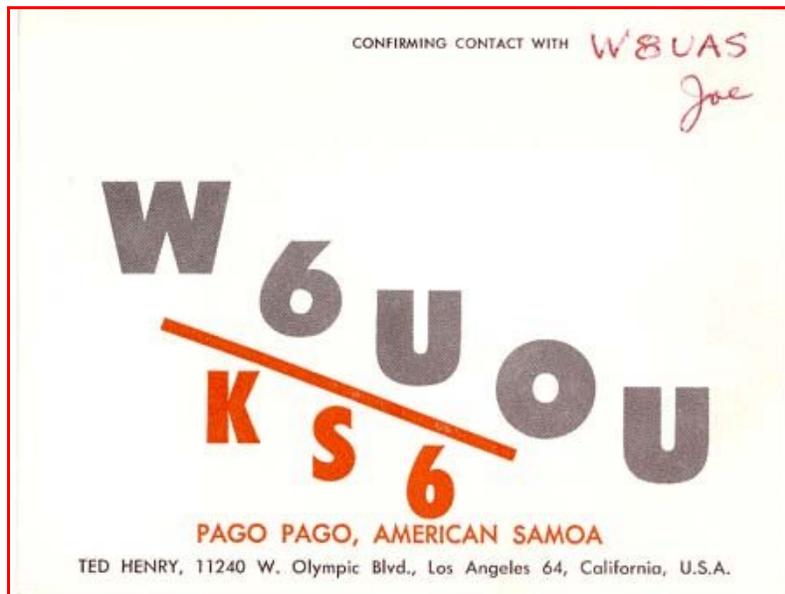


Ted Henry W6UOU - In 1997 an online ARRL letter appeared. A sad but unrelenting occurrence in ham radio we read about "Henry Radio closes ham retail store" Henry Radio closed its Los Angeles retail store. Ted Henry Jr W6YEY, said Henry will continue its amplifier and commercial lines, but with the closing of the LA store - no longer has a "storefront" retail operation.



Henry Jr., said they will continue to sell some ham radio equipment via mail order. Henry once a prime mover of ham radio retailing was "not a profitable business for us and has not been for a number of years." The store closing eliminated eight jobs. Henry Radio began in Butler, Missouri, the year 1927.

In 1941 Ted Henry attended UCLA and studied political science as he wanted to be a teacher. He had other designs in mind and wanted to open a radio store on Westwood Blvd near

UCLA. Ted was only seven years old when his brother Bob WØARA opened his store in Butler Mo., the year 1927. Everyone was caught up in that radio magic at the time. With family assistance and that of Meredith W6WNE (Ted's wife to be) Henry Radio West was born September of 1941.

With the war looming, Ted kept busy with the electronics market, military needs and had made many life long friends in the business. His education at UCLA paid off.

An avid SSB Dx-er, Ted amassed 315 confirmed countries. He and Meredith went on several expeditions to the Solomon Islands and around the world in 1977. They were no stranger to the DXCC competition list. Ted had purchased several KWM-1 Collins rigs and over the years kept lending them to operators in rare countries. It was an admirable honor system as these transceivers were worth well over many operator's annual income, yet they all came back.

Amateur radio morphed into many changes in the 80s, computer mania hit, cell phones and Asian manufacturers dumped large quantities of electronics on the market. Property values soared. Ted decided to build a large multi purpose facility several blocks West on Bundy Drive. Their son Ted Jr W6YEY took charge of the Bundy store. The modern chrome and glass facility featured high end audio and video plus the legendary counter and several desks where equipment could be evaluated. The bottom line from the radio store operations simply couldn't approach the potential lease income of this valuable square footage.

At age 77, Ted Henry is a tall, vibrant, handsome figure. Full of ideas of international diplomacy and in the communications realm. The Henry commercial and amateur lines continue, but the long counter that reached from a young man's dream to touch the hearts and minds of so many ham radio operators is but a memory. Partially scripted outadaloop.com - QSL via K8CX Ham Gallery