



MARCETTA RHOADS LUTZ

Marcetta Rhoads Lutz came to Arvada in 1937 when she was 17 years old, and graduated with honors from Arvada High School in 1939. Born in Panama and reared as an "army brat", she lived in such diverse places as the Philippines and Falls Church, Virginia. These varied experiences influenced her life, giving her many of the personality traits she exhibits today: tolerance for others in all things, an interest in history, a cheerfulness that radiates from her face with gentle sweetness, a deep faith in God, and the ability to stick with a task until it is finished, no matter what! Fortunately for Arvada and for Jefferson County, this latter trait is, perhaps, her greatest asset in her public life.

In 1972 Marcetta became a charter member of the Arvada Historical Society. Soon, she realized the need for a written history of Arvada and volunteered to chair the Publication Committee. She has served through the publication of three books, "Waters of Gold", "More Than Gold" and "Just Between You and Me". A fourth book, as yet unnamed, is in the making.

Publication duties have not been her only contribution to the Society. Marcetta was instrumental in compiling and organizing the Society archives, and in negotiating with Standley Lake Library to find a secure home for these historical treasures. She has also been active in the Society's acquisition of many artifacts pertaining to early-day Arvada. She has spent 23 years on the Arvada Historical Society Board of Directors and served as its president from 1976-1977. Because of her devotion to Arvada and its history, she was chosen as Arvada's Woman of the Year in 1988.

County-wise, Marcetta has been a member of the Jefferson County Historic Commission since 1986 and served as chairman of the Commission in 1989. She is currently researching "Place Names" for an up-coming Commission publication.

Among her public services Marcetta has included teaching, serving as a deacon for her church, writing its 25-year history, and representing her church for ten years on the Board of Directors of Highland West apartments. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Denver Symphony Orchestra.

She is married to Harold Lutz, and has five sons and twelve grandchildren. She enjoys reading, gardening, cooking, traveling, and visiting with friends and family. Music has been very important in her life since childhood when the Rhoads had a family orchestra. Marcetta plays both piano and organ. Is it any wonder she puts music into the hearts of others?