EARTHQUAKE BABY HAS SHAKEY PARTY

By MAUREEN BLEWETT
Times Staff Writer

The earth stopped shaking at 5:40 p.m. and suddenly, ominously, Mrs. Raymond Arnold — nine months pregnant — began having labor pains.

Emergency radios warned stunned residents not to go to the already-jammed hospitals, and the Arnolds realized they might have to deliver their fourth child themselves in the midst of damage and devastation — with no heat, no water, no lights.

Neighbors dipped water from the backs of toilets, boiled it on camp stoves and searched for lanterns, lights and first aid books. And the Arnolds looked frantically for the nurse who lived in the neighborhood.

Two neighboring policemen told them to try going to the hospital and by 10:30 p.m. the Arnolds drove up to a darkened Providence Hospital. The halls were lined with earthquake victims and Army gear and they were swarming with people.

At three minutes after midnight, Kelly Arnold was born by candlelight, delivered by her pediatrician and a doctor her mother had never seen before.

It was just six hours and 23 minutes after the worst earthquake ever recorded on the continent.

And tomorrow ten years later Kelly a fourth grade at Airport Heights School, will celebrate her birthday, appropriately, at Shakey's.

TREMORS TRIGGERED BIRTH

Kelly Arnold will celebrate her birthday tomorrow, ten years after the Good Friday earthquake triggered her mother's labor pains. She was born some six hours after the earthquake and was delivered by her pediatrician and a doctor her mother had never seen before. The birthday party to commemorate the quake baby's tenth year will be at Shakey's — of course.