

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and
Citation of Merit
1978 Recipient**



**Kate Peterson Mailliard
1892-1979**

“Maverick matriarch” of a family proudly represented at Taft through seven decades of the 20th century, you have demonstrated intelligence, courage, and loving service to a continually growing list of people, communities, and institutions that includes the Taft School. In your private life, much of it on your ranch in California, you have integrated the American pioneer spirit and a deep-rooted concern for conservation with a conviction that one can only know the land through working it. Your productive public life has grown out of your understanding that the land and the people are our most precious resources. You know, as do few others, America’s continuing need for a hardier, healthier, more productive breed of young men and women. The Mailliard Fellowship, which brings energetic and dedicated young teachers to the Taft faculty, is an increasingly important means of meeting that need. In your diverse and demanding roles as mother, rancher, and civic leader, you have understood the importance of a sound education in a rapidly changing world. For your dedicated service to the human community and for your inspiring example to all of the people your life has touched, Taft is proud to honor you, the first woman to receive its Alumni Citation of Merit.