancer and actress, dancing with Frank Sinatra in a night club, and other brushes with the famous and infamous. Her life had another dimension; the Dalai Lama and other Tibetah monks, as well as Rosicrucians, were also her friends.

After becoming an American citizen around 1982, Ms. Jessop made a two-dollar contribution to the Republican party, which was so magnified by computer error that she became a member of the party's "Inner Circle." She attended parties and dinners with President Reagan, his Cabinet, and members of Congress, which made for exciting stories.

She will be remembered for her exuberant independence, even in her 80s, her always formal appearance (usually hatted and gloved), and her friendly, kind heart. – Pat Aller