

## Loring Cox

Known for his devotion to Casa Mesita Thrift Shop, Loring Cox has donated over 26,000 hours to its operation. The money it earns is distributed to fifteen Los Alamos organizations including the Senior Center and Salvation Army. Loring was born in 1919 to a large West Virginia family. During World War II he served in the Corps of Engineers in Bermuda and then applied to the Army aviation cadet program, training at Kirtland Air Force Base as a navigator/bombardier. At Kirtland, Loring met Ruth, a home economics teacher and they were married after receiving his commission in 1943. Stationed in England, he flew 35 air raids and was preparing to take part in the invasion of Japan when the war ended. Invited to work in Los Alamos, he was placed in charge of assigning resident housing and devised the point system which allotted two points for each month of employment plus one point per salary dollar. Loring and Ruth had two children, Kenneth and Barbara and were charter members of the First Baptist Church where Loring helped erect their building and compile their by-laws. Loring remains active, holding a number of church positions over the years.



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