

Trailblazer Janice Dutton was the descendant of Western Pioneers

Written by Jean Bartlett, August, 2017
(A Pacifica Historical Society Project)



Janice Dole ~ daughter of Norman and Janice (Manning) Dole.

DUTTON, JANICE DOLE (1925-2008)

On January 8, 1924, *The Stanford Daily* reported:

Norman Dole, Stanford Athlete, Marries Janice Manning of California

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The secret marriage of Norman Dorset Dole, Stanford track and football star, and Miss Janice Elynor Manning of Riverside, was made known today. Dole and Miss Manning were married November 29 at Santa Cruz.

Dole, who is a member of Beta Theta PI, has been prominent in athletics at Stanford for the past three years since his entrance as a freshman. He has played at right end on the varsity squad during the past two seasons and in track qualities in the half mile and hurdles. He is registered from Riverside.

Mrs. Dole is a junior at the University of California and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernst L. Manning of Riverside. Both Dole and his wife will complete their college courses.

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"My grandfather Norman was a starting halfback on the championship Stanford football team in the mid-1920s, coached by Glenn 'Pop' Warner," Janice's son Norm Dutton said. "I like to say my grandfather played in the original Pop Warner League."

"As to my grandparents getting married, with him going to Stanford and her going to Cal, there was quite a buzz about that," Norm continued. (Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley, are famous for their longtime celebrated feud as adversaries.)

Janice "Jan" Dole Dutton was born on March 28, 1925 in Palo Alto, California. Her father was Stanford athlete Norman Dorset Dole. Born in 1903 in Redlands, California, Norman received his degree in engineering from Stanford and worked for PG&E until the Great Depression ended his job and so many others. He would find work with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during that time. Jan's mother was Janice Manning Dole. Janice was born in August of 1904 in Sumpter, Oregon, and graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in education. Her hometown was mostly destroyed by a fire in August of 1917. Its population in the 2010 census came was 204.

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Both of Jan's parents were the children of Western pioneers. Her paternal grandparents were Walter Sanford Dole and Miriam B. Dreier. Walter was born in Kauai, Hawaii in July of 1868 and he in turn was the son of George Hathaway Dole and Clara Maria Rowell.



George Hathaway Dole was born in 1842 in Punahou to Protestant missionaries Daniel and Emily Hoyt Ballard Dole. From Maine, Daniel and Emily arrived in Hawaii in 1841 and opened a school in Punahou. (Now a college preparatory, the school's most famous alumnus is Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States. He graduated in 1979.) George's mom Emily died in 1844, shortly after the birth of George's brother, Sanford Ballard Dole. Sanford would go on to be appointed the first governor of the Territory of Hawaii in 1900, after it was annexed by the United States.

(Pictured at left, Sanford Ballard Dole and Jan Dutton's great grandfather George Hathaway Dole. Circa, 1850. Photographer unknown.)

George worked on several plantations in Hawaii and in 1889, he, his wife Clara, and their 12 children moved to Riverside, California, where their 13th child was born in 1889.



The Dole family in 1925. Standing, left to right: Richard Dole, Sr., Norman Dole (Jan's father), Vivien Dole, and Jan's paternal grandfather, Walter Dole. Seated, left to right: Dagmar Dole, Janice Manning Dole (Jan's mother), Jan, and Jan's paternal grandmother, Miriam Dole.

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Jan's mother, Janice Manning Dole, was the daughter of Ernst L. and Mary J. Costello Manning. Mary was from Ireland and Ernst was born in Riverside, California in 1870, according to an 1880 United States Federal Census, though that same census spells his name "Earnest." Ernst Manning in turn, was the son of England-born Alfred Washington Manning, who went by A.W., and Illinois-born Sarah J. Quigley Manning. In the 1880 Census, A.W. lists his occupation as oysterman and his age as 40. His wife Sarah is listed as 35 and they have six children with Ernst being the second eldest – one year younger than Ira and two years older than Elizabeth.

A.W. Manning, Jan's maternal great grandfather was the owner of Manning's Oyster Shack, which was featured in "Bohemian San Francisco: its restaurants and their most famous recipes; the elegant art of dining" by Clarence Edgar Edwards, published in 1914.

"Most famous of all the old oyster houses was Mannings, at the corner of Pine and Webb streets," Edwards writes. "He specialized in oysters and many of his dishes have survived to the present day. It is said that the style now called "Oysters Kirkpatrick," is but a variant of Manning's "Oyster Salt Roast."

"When my grandmother, Janice Manning, was young, she lived on a rancho with her family (Ernst and Mary Manning) in Chihuahua, Mexico," Norm said. "It was a large place, thousands of acres. In 1910, her family made a very hasty move to Arizona. (The Mexican Revolution began in 1910.) They basically escaped only with whatever they could carry with them. Eventually the family moved to Riverside, California."

As to passing down any oyster recipes, Norm said his mom did prepare oysters for her husband, Marvin Dutton, but Norm never developed a taste for them.

Jan's folks, Norman and Janice Manning Dole, divorced when Jan was eight. Like her husband, Mrs. Dole worked at various jobs during the Depression. Young Jan would attend a number of different elementary schools and in 1943 she graduated from Sacramento High School. Both of her parents would end up serving in the Second World War, and both in the Army.

"If nothing else, serving in the Army provided my grandparents with employment," Norm said. "My grandmother served as a secretary in England. My grandfather led an engineering group who built the airfields across Europe, following General Patton. My mom was in college."

Like her father, Jan headed off to Stanford. She spent her first two years there then transferred to UCLA to be a part of their theater department.

"She was a drama queen!" her son kidded. "She studied education and modern dance at UCLA. Her mother wanted her to be able to make a living and told her that, 'working as a teacher was the best occupation for a woman.' That was probably true at the time. When my mother talked about UCLA, she often talked more about living in Venice (California) and going sailing with her boyfriend who also owned an MG (Morris Garage) roadster."

After the War, Jan's mom who was described as "five feet tall and no nonsense," got a job as a teacher with the Preston School of Industry – a California Youth Authority School. In 1954, Marvin Dutton took a job with the Preston School.

Marvin was originally from Mullen, Nebraska. His grandparents brought him to San Francisco as a high school graduation present. He decided there and then that he wanted to live in San Francisco at some point, but if not in San Francisco, then somewhere in California. Marvin, who served in the Army Air Corps during WWII, used his G.I. Bill Benefits to come out to California after the War. He graduated

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from Sacramento State College in 1951 with a bachelor's degree in social work. He got a job with the California Youth Authority (CYA) and spent his first few years working as a parole officer in the Watts neighborhood of South Los Angeles. He then took a job with the Preston School of Industry in Ione, California, about a two hour drive northeast of San Francisco.

"My mom had just come back from living with her dad in Madrid, Spain. Her dad was working there with the Army Corps of Engineers on a two-year project. When my mom came home she moved back in with her mom. One day her mom told her about a nice young man who was working with her at the Preston School and she arranged to take them both on a picnic. Six weeks later, my folks married in Reno."



Marvin and Jan, on their wedding day, August 28, 1954.

The couple lived with Jan's mom in Sunnybrook, near Ione, and Jan worked as a kindergarten teacher. In 1956, the couple's son was born. The first year of little Norman's life, Jan continued to work which she was very unhappy about. But she was able to quit when Norm turned one. Marvin got a job with the Los Guilicos Juvenile Facility in Santa Rosa as a parole officer. In 1960, the family moved to Pacifica when Marvin took a job with the Pacifica School District, then the Laguna Salada Union School District, as a counselor.



Jan and her son Norm in their home in Santa Rosa, 1958.

In Pacifica, Jan – always a roll-up-her-sleeves kind of individual – got involved in many things. She became a full-time volunteer with the Pacifica Co-Op Nursery. In 1960, she became a member of the Pacifica Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The AAUW Life Member, served as president of the local organization several times, as well as legislative advocacy chair, newsletter editor and publicist. She additionally brought in AAUW memberships and secured their commitment on many causes. She was very proud that her daughter-in-law Karen and her granddaughter Valerie were also AAUW Life Members.

"One of her favorite AAUW programs was the Tech Trek," her son Norm said. "AAUW chooses a girl from one of Pacifica's high schools to go to a technical camp. She felt very strongly that women could participate in the development of technical things, if they were given a chance. She stayed active with AAUW until the end."

Jan also showed dogs.



Jan and her Keeshond friend in a Santa Cruz competition, August of 1969.

"She really enjoyed this hobby," Norm said. "In fact, all of us showed dogs. She had a Kerry Blue Terrier that she had shown when she was young. We had a number of Keeshond, seven at one point, and showed them all. She liked doing confirmation, which is what most people associate with dog shows. It's basically a beauty pageant. I preferred doing obedience with the dogs. Some of our dogs earned championships, both in confirmation and obedience."

She was also involved with the Family Service Agency Auxiliary. Her husband worked part-time for the Family Service Agency, and the Auxiliary mostly did fundraising. In that regard, Jan put on a dog show, which was held at Sharp Park School (where Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School is now). This was in the late 1960s.

"We were all involved with the anti-Vietnam War Movement," Norm said. "Both my parents were very involved, not just my mom. And the family member that was the most involved was my mom's mom. She had to take early retirement for the California Youth Authority because of her emphysema. She spent a lot of her time sending letters to our Congress "critters," advocating for immediately ending our involvement in Vietnam. I have at least one binder full of the responses she received from them."

Early on, Jan also got on board with the Pacifica Arts and Heritage Council (PAHC), now Pacifica Performances, which was founded in 1976 as a result of the 1976 formation of The California Arts Council. The Council was created to "make available and accessible quality art reflecting all of California's diverse cultures; to support the state's broad economic, educational, and social goals through the arts; to provide leadership for all levels of the arts community; and to present effective programs that add a further dimension to our cities, our schools, our jobs, and our creative spirit."

The PAHC began with a group of volunteering Pacificans who got together to talk about and subsequently form a council to enhance the arts in the community and to integrate all the arts with this council. When first begun, PAHC held classes over at the old Firehouse in Pedro Point. During that time piano restorer Sheldon Smith had pianos at the Firehouse and Sunday jazz concerts were soon introduced on an intermittent basis as volunteers' time allowed. Along with Pacifica jeweler B J Kelley, Jan Dutton originally booked these jazz concerts, originally called "Jazz At The Firehouse."

During that time, Jan got involved with Bay Area Jazz Society and started hanging out with longtime San Francisco jazz and blues critic Phil Elwood as well as other local promoters.

"She kept telling me about a rather hyperactive, young jazz singer she met," Norm said. Norm is a professional musician. He plays baritone, tenor, alto and soprano sax, as well as clarinet and bass clarinet. He is a graduate of the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston. "I went with her to a Bay Area

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Jazz Society meeting and this guy comes up and gives my mom a hug. She introduced me to him. It was Bobby McFerrin."

Jan did not forget her theater roots. She was friends with Pacifican Roberta Ewald, who put together a small theater group called Keyboard Productions.

"They performed plays that Roberta wrote at the Community Center and Jan did the stage technical part," Norm said. "When I was in college, she took a clown class. She would get all made up and go with the rest of the class to entertain people at nursing homes and places like that."

"At another point, along with Clark Natwick, she published an alternative newspaper called *Pacifica Nexus*," Norm went on to say. "They were frustrated about the *Pacifica Tribune* avoiding controversial topics, so they started their own newspaper."

She was a deputy voter registrar. Along with registering others, she made regular trips to the local high schools to register 18-year-old students.

"When my wife Karen and I and the kids were visiting friends in Boston in 2000, Karen picked up a flyer at a festival which was about a school program that taught middle school students about voting," Norm recalled, "and how to start a chapter in your own area."

"I knew Jan was interested in this and brought the flyer home to show her," Karen said. "Jan looked through it and decided she could do better. She and her best friend Lydia Azevedo (another Pacifica mover and shaker) put together their own program for all of Pacifica's eighth graders. They created ballots, got donated ballot pens, made ballot boxes and had the kids get information about candidates. They brought their materials to the schools and had the kids discuss the candidates and decide who to vote for. They did this in time for the 2000 election and the students voted for candidates in that election. It gave the students a stake in the election, which was a great experience to teach them what voting was really like."

As a high school mom, Jan definitely gets a two thumbs up from her son.

"Before I could drive, she was the cool mom who would drive me and a bunch of band kids around. If we had a late rehearsal, or something like that, she would drive us. In my sophomore year, the band went camping for a weekend at Lake Tahoe. The Senior Ball was the Friday night we left for Tahoe and my mom was bugged that those band students wouldn't get to go. So, she met them at 3 a.m. on Saturday morning and drove them to Tahoe in our van."

Jan was very proud of being a Democrat. However, her son noted, she would vote for whoever she felt represented her well. She was a big supporter of Pete McCloskey, who was a Republican when he represented Pacifica.



Valerie Dutton and her grandmother Jan Dutton, march for AAUW in Pacifica's Fog Fest Parade, 1999.

She was very involved in opposing the 380 extension which would have connected 280 to Highway 1 in Pacifica via Mori Ridge, which led her to be one of the founders of PUSH (Pacifians United to Save Our Hills).

"I was in college locally and very absorbed with playing music but I remember her showing me the plans and artist's renderings of the ridgeline in Pacifica, covered in houses. It was pretty horrifying."

From the Pacifica Historical Society's award-winning television series *Footprints of Pacifica* Episode 88, "History of Open Space" (produced in 2007), Pacifians and open space activists Jan Dutton, Peter Loeb, Ken Miles, Mike Vasey and Clark Natwick recalled the early struggles with open space.

"I am a member of PUSH which was founded many years ago, a little bit after I moved to Pacifica in 1975," Ken Miles said. "I met then with members of the community here, including Jan Dutton, one of the leaders among the Cattle Hill people – who saved Cattle Hill from development – and I got involved here in the environmental movement. My degree is in biology/ecology from San Francisco State University and I used to collect wild plants back here in the hills and classify them. I became interested in this area. When I was looking for a home, I came to this neighborhood in Vallemar. They were going to spread Highway 380 from the airport to 280 and beyond, coming down through the Shell Dance Nursery into Pacifica. My neighbors and I started talking and became very concerned about the impact of Highway 380 to Pacifica. We organized – Ferd Simons, myself and Jan Dutton – and we started PUSH. We started meeting with the public. We started working with members of the community and with City Council. We went and lobbied our proposal to City Council and it wasn't accepted right away. People said, 'What is going to happen? If we don't have the highway here, we won't have a fast way to get to San Francisco. What will be the economic impact? If we have a park at Sweeney Ridge, how is that going to benefit Pacifica?' Our goal was to have it benefit everybody, including senior citizens, young people, and that. — I worked with information packets and chaired many of the meetings. I met with the owners of West Aspen who owned the property behind us, the 1,100 acres. They were cordial but they had their issues too but knew we had an interest in working with them and maybe the National Park. At the

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same time, we were meeting with Representative Leo Ryan and Amy Meyer (Co-chairman of People for a Golden Gate National Recreation Area.) I took on the outreach with John Wade (of the Sierra Club) and the Peninsula Open Space Trust Area – that was my emphasis. It seems like the meetings went on forever, especially after Congressman Ryan was killed in Jonestown."

"I was one of the people who headed up PUSH," Jan Dutton said in the same 2007 *Footprints* episode. "We kept pushing until we did get Sweeney Ridge for ourselves. We came here in 1960 and we didn't have a hillside ordinance at that time. It came on later. It was something I worked on with AAUW, the American Association of University Women Pacifica Branch. They had a meeting at Cabrillo School and they talked about the fact that there was going to be 2,200 homes built on Sweeney Ridge. We said, what we need is a feasibility study from the Park Department. There was a letter to be written. There were some people from Half Moon Bay there helping. They decided I could sign the letter because I wasn't noted as an environmentalist. I did sign. We got Congressman Ryan to do a feasibility study. — After the feasibility study then John Burton brought the Oversight Committee here. Finally the HR3 had money in there to buy Sweeney Ridge. It was very hush hush. I don't know how he did it, Michael Rothenberg got the Trust for Public Lands interested and he said, "We can't say anything about it, but they are going to help us. I think they more or less bought the land for us.

"There were a number of people involved with PUSH," Norm said, "but the core of the organization was my mother, Ferd Simons and Ken Miles. That was a hell of an accomplishment. They convinced the federal government to buy Sweeney Ridge from West Aspen Development and add it to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. My mom became friends with (now Congresswoman) Jackie Speier in the process."

Norm noted his mother was also very involved with convincing Caltrans (California Department of Transportation) to build the Devil's Slide Tunnels.

"She passed petitions, fundraised, and rabble-roused to get the proposition on the ballot. Unfortunately, she didn't live to see the tunnels completed. Karen, our son Eric, and I were invited to the opening ceremony in her place. There was a board at the celebration afterward, where they listed the names of the people who had helped in the cause, but were no longer alive to celebrate it. Jan and her friend Lydia Azevedo's names were both there."

Norm said his mom never wanted to run for City Council.

"She preferred to be involved on the 'outside,' so she could be free to pick which issues to advocate. As a City Council member, one has to advocate for one's constituents."

She loved being a grandmother to Norm and Karen's kids, Valerie and Eric.

"She took them to classes at both Spindrift School and Pacifica Park and Rec. She and Valerie went to art shows, concerts and other exhibitions. She was older when Eric came along and she didn't have the energy to do as much with him, much to her aggravation. Eric did go with my mom to meetings about the Devil's Slide Tunnels, along with the children of some of the other people. They were called "tunnel rats". Eric was also with his grandmother when they delivered the proposition petitions.



Jan, third from left, with her grandson Eric, second from left, join with the Pacifica Peace People, 2005.

"One of the big lessons my mom taught me is you can fight City Hall and sometimes win. She really felt it was your civic duty to get involved in various causes and if you see something going on that you don't like, work towards changing it."

In 2000, Jan, who also volunteered with the Pacifica Art Guild and the Pacifica Historical Society, suffered a stroke which slowed her down a bit.

"Despite that, she and Lydia Azevedo drove to the headquarters of the Trammell Crow Company, to discuss their plans for the quarry. I don't think they had an appointment, they just drove there, I think it was in Foster City. They just went in and met with the head of residential development, thinking that is who would be in charge of the project. It wasn't, but they had an interesting discussion with the guy they met with.

"Taking care of my dad, who had Alzheimer's, was what made her cut back her involvement in things. That was more than a full time job. She also had two surgeries for metastatic melanoma, but that didn't stop her for long, either. Despite the cancer and my dad, she still worked at home on AAUW projects and encouraging people to vote.

"She died on August 5, 2008 due to the melanoma after being pretty ill for five months."

Following her death, the Pacifica Chapter of the AAUW, named a scholarship in her honor.

"Since this is from the AAUW Pacifica branch, it is designated as being for a female Oceana High School senior who lives in Pacifica," Norm said. "They asked us, the family, if there was something special we wanted it to be for. We agreed that it should be given to a girl who was planning to study something to do with the arts, since my mom had such an interest in theater, music and the arts."



Family photo, 1991, one year before Eric was born. Clockwise from top left: Karen, Norm, Marvin, Jan and Valerie.

Jan made many friends throughout her life. This short list of friends is filled with people that Pacificans know: Lydia Azevedo, Clark Natwick, Shirley Drye, Mildred Owen, Grace McCarthy, Chris Hunter, Graham and Shirley White, Fredi Ware and Jackie Speier.

"She was a good mom in the way she set definite boundaries, but allowed me a lot of freedom within those boundaries. As I got older, I was allowed to make a lot of my own decisions, but also she didn't interfere with the consequences when I made poor choices.

"There were a lot of things that made Jan an interesting mom. She was bohemian in a lot of ways. She kept up with both current events and counterculture. For example, she pointed out Ken Kesey's "Further" bus one day when we were at the Golden Gate Park Panhandle. We discussed politics and social issues at the dinner table, which made both my parents interesting. She taught me a lot about social justice.

"When she learned her illness was terminal, she chose to write her own obituary."

"Janice was the result of a well-publicized 1923 collegiate elopement resulting in her arriving in Palo Alto in 1925, so mother, Janice Manning Dole, and baby were able to attend father, Norman Dole's graduation.

Janice is the descendant of two western pioneer families. Members of the Ninth Company of Hawaiian Missionaries, which sailed from Boston November 14, 1840; and in San Francisco, A.W. Manning who was naturalized and registered to vote on July 16, 1864.

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Author: Jean Bartlett (www.bartlettbiographies.com)

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She leaves myriads of Dole cousins, and her own family; Marvin Dutton, Norman, Karen, and Eric Dutton of Pacifica, and Valerie Dutton of San Francisco. At the request of the decedent, there will be no services.

Memorial gifts should be sent to Pacifica Community Television.



Jan and Marvin, Reno, Nevada, August 1954.

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