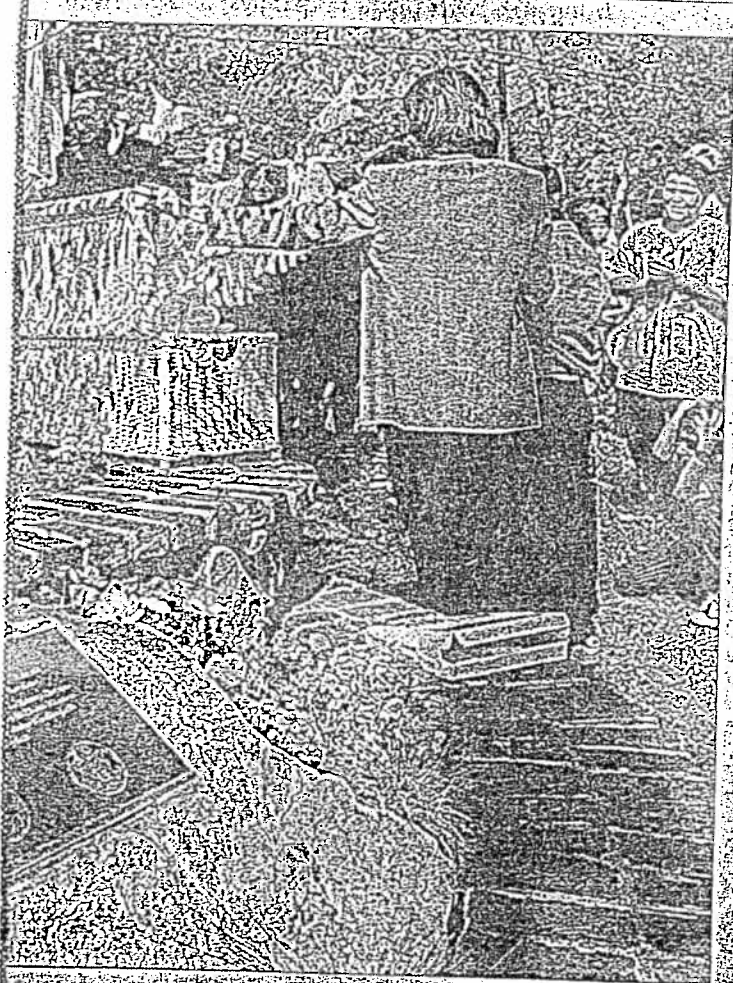


IN BRIEF

ts across Los Angeles County



KIRK MCKOY / Los Angeles Times

emony unveiling bronze plaque Wednesday at Griffith Park

Tommy Stewart Dedicated

private campaign to "derful human being." The plaque will sit atop a rock monument across from the Rangers station off Crystal Springs Drive. It reads, in part: "In honor of the great American whose humanity touched us all through his work as one of the favorite actors of our time."

St. John's (Hospital) Park, and his whole call on my friends to tribute to a won-

Official Business

■ COURTS AND GOVERNMENT

Family of Girl Killed in Helicopter Crash Files Claim for \$22.5 Million

The family of an 11-year-old girl who was killed in a rescue helicopter crash filed wrongful death claims against the city of Los Angeles on Wednesday, alleging negligence that contributed to a car crash.

Norma Vides and other members of her Sun Valley family were injured when a car struck a city trash truck in Shadow Hills the morning of March 23. A Fire Department rescue helicopter was called to take the injured girl to Childrens Hospital Los Angeles but crashed in Griffith Park, killing Vides and three of five crew members.

In the claim, family attorney Gregory Moreno blames the initial car crash on negligent design and construction of the roadway and related infrastructure.

The city "created, and maintained a dangerous condition" at the Sunland Boulevard and Wheatland Avenue crash site, the claim says, by failing to provide shoulders, berms or parking lanes.

The family is seeking a total of \$22.5 million.

A spokesman for the city was unavailable for immediate comment. According to California law, a city government cannot be sued until a claim has been filed, which gives the city a chance to settle the dispute.

Moreno says he plans to sue the helicopter's manufacturer later.