In 1659, John Kittredge, captain of a sailing vessel, set the broken leg of a sailor while at sea. For "practicing medicine without a medical diploma" he was forced to flee England and settled in Massachusetts in 1660. Emma McNair Kittredge/Mrs. "Kit" Quinn), who passed away Jan. 3 after a 16 year battle with cancer, was the ninth consecutive generation of Dr. Kittredge in the United States, subsequent ones having earned their proper degrees. Born in Rochester, New York, in 1902, she graduated as Valedictorian from Whitesboro High School at age 15, and from the University of Rochester at 19. After teaching school in Scarsdale, New York, she entered Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, one of the very few schools accepting women at that time. Earning her MD in 1929, she came to Los Angeles to intern at the County General Hospital, and was the first anesthesiologist hired as a permanent staff member by the California Hospital in 1932.

In 1934, she was the first woman doctor appointed Chief Medical Examiner by the Women's Air Reserve by the Commerce Dept. She conducted extensive research throughout the country with women pilots, among whom were Amelia Earhart, Pancho Barnes, Bobbie Trout, Viola Kirby and other record-breaking aviators. The appointment carried the rank of Lt. Col. Upon her marriage in 1936 to William F. Quinn, MD, she became half of a surgical team which was to practice for 40 years. Thousands of patients have remarked on the reassurance her blue-eyed twinkle and warm smile gave them as they were about to "go under" or reawakened in the recovery room. After Dr. Quinn's retirement, she continued as campus physician at Pierce College in Woodland Hills. She retired in 1982, at age 80, after 50 years of active practice.

Her concurrent charity work was extensive, as she had belonged to or was officer of Junior Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, LACMA, Resthaven Aug., the Associates of Family Service, Junto, the Freedom's Foundation, the Calif. Hospital Service Guild, the National Charity League, and Assistance League, among others. For over 25 years, she was West Coast Co-Chairman of ABMAC (American Bureau for Medical Aid for Free China), underwriting hospitals, clinics
Emma McNair Kittredge M.D. (Mrs. William F. Quinn) and ambulance service in Taiwan, and training Chinese doctors in this country. She was instrumental in building the Peter Prescott Memorial Hospital there, named for the son of the founder of Flying Tigers. For her work, she was awarded the Order of the Crysanthemum, the highest honor given a non-Chinese, by the government of Taiwan.

For over 50 years, she was active in the Altar Guild of the First Congregational Church, and a Memorial Service will be held there at 12:30 on March 18. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Emma McNair Kittredge MD Scholarship Fund, Medical College of Pennsylvania, 3300 Henry Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19129.

She is survived by a daughter, Margaret E. "Meg" Quinn, a school psychologist, importer, and editor, and a son, Robert R. Quinn, a professor of meteorology and earth sciences at Eastern Washington State, outside Spokane, and two granddaughters, Sara and Debra Quinn.