

Memorial Minute for Eileen Babcock

Born June 17, 1951 - March 20, 2018 to Francis and Vivian Babcock.

It is with real sadness that we announce the passing of Eileen Babcock, who had been a member of Durham Friends Monthly Meeting for the greater part of her life. Eileen grew up in the Meeting, participating in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She was active in many Meeting committees and activities, including Trustees, Woman's Society, youth groups, benefit dinners for the Kakamega Orphans Care Center. At the time of her death, she was the Trustee in charge of the Meeting's cemeteries. She was deeply committed to following God's will and doing her best for the Meeting. She was always there to lend a hand in whatever was needed.

Eileen was active in the Durham community, working at Town elections, helping organize the local Republican Town Committee, and holding, at different times, every elected office in the Durham Extension Homemakers.

After a brief teaching career, Eileen was a helper. She took care of her parents and other family members, and many, many others.

Eileen really enjoyed helping, experimenting with new recipes, walking with family members and making cider with her father.

She was a giving, sharing, extremely private person, who is greatly missed.

Eileen is survived by her significant other, Tommie Frye; her two brothers, Jerel and wife Sheila Babcock, and Wilbert Babcock; her sister Priscilla Wormwood, and several nieces. and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and her sister, Sylvia Davis.

Approved by Durham Friends Meeting

Endorsed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, April 25, 2020

Alexander W. Banks, a kind and gentle light, passed from this life on December 18, 2017. Alex was a skilled and compassionate lawyer, a generous and engaged teacher of law, and, most importantly, a loving father and friend. He was a thoughtful man who reserved judgment of others and believed in seeing the good in everyone. His life reflected his sensitivity and commitment to people in need through his professional practices and in the ways he conducted his life. As a lifelong Quaker, Alex demonstrated a heartfelt interest in helping those less fortunate. He was devoted to equality and employed his legal skills to the benefit of humanity. Alex loved others, but sadly found it difficult to find love for himself. And alas, it was too much alcohol and a bout with e-coli that took Alex from this world.

Alex was devoted to his family. He and Sheilagh Smith, his former wife, were married under the care of Swarthmore Friends Meeting on August 12, 2000; their marriage was later made legal by a Baptist minister on Prince Edward Island. They began attending Hanover Friends Meeting in 2001; Carter was born in 2002; and Cole was born in 2004. Alex attended meeting for worship as his busy life allowed and nourished his Quaker roots in worship. His ministry was always welcomed and often reflected his gratitude for his family. Carter and Cole were often in worship with their parents, nestled in their laps, before time to leave for the children/youth programs.

Alex and Sheilagh's marriage dissolved in 2006 and they divorced in 2008. Throughout this time, both were accepting of the support provided by the Meeting in helping them to listen to and use their Quaker values and inner beliefs as a guide to their interactions and process of divorce. It was not always smooth but both remained involved in the Meeting. Sometimes Alex worshipped with us but often helped in the kitchen to prepare the morning snack. He loved his sons and tried to be sure they got to the activities and events that fed and nurtured them—both within and outside the Meeting. Alex adored spending time with his sons.

Alex was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on August 14, 1961, the second child of the late Richard W. Banks and Ruth Alexander Hipple. He graduated from The Hill School, and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in 1983 from Bates College and a juris doctor degree in 1987 from Vermont Law School, where he was a member of the National Lawyers Guild and Women's Law Group. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1987, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania in

1987, the Vermont Bar Association in 1995, and the U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont in 1996.

From 1987 to 1995, he served as a staff attorney and eventually as a managing attorney at Northwestern Legal Services, assisting many low-income clients. Alex also wrote and implemented one of Pennsylvania's first countywide, mandatory pro bono plans requiring members of the county bar to provide free legal assistance to low-income individuals. From 1995 to 2017, Alex taught at Vermont Law School and served as a staff attorney at the South Royalton Legal Clinic, where he advocated for victims of domestic violence and children. He designed and implemented the clinic's Children First! legal advocacy program, which provides representation to children involved in difficult family proceedings, and served as a mentor to countless VLS student clinicians. He served on several county and state boards and committees organized to confront domestic violence and work toward judicial reform. Alex received numerous awards and certificates of appreciation, including the Outstanding Victim Advocate Award in 2000 from the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services and Vermont Domestic Violence Network. In 2005, he was recognized by the Vermont Supreme Court for Service to Children in Vermont Family Court, and recognized again in 2008 and 2011 by the Vermont Supreme Court for his advocacy and training with the Vermont Guardian ad Litem Program. Throughout his professional life, Alex was devoted to serve those in need and those without a voice—without the strength to fight for themselves.

His own hearing difficulty seemed to help him in his dealings with others who struggled with some difficulty. At the same time, it was, at times, difficult for him to navigate in a career based on intense and frequent communication demands. He did so well.

Alex was a quiet, passionate, sensitive, compassionate, empathic, loving, and caring man. But indeed, he was also a complex man. While he often acted in service to others, Alex was always too hard on himself. He struggled with alcoholism for years, which dimmed his bright Light and contributed to his death. We can learn from his struggle and are better for having him as a part of our faith community. He leaves behind his two boys, Carter and Cole, who are active members of our Young Friends group. Hanover Friends Meeting continues to hold them in the Light as they move forward in life, with their father in spirit.

Lois Pitkin Booth Memorial Minute

Approved by Concord Friends Meeting 12/8/2019

Lois Pitkin Booth, born in 1922, passed away in September 2019, having lived a long, inspiring life. She was raised in a Methodist family and in the 1950's she became an early member of the newly-formed Concord (NH) Friends Meeting.

Lois was the fire that kept Concord Friends Meeting warm with her core belief in Love's power and her indomitable optimism. She was joyfully welcoming to all. She had a wonderfully inclusive ability to draw out strengths and gifts of service from others. In her humble way, she was able to step aside and let others assume leadership once they showed interest. She led by example and through her countercultural life modeled the change that she wanted to see in the world.

Lois started the Meeting's First Day School program with the central value that every child feel loved. The Meeting grew as families were drawn to the culture of love and respect that she cultivated with her gentle compassion. She promoted music and hymns as an important way for children to connect with the Spirit, believing that these songs would provide a resource they could draw upon for the rest of their lives. Thus, singing became a regular part of First Day School. This led to the whole Meeting singing together before unprogrammed worship which has become an important Spirit-building part of our Meeting.

Lois was a strong supporter of families; in the Meeting and in her extended family she was an advocate for communication and expression of feelings as a way to strengthen family relationships. Ever sensitive to the feelings of others, she made sure that people felt welcome in Meeting regardless of their ability to contribute financially, reminding us that we all bring diverse gifts to the community. Don and Lois' commitment to their 65 year marriage was an inspiration, as was her patient care for her father in her home in the last years of his life.

Lois' witness in the world grew out of her compassion for others, her belief in the transforming power of love, and her keen awareness of inequality and injustice in its many forms. Her deep faith in a loving God centered her actions and witness. Her commitment to peace led to war tax resistance, starting with the Korean War. She was a person willing to speak truth to power, and a gentle yet persistent force for peace and justice. From the Nuclear Test Ban movement through the steady stream of wars and military actions since then, Lois was there organizing and educating. She believed that citizens would respond well to good information and that education would lead to positive change. She also was Clerk of Peace and Social Concerns Committee for years.

Lois was a key force behind opening a New Hampshire office of the AFSC in 1978; she organized Canterbury Citizens for Peace and Justice in 1981; and she helped found New Hampshire Peace Action in 1982. For over two decades, Lois focused her energy on NH Peace Action as a full-time volunteer and lead fundraiser.

Lois concentrated on the root causes of problems rather than on the symptoms. She had a keen sense of how to motivate and organize people in order to not only achieve a purpose but also build community. We learned from her the lesson of the importance of food, music, and fun to engage us in community as we work for change.

Lois raised six children in their no-frills country home built by her husband, Don, who conscientiously opposed war and performed Alternative Service during World War II. Their yearning for deep relationships with others led them in the 1950s to try living in several intentional communities around the country. To our great benefit they always returned to Canterbury to deepen their roots there where they lived from 1951 until 2003 when she and Don moved to the Havenwood Retirement Community in Concord. “Living simply so that others may simply live” was her way, not just a motto.

Lois loved to garden. It was a natural part of living simply. She grew a large portion of their vegetables, baked her own bread, and was committed to healthy eating, feeding her family whole grains and sprouts and vegetarian meals long before it was fashionable or common. She maintained an extensive flower garden and regularly brought a beautiful array of flowers to Meeting, another way of sharing God’s bounty. She offered wholesome meals and a bed to many who came to the Concord area trying out lifestyles that earned them little money. She and Don joyfully shared their cars, their tools, their labor, and the fruits of her garden with others in need. The way they so freely shared was an expression of their love and sense of community. This generosity was a deep inspiration to many.

Although Lois was highly intelligent and a college graduate, she put her family, the Meeting community, and her peace work ahead of paid work outside the home. She did become a realtor and, as such, gave special attention to the appropriate use of the land, making wise purchases and then reselling to good people for good purposes whenever possible.

Lois and Don’s generous spirit was also evidenced in their gift of land on the Merrimack River to the town of Canterbury to become the town beach and the Riverland Conservation Area. Our Meetinghouse would not have been built without their generosity. First Lois’s offer of land reignited a languishing meetinghouse project. Then when that plot proved too small, an organization to whom the Booths had previously donated another larger tract of land, gifted a portion of it to the Meeting which is where the Meetinghouse now sits, a powerful demonstration of the ripple effect of Lois and Don’s witness of love and generosity.

One of Lois’ greater gifts was her tolerance in the face of conflict. Many learned about Quaker ways from her creative responses to interpersonal conflict and her loving acceptance toward all people, particularly difficult people and those with mental illness. She fully embodied the concept of “let peace begin with me,” in her interpersonal relationships and within the Meeting, the community, and the world.

Lois trusted in the power of prayer; for example, she suggested that members of the Religious Education Committee pray for Meeting children individually. Wisdom born from difficulty and hardship in her own life attracted others to seek her counsel. They were always met with compassion and prayers. She believed completely in a loving God, and often said that God is Love. Even in her last years, she gave vocal ministry of the loving words of Jesus.

Lois was never frustrated or bitter as her body and mind aged. She remained cheerful to the end. Lois’ understanding of the importance of spiritual education for children, her leadership in peace and justice issues, and her personal warmth helped to make the Concord Friends Meeting a welcoming place that has attracted other Spirit-led people for generations.

Lois Booth’s example continues to shine brightly in the lives of those who knew her. Many of us have asked ourselves, “How would Lois deal with this problem?” finding Light and courage in the answer.



April 5, 2020

Minutes & Reports

Friends Meeting at Cambridge

Meeting for Business in Worship

April 5, 2020

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Friends Meeting at Cambridge (FMC) gathered remotely in a Meeting for Business in Worship on Sunday, April 5, at 1:15pm. The Meeting was convened by Ariel Maddocks, Co-Presiding Clerk, after a period of silent worship, with 64 people present via Zoom. The Clerk opened the Meeting by reading a quotation from Britain Yearly Meeting “A Quaker’s guide to online worship and meetings:”

“Now there were many old people who went into the chapel and looked out at the windows, thinking it a strange thing to see a man preach on a hill, and not in their church, as they called it; whereupon I was moved to open to the people that the steeple-house, and the ground whereon it stood were no more holy than that mountain. . .”
(George Fox, Firbank Fell, 1694)

Quaker ways of worship are not bound by custom or ritual. We are called to find space to listen to the promptings of love and truth in our hearts, wherever we might be. God is found in a forest, field, prison, house or car as much as within the walls of a church. Nothing is set apart or sacred because everything is sacred.

When it comes to online meeting for worship, Friends meeting online are perhaps like those on the hillside of Firbank Fell, creating the church community in a space that is available.

Friends in attendance introduced themselves with a brief response to the prompt: “How do you spiritually connect with one another at a time of crisis?”

Memorial Minute for Severyn Bruyn**2020-032**

For Ministry and Counsel, Wendy Sanford read a Memorial Minute for our long-time Member Severyn Bruyn, who died May 26, 2019. Friends appreciated that Sev's daughters Rebecca and Susan were present on *Zoom* for the reading. Unfortunately, Louise, his wife for 67 years and a beloved Member of our Meeting, was not able to connect; the reading of the minute was recorded, however, with approval of the Meeting. Friends held Sev's family and friends in the Light and approved sending the Minute on to Salem Quarterly Meeting. The text of the Minute will be published in the April 5 edition of *Minutes & Reports*.

Announcements**2020-033**

LJ Boswell, Resident Friend, announced that the deadline for annual staff evaluations has been extended to Sunday, May 3. LJ will be sending out an email with the forms attached. (The evaluation forms are also available at community.fmcquaker.org.) Friends' feedback is requested to help evaluate the work of our staff members David Dunphy, Facilities Manager; Amy Mercure, Office Manager; Greg Woods, Youth Ministries and Education Coordinator; our Nursery workers and Center Residents. Please email those comments to resident@fmcquaker.org or mail them to the address on the forms. Evaluation comments about the LJ Boswell, Resident Friend, should be emailed to Liz Moore at rfevaluation@fmcquaker.org or mailed to her at the address on the form. Our practice is to include the author's name with the comment when it goes to the staff member unless you request otherwise.

A new concern group called Disability and Accessibility (D&A) has been established, with initial members Camilla Dickinson, Helen Kobek, Ariel Maddocks, Emmy Mathis, Jess McCormick, Liz Moore, and Betsy Roper, with Greg Woods as a consulting member. The Group is in an early formation and discernment stage. It will be listed in the Directory and on the Meeting's website. Other Friends who are interested are invited to join the Group.

Peace and Social Justice: Recommendations of Priorities for Friends Committee on National Legislation**2020-034**

Raymond Aucoin, Clerk of the Peace and Social Justice Committee, presented recommendations of legislative priorities for the 117th Congress to be sent to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). Every two years FCNL asks Quaker meetings, churches and groups to provide input in setting the priorities for the organization for the upcoming Congress. Each Quaker meeting is asked to submit seven priorities of 30 words or less. The recommendations were developed at recent meetings of a group of interested Friends. Raymond read the seven recommendations, as well as suggestions to FCNL to reduce the length of their list of possible priorities, to order them in some way, and to acknowledge that priorities may need to shift due to actions of the government and other changes in the country's circumstances.

The Meeting approved the recommendations, with a few suggested changes (the final version will be published in the April 5 edition of *Minutes & Reports*). The document will be forwarded to FCNL.

Update from Ad Hoc COVID-19 Response Group**2020-035**

Ian Harrington, Co-Presiding Clerk and Clerk of the *Ad Hoc* COVID-19 Response Group, explained that the *Ad Hoc* Group was formed because of an urgent need to make timely decisions for FMC in the face of the pandemic. The full report will be published in the April 5 edition of *Minutes & Reports*.

The Group consists of the members of the Clerks Team, the Facilities Manager, the Resident Friend, as well as representatives from Fellowship & Outreach Committee, First Day School/Youth Programs Committee, Ministry & Counsel, Personnel Committee, and Trustees Committee. The Group has met several times to gather information and to decide what changes to our usual practices needed to be accomplished immediately, including closing the buildings on March 13 and attempting to maintain our social and spiritual connections within the community. Our use of the *Zoom* app has been successful; we have heard and seen Friends from the Czech Republic, Canada, Mexico, Russia, and France, who ordinarily, of course, could not have joined us. A number of new remotely-accessed activities have been started by interested groups and individuals, including evening worship every day, guided meditation, storytime, and worship sharing about our reactions to the pandemic. Friends are reminded that if they want to set up a *Zoom* meeting using one of the Meeting's three accounts, they should send their request to zoom@fmcquaker.org. Friends needing help in working with *Zoom* can ask for assistance with a request to zoomhelp@fmcquaker.org.

The Group has worked with residents of the Friends Center about use of the building during its closure; it is unavailable to everybody other than the Center Residents and the Resident Friend, except for Material Aid and Advocacy Program staff's access to a basement bathroom, and others only on an emergency basis (arrangements must be made with LJ Boswell, Resident Friend).

Ian reminded Friends that the Pope Fund is available for financial help to Friends in distress; details were sent out in an email from the Pastoral Care Team—ask Ian if you can't find it.

Of course, we can't foresee how long the present situation will hold, but hope that everyone stays well and safe while it does.

LJ Boswell, Resident Friend, reported that the Office Manager and the Youth Ministries and Education Coordinator are working completely from home (phone calls to Meeting are forwarded immediately to Amy Mercure at home). David Dunphy, Facilities Manager, works mostly at home, but has needed to come to 5 Longfellow Park for a couple of emergency repairs. David has been updating the Facilities Manual, since he has a bit more time to devote to this task than usual. One Center Resident went home for the duration of the crisis; the remaining three people living in the Friends Center have been working together to navigate the situation in the best way possible.

Greg Woods, Youth Ministries and Education Coordinator, reported that he has been reaching out to youth and their families, and has been coordinating a version of First Day School via *Zoom*. Young Adult Friends have been having virtual potlucks each Sunday evening. About 30 Easter packets will be sent to families for an activity that they can do together remotely. Everyone is welcome to listen to stories or do crafting together during the weekly Storytimes for All and Craft Afternoons.

Friends held all these activities and the people involved in the Light.

Update from MAAP about their COVID-19 Response

2020-036

Nora Sullivan, a regular attendee at FMC and Program & Outreach Coordinator for the Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP), updated us about what MAAP is doing. The full report will be published in the April 5 edition of *Minutes & Reports* and will be emailed to the FMC community.

She said that FMC has been very supportive of MAAP's efforts to help people experiencing homelessness in this terrifying situation. MAAP is one of few agencies that are still open,

helping about 100 participants per week over the last three or four weeks. No one comes inside the Friends Center or the Meetinghouse except the staff of MAAP. They sent a list of demands for reform of the state's services for the homeless to Governor Baker; it has been referenced by 26 legislators who also wrote to him on the same topic. These are not new problems, but they are seriously exacerbated by the pandemic. MAAP will be setting up a PODS (portable storage) container in the driveway so that donated materials can be dropped off every day. They are offering snacks to participants, but need help packaging them—send Nora an email if you want to help. Their wish list for contributions includes underwear, backpacks, jeans, sweatshirts and money.

Friends held MAAP staff, volunteers and all they serve in the Light.

Trustees Committee: A Possible Paycheck Protection Program Loan/Grant ***2020-037***

Maria West, Co-Clerk of Trustees Committee, informed Friends of the federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which will grant employers, including faith communities, a loan of 2.5 times their average monthly payroll in 2019. This would amount to some \$56,000 for FMC, if we were to take advantage of the program. The interest rate is very low, but if the employer spends at least 75% of the loan on personnel costs, the loan will be completely forgiven. The central question in applying for the money is whether it is “necessary to support the ongoing operations” of the Meeting. Maria noted that we are losing a great deal of rental income while the crisis continues, our financial investments have lost considerable value as financial markets have declined, and it seems likely that contributions will go down as well. A central assumption for us is that we need to support our employees.

Friends discussed the question of whether or not to apply for PPP money. On the one hand, we have money in the bank and many other organizations, including faith communities, are not as well-off as FMC or do not have members with the necessary skills for applying to the Program. On the other hand, the money we might receive would decrease the spending of our unrestricted reserve funds to meet our expenses, and our getting this government money will not deprive more needy organizations applying for it (but if we reach out to help them, that could make a difference for them). In the end, Friends approved authorizing Trustees Committee to apply for the money, with the understanding that we can pay it back without penalty if we change our minds. We want to look into helping other groups with less privilege than we experience. One Friend stood aside from this decision.

In closing, the Clerk asked us to consider actions that we can take together to reach out to help our neighbors (people and organizations) as they suffer the consequences of the pandemic.

The Meeting for Business in Worship adjourned at 4:01 pm, with Friends purposing next to gather in a Meeting for Business in Worship on Sunday, May 3 (this is the first Sunday of May, so that we can avoid a conflict with Mother's Day), at 1:15 pm in the Meetinghouse or via *Zoom* if the Meeting facilities are still closed. There will also be an Adjourned Meeting for Business in Worship on May 17.

Ariel Maddocks, Co-Presiding Clerk

David L Myers, Recording Clerk

Memorial Minute for Severyn Bruyn (10/26/27-5/26/19)

Severyn T. Bruyn, a noted college professor, vibrant peace activist, and long-time member of Friends Meeting at Cambridge, passed away peacefully on May 26, 2019, in the presence of his beloved wife and partner-in-life, Louise Muenzer Bruyn, and other family members. Sev died at home, in the Newton, Massachusetts, house where he and Louise had lived for more than fifty years.

Sev was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1927. At one point during the Great Depression, his father lost his job, and Sev and his mother and sister went to live with relatives in California; from then on, Sev loved watching waves come in, and playing in the water close to the shore. Back in the Midwest after his father again found employment, Sev pursued his love of water and, during high school, won the Illinois state championship for high diving.

Sev and Louise met when they were students at the University of Illinois, where Sev took his B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees, and Louise trained to be a teacher. Family lore has it that one day, while Sev and Louise worked waiting tables at a dormitory cafeteria, he asked her out. "I have a date," Louise famously replied, "but I can break it." That first date led to sixty-seven years of marriage, and three children—Rebecca, Susan, and George, whom Sev and Louise adopted when he was 11. Sev was so busy teaching and writing during his children's growing up that he was not often a hands-on father, but a story his daughters tell captures his spirit of play as a dad. One summer, to free Louise to teach dance for several weeks at a summer camp in Michigan, Sev took on driving himself and the three children to California. They camped along the way. When mosquitoes swarmed and pestered at one memorable picnic lunch, Sev saved the day by giving each mosquito a name. He addressed the mosquitoes as friends in such a comical way that his daughters remember a lunchtime of uproarious laughter.

Shortly after their 1951 marriage, Sev and Louise joined the small Friends Meeting at the Champagne-Urbana campus of the University of Illinois. "They were a fine little group," Louise remembers. "They drew us in, made us feel welcome, told us what they were working on, let us join in." During the several years that Sev taught at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois, they found their way to a small Quaker group that met for worship in people's houses. When they moved their family east so that Sev could teach at Boston College (BC), they transferred their membership to Friends Meeting at Cambridge, and they have been with us ever since.

Not long after they joined the FMC community, Louise experienced a leading to walk the 450 miles from Newton, Massachusetts, to Washington, D.C., in 45 days, to protest U.S. expansion of the Vietnam War to Laos. "I said to Sev that somebody ought to walk to Washington and tell them they should stop this war. He looked at me and quietly said 'That's what it might take.' Immediately, I got up and began looking for our maps." Sev supported Louise in this leading, start to finish.

As a professor, Sev was far from an ivory-tower academic. Louise recalls the beginnings of his groundbreaking form of scholarship: During several years of teaching at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois, Sev did research on teens in trouble, known at the time as delinquents. "He developed an idea of how to work with them, not just scold [or study] them . . . we felt it was a more Quakerly way." The young people came to the house, made themselves comfortable, put their feet up on the living room furniture. "It was Sev's way of working with them," Louise says with a smile. Sev's research approach evolved into "participant observation," a method that changed the field of sociology. He wanted sociologists not simply

to analyze social problems, but to tackle them as well. Louise remembers him in the same Illinois living room, “lying on the floor with his head down, surrounded by books, using a typewriter or scribbling on paper.” That book, his second, was *The Human Perspective in Sociology: The Methodology of Participation Observation*. It helped to land him the coveted job at the Boston College Department of Sociology, where he would teach, write, and organize for social justice, democracy, and peace for many decades to come.

At BC, Sev continued to marry scholarship and activism. When worker-owned businesses became a center of his inquiry, for example, Sev worked on an ownership-overhaul of a Massachusetts factory. As a teacher, according to a former student, Sev was “warm, welcoming, enthusiastic, curious, thoughtful—pretty much simultaneously.” He was “rigorous” in scholarship, and “intellectually passionate.” A former dissertation advisee recalls how Sev inspired her towards study and action for non-violent social change. “Sev not only did no harm,” she says, “he showed how to do good.” In addition to teaching and advising, Sev helped to develop BC’s signature “Leadership for Change” program. Among his many academic grants, awards, and recognitions, standouts include a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) grant of \$200,000 to support 18 Sociology Ph.D. students (1979); the Alpha Sigma Nu, National Jesuit Honor Society, Social Science Award for *A Future for the American Economy* (1991); and a celebration of his career contributions at a joint meeting of the American Sociological Association and the Society for the Study of Social Problems (2011). Fueling this illustrious career, and grounding all his work, was what a long-time colleague recalls as “Sev’s indomitable hope, his deep belief that the future can be more just.”

A “gentle giant of a man,” Sev was committed to mobilizing for peace. Having served briefly in the U.S. Army stateside towards the end of World War II, he became a stalwart and vigorous member of the Boston Chapter of Veterans for Peace, known as the Smedley Butler Brigade. A fellow Vet recalls, “In many ways Sev was the conscience if not the heart of our chapter of Veterans for Peace.” At Smedley events, Sev spoke, read poetry, and even performed stand-up comedy to raise funds. His consistent, heart-felt message was that war is fought and suffered by the many to benefit the very few. As he told a young journalist at BC in 1980, “You have to stand up for what you believe, right down to your toes.”

Sev’s retirement in 2000 led to no diminution of activity, but rather to a riotous creativity that included writing a novel about the future of higher education, as well as painting, throwing pots, and sculpting. After learning to write music on the computer, Sev composed and produced musical pieces that range from famous poems set to song, to an oratorio on non-violent direct action, to “The Song of Evolution,” a musical debate between poets and scientists, performed at Boston College in 2010. In all, as a friend wrote, “the energy that came from him was astonishing. He was involved with just about everything that a person with a heart of gold could be.”

During their decades in Newton, Sev and Louise’s family grew. Rebecca married Cindy Rosenbaum; Susan married Michael Collyer (now deceased), and they had a son, Matthew Collyer; George added two grandchildren to the family circle—Sev Bruyn (Jr.) and Tiffany Brister—and later partnered with June Epperson.

During his early and middle years at FMC, Sev’s chief Quaker service was with the American Friends Service Committee. After retirement, Sev joined Meeting activities with gusto. He was a steady presence in morning worship until the very last weeks of his life, sitting side-by-side with Louise. He rose, when moved, to speak with awe and joy of his unfolding spiritual adventure—even, at least once, to dance. Sev was a regular, too, in Afterthoughts, where he listened intently to every speaker and shared his own wisdom from a lifetime of social justice

teaching and activism. A Friend recalls saying to Sev, "If I get to heaven and find it's all you say it is, Sev, then I will be so delighted." Sev responded passionately, "You will! You will!"

We were lifted by Sev's passion for justice and his generous versatility, by his sense of humor, his exuberant laughter, and his infectious love of music. A fellow Vet for Peace remembers, "When we would have our fund-raisers at Johnny D's in Somerville and the band would start playing, the first one onto the floor was Sev. If music was playing Sev couldn't keep still." As Louise said, "Sev loved the sound of the drum." How fitting that a drumming circle closed his memorial meeting for worship at FMC.

We imagine that Sev is finding heaven to be all he'd hoped. We miss his great spirit immensely.

Recommendations of Priorities for Friends Committee on National Legislation, 2020

April 5, 2020

FCNL Friends –

We are grateful for your work on our behalf in the halls of Congress. We feel you represent us well, and we appreciate your efforts to move us towards *The World We Seek*.

Thank you for once again giving us the opportunity to share our suggestions concerning priorities for national legislation. We always find this a challenging and interesting task, and we hope our efforts may be of some help.

We are submitting our top seven priorities in the format you have requested, but we are also moved to share a few important thoughts about this year's efforts. We hope these might be considered during your discernment process.

First, we urge you to consider decreasing the length of this new set of Legislative Priorities. Reviewing the current priorities list did not give us a sense of what FCNL is focusing on, as it seems to be a longer list than possible to address. We urge you to consider limiting them to seven priorities of thirty words or less. This will make the priorities of FCNL more accessible to a greater number of people and will also clarify for supporters exactly how FCNL is focusing its lobbying efforts.

Next, please give some thought to the order of the priorities. We know the priorities are not ranked, but that is not stated in the list. The standard impression of a reader will be the priority listed at the bottom of the lengthy list (the climate disruption emergency) must be merely an afterthought. We know this is not correct and feel strongly that it is unfortunate in this age. Climate disruption is altering our world and having a disproportionate effect on those who already face economic and social inequality. We feel this new set of priorities should indicate it will be at the forefront of FCNL's efforts.

Finally, please acknowledge that priorities may shift in the course of a two-year session of Congress. It is unlikely that many people anticipated the magnitude of the present pandemic and its effects as recently as November 2019, not to mention November 2018.

Thank you for considering our suggested priorities and these recommendations. We hope that we can follow your leadership in the years ahead to realize our priorities.

Approved on this day at our monthly Meeting for Business in Worship.

In peace,

Friends Meeting at Cambridge

Suggested Priorities for National Legislation

1. Mitigate climate destruction by implementing multi-dimensional, multi-national sustainable solutions to various problems including rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preventing disproportionate socio-economic impacts on vulnerable populations.
2. Expand/restore social programs providing healthy levels of food, housing, healthcare and education. Increase the minimum wage and reduce the student loan debt burden. Expand job (re)training for workers.
3. Reduce military spending. Promote peacebuilding through diplomacy, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. End sanctions that harm civilians. Repeal Authorizations for Use of Military Force. Reestablish the nuclear agreement with Iran.
4. Pursue policies promoting and respecting the rights, safety and dignity of all, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age, and immigration status. Implement compassionate immigration reform.
5. Advance equitable and unbiased criminal justice systems that eliminate mass incarceration, promote rehabilitation and restorative justice, abolish mandatory-minimum sentencing, and support community-oriented and demilitarized law enforcement. Abolish the death penalty.
6. Advance meaningful gun control legislation including banning military-style weapons and implementing universal background checks. Develop and support programs for reducing gun suicides.
7. Pursue equitable access to open and transparent political processes. Work to overturn Citizens United vs. FEC. Declare a federal holiday for national elections. Eliminate political gerrymandering and obstacles to voting.

Approved at our monthly Meeting for Business in Worship on April 5, 2020.

Friends Meeting at Cambridge (Massachusetts)

Update from the Ad Hoc COVID-19 Response Group

April 3, 2020

As we prepare to gather for our first virtual Meeting for Business in Worship, it seems like we have been separated for ages. However, it was less than a month ago we became aware that the mounting threats of coronavirus to our health meant that we would have to take drastic measures to protect the FMC community including our staff.

Since making decisions about how to best proceed required input from several committees, we quickly assembled an *Ad Hoc* COVID-19 Response Group to plan what actions to take. This group included the following:

- Clerks Team (Minga Claggett-Borne, Debby Colgan, Ian Harrington, Ariel Maddocks, Liz Moore, David L Myers, Jan Nisenbaum, Jonathan Vogel-Borne, and Patricia Wild)
- Facilities Manager (David Dunphy)
- Fellowship and Outreach representative (Holly Lapp)
- First Day School/Youth Programs representatives (Sadie Perrin and Kim West)
- Ministry and Counsel representatives (Susan Davies and Gail Rogers)
- Personnel representative (Bill Satterthwaite)
- Resident Friend (LJ Boswell)
- Trustees representatives (Rick Talkov, Maria West, and David White)

Our first decision was that the Friends Meeting at Cambridge buildings would be closed. This was explained in a message sent out to the community on Friday 13th March. Since then, we have met several times, and we are doing our best to care for the community during this crisis while maintaining a level of social and spiritual activity in our community despite our physical separation. We have kept track of actions taken by neighboring churches and city, state, and federal government requirements while being particularly concerned about the residents of our buildings.

The first Sunday after the closing (15th March) our last in-person Meeting for Worship was held by 30 physically-distanced Friends outdoors at Raytheon and over 40 Friends took part in the first virtual Meeting for Worship.

Since then the size of our virtual Meetings for Worship has grown (over 100 attended this past Sunday), our regular activities that can be held virtually (including Forums, Afterthoughts, First Day School, and committee and group meetings) have been shifted to Zoom, and new activities (such as unhosted Meetings for Worship, Guided Meditation for Relaxation, Storytime for All, Worship Sharing with the Pastoral Care Team, and Craft Afternoons) are springing up. We also have enjoyed the presence of a number of people normally unable to attend due to distance (residents of Russia, France, Mexico, the Czech Republic, Ontario, and several distant parts of the US), accessibility issues, or hearing difficulties.

The *Ad Hoc* Group has helped get these programs going. We have also made several other decisions affecting life in the FMC community. These include:

- The FMC buildings remain closed until further notice. Out of concern for the health of the residents of the building, access is only available on an emergency basis and must be arranged in advance through the Resident Friend (LJ Boswell). Arrangements have been made to handle any emergencies that may arise in the buildings.

- Our principal staff continue to work for FMC. Greg Woods and Amy Mercure are currently working from home. LJ Boswell is working at FMC some of the time. David Dunphy works on-site only when it is essential. They can all be contacted using the normal phone numbers and email addresses.
- In order to provide essential services for the homeless community, the Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP) is continuing to operate. They serve their clients outside and restrict their operations to the Meetinghouse basement and a Friends Center basement bathroom. Due to the increased need for receiving and distributing materials, we approved the placement of a storage pod on the edge of the FMC driveway.
- The community is becoming more familiar with using Zoom as a means of maintaining contact. FMC has three Zoom accounts, one with a capacity of 500 meeting participants. Friends wishing to set up a Zoom meeting using one of these accounts should send their request to zoom@fmcquaker.org. Friends needing help in working with Zoom can ask for assistance with a request to zoomhelp@fmcquaker.org.
- A source of possible financial help during these challenging times is the Pope Fund, and information about that and other resources will be made available to the Meeting community.

We do not know how long we will be kept apart physically by this pandemic. We long to gather again in our Meetinghouse. Until health concerns make that possible, we hope all of you stay healthy and safe, and we hope to see you on the screen during our Zoom meetings.

The *Ad Hoc* Group is meeting again on Sunday 19th April at 7pm. Please let us know if you have questions or concerns that we can help with.

Peace, Ian Harrington for the *Ad Hoc* COVID-19 Response Group

COVID-19 Update from Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP)

Thanks to everyone from FMC for your support and presence with MAAP during this unprecedented change in how we are supporting community members who are unsheltered. As you all know, this crisis has taken a disproportionate toll on people experiencing homelessness in Cambridge and Boston, and we have seen a significant increase in need since supports that people rely on for survival are shutting down or limiting their capacities.

We feel that our mission of supporting and empowering people experiencing homelessness and living in poverty is as critical now as ever, and we are especially grateful for the support of FMC during this time. We want to thank those from FMC who have contributed to us financially and materially, as well as those who have checked in and offered support in other ways. We have been working closely with Elise Springuel and Nancy Frost from Food Link, which has been an integral relationship as we work to feed and materially support an average of 100 participants per week, for a total of roughly 450 individual visits since we transitioned to our COVID-19 model.

We are excited to share news about a letter we wrote in collaboration with MAAP participants experiencing homelessness to Governor Baker. The letter communicates a list of solutions and demands of people experiencing homelessness and allies in the face of COVID-19. The letter was then referenced by a list of 26 state legislators in a letter sent directly to Governor Baker and reiterated our specific demands and named MAAP specifically. We are extremely encouraged by this move and feel hopeful that the needs of people who are unhoused will be thoroughly and efficiently prioritized by the Governor.

It's important for us to emphasize that the challenges being faced by MAAP participants are not new. People are consistently marginalized based on housing status and discrimination against the homeless community, and that is simply being emphasized in sharper relief by the crisis we are living in today. We are appreciative for increased awareness of the conditions of homelessness for people in Cambridge and Boston in light of the novel coronavirus, and we are adamant that this awareness must persist through the time of this pandemic and beyond.

To our Friends at FMC, we are grateful to be together in this fight. As we push forward through this chaotic time, we are so encouraged by the specific ways FMC has helped us to function creatively in order to adapt to our new circumstances. As you may have heard, we are so grateful to the Trustees Committee for approving the temporary presence of a "PODS" (portable storage) container in the FMC driveway, so that we can receive material donations and mail for a greater amount of hours, and so that we can encourage greater physical distancing between visitors to MAAP. Under our former operations, donors and participants were all visiting MAAP between the hours of 9:00am-3:00 pm, Tues/Thurs, so with the PODS container donors are now able to drop off at their convenience from 8:00am-6:00pm, 7 days a week. If you are planning to bring a donation to MAAP, please send me or Cassie Hurd (churd@maapma.org) an email for instructions on accessing the PODS container and sanitation.

We also have received so many wonderful offers of support and have been working to identify things that would be most helpful to us from FMC folks. We will be reaching out soon with a request for volunteers to help us with more remote work. Currently we have FMC volunteers helping to assemble hygiene kits and snack bags, and we are looking for more people to help with these jobs. In addition to the incredible sandwiches we get from Food Link and the City of Cambridge every Tuesday and Thursday, we are offering robust snack options in a brown bag form that are easily sanitized and individually packaged. While this has been a successful method so far, we are finding that the time needed to make the "snack bags" is significant, and we could use some help getting them put together along with our regular hygiene kit assembly!

Please feel free to reach out to me at nora.sullivan83@gmail.com any time with questions. We also encourage you to join our mailing list if you haven't already, which can be achieved directly at <https://www.maapma.org/mailling-list>. Finally, we continue to need financial as well as material donations--right now we are in particular need of backpacks, hooded sweatshirts, jeans, and new underwear. Our full wish list and donation page can be viewed at <https://www.maapma.org/wish-list>

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. Please stay healthy and check in on a loved one.

Love, Nora Sullivan for MAAP

5 Longfellow Park
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To receive newsletter write to:

office2@FMCQuaker.org

Friends Meeting at Cambridge

Return Service Requested

Meetings for Worship at FMC

5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge

Sundays 10:30 am

5:00 pm

Wednesdays 8:30 am to 10 am

South Shore Preparative Meeting

155 Washington St. (Rt. 53), Pembroke

Sundays 10:00 am

Joanne Heffernan

781-337-9337

Worship Group at Brookhaven

1010 Waltham Street, Lexington

Sundays 10:30 am

Elisabeth Cotten

781-862-7578

Other Nearby Worship Opportunities

Acton Friends Meeting,

Contact Clerk, acton@neym.org

Amesbury Monthly Meeting, 120 Friend St., Amesbury

Sundays 10:00 am

Beacon Hill Friends Meeting, 6 Chestnut St., Boston

Sundays 10:30 am

Cambridge Friends School, 5 Cadbury Rd., Cambridge

Tuesdays 8:30 to 9:00 am

Framingham Friends Meeting, 841 Edmands Rd., Framingham

Sundays 10:00 am

Fresh Pond Monthly Meeting, CFS Cambridge

Sundays 10:00 am

Lawrence Monthly Meeting, 15 Forest St., Methuen

Sundays 6:30 pm

Nashoba Worship Group, nashobaquakers@gmail.com

Sundays 10:30 am

North Shore Monthly Meeting, 74 Hart St., Beverly Farms

Sundays 10:00 am

Wellesley Friends Meeting, 26 Benvenue St., Wellesley

Sundays 10:30 am

>> **Cuba YM 2020 Report**, from page 5

spiritual focus: love, grace, and the Holy Spirit. These queries led to rich and personal sharing in worship.

One aspect of Friends' programmed worship that struck us most vividly is how open to the leadings of the Spirit the worship is. While there is a pastor who gives a message (although not always the official pastor of the Monthly Meeting) and hymns that are clearly planned ahead, song, prayer, and messages also rise up spontaneously from the body and are embraced and welcomed. Ministry is encouraged from all age groups, and we witnessed powerful ministry from children, including a beautiful dance by a 10-year-old from Pueblo Nuevo. It is clear that Cuban Friends are working diligently to nurture spiritual understanding and expression in their young people. There is no sense of a rigid structure to which they adhere. The focus of every message and prayer we heard in worship was on God's love and the peace, power, and freedom it brings. When we asked Luis Carlos if there was ever a focus on evil he responded, "We have no time for Satan!" Clearly love reigns!

One of the highlights of the Sessions was the recognition of Ramon and Rosario for their work building and supporting the bridge with New England Friends. It was a poignant moment for all. That same evening, Bruce offered the message in worship, focusing on the story of the blind men and the elephant, with which Cubans are familiar. He spoke about how we can see (or choose to see) only part of the truth, referencing times when Quakers have revised their understanding of truth over time. He challenged us all with the question, "What truth am I not seeing?"

Our time with Cuban Friends was rich with sharing. We had many opportunities to connect one-on-one with Friends in many contexts. Sharing meals, sharing worship, hanging out with the kitchen crew in Gibara, offering our gifts and talents and receiving theirs in return all served to strengthen the bond that is so important to both New England and Cuban Friends.

We are hopeful that sister Meetings can be found for Pueblo Nuevo, Delicias, and Floro Pérez, and recognize that intervisitation is key to keeping these relationships alive.

In addition, Jackie offered suggestions for nurturing microenterprise projects, an initiative that Cuban Friends are actively exploring. There may be ways for New England Friends to support this in the future. We are grateful for this opportunity to travel, and return home with hearts full of love and grace. •

Memorial Minute for Bain Davis 1940–2019

Beloved member of Bennington Monthly Meeting Bainbridge H. Davis, 79, passed away on November 24, 2019, in Scarborough, Maine.

Bain was born in Washington, D.C., to Bainbridge C. Davis and Virginia H. Davis on June 28, 1940. He went to school at Sidwell Friends and St. Albans in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Oakwood Friends in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. He graduated from Drew University and continued at Drew in Seminary, during which he served as student pastor for three Methodist churches. He was recorded as a Minister among Friends in Chicago Monthly Meeting.



Bain taught and raised funds for the Ecumenical Institute and the Institute of Cultural Affairs for 15 years. He also was involved in Quaker education, both as a teacher and fundraiser at Oakwood Friends School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Bain served as

a community developer and was involved with the Greater Bennington Interfaith Council where he worked to help set up the free health clinic. He served on the Faith and Practice Revision Committee of New England Yearly Meeting, as well as on the board of Woolman Hill Conference Center. He also worked on a cooperative project with Southern Vermont College teaching a World Religions Course. His ministry included writing several articles for the weekly Sunday "Speaking of Religion" column in the Bennington Banner.

Bain is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marjorie Hawes, sons Henry, Shawn and his wife Maria and grandson Ryan, Kirk and his wife Miriam, and sister Dana, along with several nephews and nieces.

Bain is remembered primarily as a bridge between groups and an ambassador for Quakers. Although for much of his life he considered himself Quaker, he was also involved with Methodists, the United Church of Christ, Episcopalians, and the Bennington Interfaith group. He never considered himself Quaker to the exclusion of anything else but represented the best of Quakerism. He was committed to a deep concern for inequality between people and the violence and oppression that are used to maintain that inequality.

In his own words, "I began life as a Friend/Quaker and remain so today with a brief interlude as a Methodist and then U.C.C. pastor. But spirituality for me is much deeper and broader than institutional religion. Whatever story you live out of is one of the most critical factors of our individual and collective journeys—along with the symbols we use to help us remember what's really important."

Bennington Monthly Meeting December 15, 2019
Northwest Quarterly Meeting, March 8, 20202

Memorial Minute for Shawn Donovan

Hanover Friends lost our member Shawn Donovan, 70, suddenly, on February 19, 2018. Raised in the Catholic Church, Shawn first attended Hanover Friends Meeting in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Subsequently, he and his wife Margaret chose the Unitarian path for their family and helped to found the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Upper Valley in Norwich, VT. He loved his extended family and his children, Elias and Sarah, and maintained a warm friendship with Margaret in the years after their marriage ended in 1996.

Shawn returned to Hanover Friends in the early 2000s and became a member in 2004. He brought great energy, diverse skills, and passionate social activism to his work within and beyond the meeting for the 15 years that remained to him.

From an early age, Shawn was acutely aware of injustice. He named Daniel Berrigan, whom he met in his high school years, and Dorothy Day, with whom he worked in the Catholic Worker Center in New York, as his heroes. Passionately opposed to the Vietnam War, he dropped out of the College of the Holy Cross to work with the Catholic resistance to the war, only returning several years later to complete his degree. In 1972 Shawn co-founded the Mustard Seed Catholic Worker's Center in Worcester, MA. His association with this organization, whose members provide services to those in need while aiming to live according to spiritual values, continued through monthly trips for board meetings and service activities until his death.

He was a dedicated member of groups providing free monthly community dinners through the LISTEN organization in Lebanon NH, annual luncheons for local senior citizens through the Black Community Center in Hanover, NH, and suppers at Dismas House, in Hartford, VT.

Shawn's search for truth in reading, in various faith communities, and annual retreats at St. Joseph's Abbey, a Trappist monastery in Spenser, MA, fed his spirituality. It was many years before Hanover Meeting Friends knew the depth of Shawn's roots in social justice work. We learned that his suspicion of today's ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) agents grew from his personal experience in the early '70s, when the Catholic anti-war community he worked with to remove draft files from Selective Service offices was infiltrated and raided by federal agents. Long quiet about these activities, in the '90s Shawn came to understand their importance in the Vietnam War resistance and to share stories of his involvement with family, friends and colleagues. In the 2000s, Shawn was proud to speak as an authority on Dorothy Day at a national conference in Miami.

A concern for the environment, developed and nurtured by summers spent on the Maine coast in his youth, life close to the land in New England in young adulthood, and study at Antioch New England, influenced his career in planning, engineering and construction management. His activities helped lead to the development of several

regional planning commissions and the creation of Advance Transit, which provides free bus service to riders in the Upper Valley.

Shawn used his planning skills and sense of justice when he worked with Rita McCaffrey, founder of two Dismas Houses in Vermont, to bring this program to our area. A Dismas House program provides supportive transitional housing for people recently released from prison. Overcoming much public resistance, Dismas House of the Upper Valley opened in Hartford, VT in 2014. Shawn spoke with pride of the success of many Dismas House residents, whose recidivism rate was markedly lower than that of others who had not completed its program.

His commitment to the value of each person and the protection of vulnerable and marginalized people propelled other projects as well. When homeless people congregating in Lebanon became the subject of police monitoring, Shawn insisted that homelessness is a community problem, not a police issue, and organized efforts to help these homeless people. He collected warm clothes and camping equipment, and one winter he housed a homeless person for several months. He encouraged the development of housing for chronically homeless and very low-income people, and would have been happy to see the opening of the Parkhurst building in downtown Lebanon in June 2018.

In recent years, Shawn trained as a facilitator of the Alternatives to Violence Project, begun 30 years earlier when inmates at Green Haven Prison in New York State asked local Quakers to help them teach incarcerated youth to face the anger that led to their imprisonment and to resolve disputes without violence. Shawn served as a facilitator to AVP groups in prisons in Norfolk, MA and Gardner, MA and engaged other members of Hanover Friends in this work.

Shawn ably served Hanover Friends on two committees. He brought his professional expertise to the work of the House Committee, helping to form the House Capital Fund for future repairs and maintenance of the Meetinghouse. He brought his deep roots in social justice work to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Members of that committee felt Shawn's willingness to organize and to take risks. With a sense of urgency that rose from his personal experience of the oppressive power of government, he plunged into immigrant support work. By 2015, he was aware of the increased vulnerability of undocumented youth who have grown up in the USA but who entered illegally with their migrant parents, and sponsored a public forum with a DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) youth as speaker. He persisted through the deep and lengthy discernment process that led in December 2016 to our Meeting's decision and public call, which read in part: *We call on our fellow community members to join us in defending human rights for all, working toward nonviolent religious and civic sanctuary that protects all who are vulnerable, and striving together for compassion, dignity and safety for everyone.* With committee members, he planned a full-day workshop in April 2017, entitled "A Community Forum on Immigration: What About Sanctuary?" This led to cooperation among seven Upper Valley faith groups of the

United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) to establish a church sanctuary network to support immigrants. As part of a wider Quaker circle, Shawn served on the Advisory Board of the American Friends Service Committee of NH, a major actor in immigrant support. He frequently joined church leaders and members from across the state for vigils at the ICE headquarters in Manchester, NH.

Shawn was never comfortable with the slow pace of Quaker decision-making, often wondering why it took so long to discern what already seemed clear to him. Yet rather than acting arbitrarily, he worked to test his leadings among Friends within the Meeting. He held strong opinions and sometimes expressed them in harsh words that others found painful. Some Friends who confronted Shawn lovingly after a hurtful exchange found him open to apology and willing to reach toward a decision grounded in a shared sense of the Spirit.

Shawn took time to enjoy life. He had a passion for good food and cooking, often arriving at a potluck event with Irish soda bread -- his mother's recipe. We remember his hearty, quick laughter and the way he celebrated what he appreciated -- "This is terrific!" A member described him as having a home with us, just as we were at home with him. On what would be his final day at the Meetinghouse before his death, Shawn poked fun at how long it took us to agree on a design and to erect the new sign in front of our building. But the words "All Are Welcome" on the long-awaited sign delighted him. At Shawn's memorial service, one member was moved to sing the lines of a song that reflect his search for a life of faithfulness in the world: 'Open up your heart, Help the world to heal, Multiply the joy that you feel!'

Northampton Friends Meeting
43 Center Street
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Memorial minute for Robert (“Bob”) Stanley First

Robert Stanley First (“Bob”) quietly passed away early Saturday morning, May 25, 2019. Bob was 96 years old at the time of his death and was surrounded by members of his family.

Bob was born on September 19, 1922, in Mt. Vernon, NY, the younger son of Lewis and Ruth (Gross) First. The Great Depression that occurred during his youth shaped Bob and set much of the course of his life. He was a serious student and loved mathematics, attending the University of Iowa, where he worked as a waiter to pay his way while earning his bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering. Bob enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served on several ships as an electronic technician’s mate. He was honorably discharged in June of 1946 following his last tour in the South.

Bob moved to New York City where he met and eventually married Nancy Genevieve Belcher of Darien, CT, in May of 1955. They celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary just days before his death.

Bob and Nancy moved to Wilmington, DE, where their first child, Ginger Lee, was born. It was also in Wilmington where Bob and Nancy discovered a Friends Meeting where they began their lifelong devotion to the Quaker faith. Bob started a consulting firm in New York City and the family moved to Mt. Kisco, NY, where they had their second child, Katherine Ann. Mt. Kisco is where they raised their girls and made their home until 1992. They also joined and became deeply involved in the Quaker community at the Purchase Friends Meeting in Purchase, NY.

Bob returned to school to earn his master’s degree in business administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Bob loved international travel and his consulting firm, Robert S. First, Inc. was very successful, expanding to offices in Brussels and Tokyo. Bob retired in 1991.

Bob and Nancy moved to Olympia, WA, in 1992 to live near family. Bob was an avid hiker and took advantage of many fantastic hikes in the Olympic and Cascade mountain ranges. After ten years of being in community with family and Quaker friends in Olympia, they returned to the east to be near daughter Katherine and her family in Leeds.

Northampton was Bob’s home for the remaining 17 years of his life where he attended Northampton Friends (Quaker) Meeting, transferring his membership from Olympia Friends Meeting to Northampton in 2006. He enjoyed his grandchildren, continued to sip piping hot

coffee while reading the New York Times from cover to cover and took over the job of shopping and cooking. Bob loved dogs and enjoyed taking his late, beloved, dog Maggie for long walks in the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation area and later along the Northampton Bikeway.

Bob had a sharp wit and showed his affection for Friends with playful teasing. No matter how quick the response, Bob had another comeback at the ready. Some Friends were also fortunate to know a gentler side of Bob, and to enjoy his thoughtful conversations and kind heart.

Bob's voice and actions in the life of our meeting served as a relentless and provocative reminder to act. He was impatient and never satisfied that Friends' efforts were adequate to the needs and sufferings of the world.

Eleanor H. Warnock, Clerk
Northampton Friends Meeting
Approved November 2019

Ruth Estelle Taber Gates

June 27, 1927 – July 23, 2019

*I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known. . . .
I'd stay in the garden with Him, Though the night around me be falling,
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling.*

This hymn, which Ruth Gates asked to have sung at her memorial meeting, captures her life in both practical and spiritual terms. Her long life was anchored in her Christian faith, and in the small but abundant garden that she and her husband Don lovingly tended.

Born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, Ruth graduated from the Northfield School, where she enjoyed volleyball, basketball, and choral singing. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Simmons College, and started her first job as a visiting nurse in Worcester. She met Don Gates in a non-Quaker church youth group in 1952, and married him after a brief courtship, just before he was called up for military service. They later joined Worcester Friends Meeting, transferring to Providence when they moved to Rhode Island in 1960.

Caring for others was central to Ruth's life. Her nursing jobs most often involved visiting new mothers and newborns. After she retired in 1982, she cared for an elderly aunt, and then for her husband during his final illness in 2008. She took a break from nursing while raising their four children, pouring her energy into her family. Her children could always find her in the kitchen, where they helped her bake cherry pies or can applesauce or tomatoes from the garden. The meeting counted on Ruth's pies for potluck meals or on meeting work-days. She taught First-Day School and served on the Sewing Committee. She also quietly drew in newcomers to the meeting, introducing them to other members and getting them involved in helping with coffee-hour. Friends remember her quiet, steady presence; her caring visits when a new baby joined a meeting family; her warm sense of humor; her practical

assistance with tasks that almost went unnoticed but undergirded the meeting community; and her authentic example of how to live a good life.

Ruth lived in the faithful assurance of God's living presence, reflected in Psalm 139 which was read at her memorial meeting: "O Lord, you have searched me and known me. . ." Her daughter also shared one of Ruth's favorite poems, which showed the faith undergirding her life of service:

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through,
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, Peace without pain.

But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, Light for the way,
Grace for the trials, Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, Undying love.

Ruth Gates died peacefully after a period of declining health, a few weeks after joyously celebrating her 92nd birthday with her extended family. We are grateful for her many gifts to our community.



Memorial Minute for David M. Holdt

David M. Holdt passed away peacefully from Alzheimer's Disease on December 6, 2019. Born in Cleveland in 1941, David grew up in Stratford, CT and graduated from Stratford High School in 1959. David received a BA in government from Wesleyan University in 1963, an MA in History from Duke University in 1967, and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in the humanities and writing from Wesleyan in 1993. He was a life-long lover of nature, who once canoed the entire length of the Hudson River, a skillful writer, an astute historian and a master teacher; who taught at Hotchkiss School from 1963 to 1965, Germantown Friends School from 1967 to 1970, Westledge School from 1970 to 1977, and Watkinson School in Hartford, Connecticut from 1978-2008. David also taught at the University of Hartford from 1995 to 2011, where he was given the Sustained Excellence in Teaching Award.

David was beloved by his students, who understood that, in spite of his fascination with content, his primary focus was always on their growth as human beings. Upon his death, their testimonies to David's impact on their lives were remarkable. As the parent of three former students offered:

If you are lucky, a few times in your life you will encounter someone whose heart is so massive, whose aim is so true, that they transform all who have the great good fortune to know them. David was a magician, a sorcerer for good, seeing beauty in everyone.

One of many former students wrote:

David was such a close family friend, advisor and teacher. I feel so lucky to have known him for the majority of my life and to have him there to celebrate all of the special milestones. We will miss him so much. His wisdom will continue to inspire me as a teacher for the rest of my life.

Another volunteered:

An indescribable loss. He was the Fred Rogers in our lives. The always available wisdom giver. I know how much he loved Robert Frost and I think it's fitting he passed when "the woods are lovely, dark and deep."

David's long commitment to Quakerism, nourished at Germantown Friends School, flowered at Hartford Friends Meeting, where David became a dedicated member, served as recording clerk, contributed to various committees and regularly offered moving messages. He also served for several years on the Board of Moses Brown School in Providence, Rhode Island.

David was a gifted and prolific writer whose work spanned multiple genres. He published poems, short stories, essays, prose and plays; and attended the Breadloaf Writing Conference and Wesleyan Writers Conference, as well as serving as Artist-in-Residence at the St. Lawrence Theatre festival. For ten years he participated in the University of Connecticut Memoir Club. David also shared his poetry with many other writers in various poetry writing groups including, most recently, the Poets of the River's Edge. The last few lines of his poem, *Sun Through Trees*, reflect David's generous spirit.

*The way to live is to get to your
self, and give;
to hang on there to what is real:
that which you cannot touch but only
feel.
No story ends,
it just blends in.*

David's family always was a central focus of his life. He is survived by his loving partner, Karen I. Case, stepdaughter, Amanda Frost and her husband Michael and son, Sef; as well as his daughter, Brooke Stratton, her husband Peter and children, James and Ada; and his son, Christopher Wood-Holdt, his partner Jenna Wetzel and their daughter, Avery. They will always cherish their times with David, especially the long walks in the woods, Red Sox games and sitting around talking and laughing.

Brunswick Meeting

Natalie Faith Pierce Kent Kempner, a long-time member of Brunswick Friends meeting, died on November 14, 2019. (She was always adamant about not using any other phrase to express our departure from this world.) She was born on January 18, 1924, to Gertrude Lindahl and George Kyle Pierce in Binghamton, New York. In a 2018 oral history interview with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum she noted that she got two big things from growing up : frugality from the depression and pacifism from the war. Through a family she babysat for while attending Smith College in Northampton, she discovered the Society of Friends and joined the Northampton Friends Meeting. In her oral history she noted “One of the things that drew me to Quakerism was the ‘practice’ part of faith - finding things to do to witness to your faith.”

She married Orlow Albert Kent, a friend from her early school years, in 1947 and they settled in Ithaca, New York. In keeping with her commitment to putting her faith in action, in 1948 they set out for two years of voluntary service with the American Friends Service Committee in Munich, Germany. Working in Bad Aibling at the International Relief Organization’s Children’s Village, their job was to provide, as much as possible, a “home life” for some of the international displaced children who landed in the village after the war. After their first child was born in Munich in 1950, Natalie and Orlow returned to Ithaca where they worked as co-directors of the Ithaca Children’s Home and where their second child was born. From 1951-1953 they lived at a low income housing project in Cleveland while Orlow was in graduate school, and a third child was born there. The next four years saw them in Rhinelander, Wisconsin where Joe McCarthy was Senator. “It was a time when even my small job as International Project Director for the Girl Scouts Council was considered suspect. My reaction was to take a strong political stand!” Their youngest child was born in 1956.

During 1963 and 1964 the family lived in newly independent Tanganyika, East Africa where Orlow directed the AFSC’s Voluntary International Service Assignments (VISA) that provided grass-roots work experience for young adults and alternative service for Conscientious Objectors to the draft. In 1964 Orlow died in an automobile accident, and Natalie and the children returned to Ithaca. Here, Natalie worked as program coordinator for the parents of Head Start children and then became a full-time student at Cornell. She earned an MA in teaching history and social studies, designing a program of African studies for Ithaca High School.

Natalie married Fritz Kempner (who immigrated to the U.S. from Germany just before the war) in 1971, moving to Philadelphia where she taught elementary school, focusing on Environmental Education. She co-founded and directed the Norris Square Neighborhood Project, a non-profit bilingual learning center in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in Philly which is still active today. By 1981 she was a very active

participant in Philadelphia's Sanctuary Movement, giving shelter to Central American refugees at the Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting house. The Sanctuary work and the Norris Square project were very significant passions of hers.

In 1990 Natalie and Fritz retired and moved to Woolwich Maine, where they joined Brunswick Friends Meeting. Continuing her focus on action, Natalie served on the National Board of the American Friends Service Committee. At various times in her life she served as clerk of Friends meetings in Ithaca, Philadelphia, and Brunswick. Even when not clerking, she acted as a center around which the Brunswick Meeting swirled. She represented the meeting at the Brunswick Peace Fair, drove other members to meeting when they could not drive, participated in monthly play readings, and opened her Kennebec riverside home to the meeting for potlucks and cookie baking. Most of all she relished sitting in the silence of unprogrammed meeting for worship, where she felt renewed. In her last visit with members of the meeting, she asked that her love for the meeting be passed on, and reminded us all to "be wise."

Approved, etc.

Endorsed by Falmouth April 25, 2020

Mary Burnside Mangelsdorf Memorial Minute



Mary Burnside Mangelsdorf, 91, died peacefully after a brief illness on October 24, 2018 at Riddle Hospital in Media, Pennsylvania, surrounded by family. A member of Sandwich Monthly Meeting on Cape Cod, she was active in West Falmouth Preparative Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, and Swarthmore Friends Meeting in Pennsylvania, where she and her husband, Paul, lived during the academic year for over four decades.

Mary was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on April 3, 1927, the daughter of Malcolm MacNair Burnside, a Scottish immigrant who rose up through the ranks to become president of a local department store, and Helen DeRemer Burnside, a nurse. Mary graduated from Wyoming Seminary, an independent school in Kingston, Pa., in 1944 and from Swarthmore College in 1948, with a degree in history. At Swarthmore, she met fellow student Paul C. Mangelsdorf, Jr. while volunteering together for a Democratic candidate for Congress. They married in August, 1949 and enjoyed more than 65 years of a very happy marriage, until Paul's death in March, 2015.

Mary and Paul became members of the Religious Society of Friends in the 1950's. When they moved to the Cape, there was only one meeting open on Cape Cod, the Yarmouth Preparative Meeting, as both West Falmouth Preparative Meeting and East Sandwich Preparative Meeting were inactive for lack of members. Paul and Mary, along with several other Quaker families living in the Falmouth area, were instrumental in reopening the West Falmouth Meeting, which has been open continually since the early 1960's. While active in the Swarthmore Meeting, Paul and Mary felt a great sense of loyalty to West Falmouth and kept their membership there, attending summers and year-round

during sabbatical years.

Quakerism became a major part of Mary and Paul's shared life together. Mary served as a member of the board of managers of the Quaker magazine *Friends Journal* for more than a dozen years during the 1980's and 1990's. She worked for 17 years as the secretary for Swarthmore Friends Meeting, where her wide-ranging duties included everything from facilitating meetinghouse rentals to creating the meeting's monthly newsletter and helping prepare for the annual Swarthmore Meeting "Jumble Sale" fundraiser. In West Falmouth she served as meeting librarian and was active in vocal ministry and in Children's Meeting (First Day School). Mary also engaged in significant research on the Quaker History of West Falmouth, giving a presentation at the Falmouth Historical Society and playing a role in a reenactment of an early Friends' business meeting. The Mangelsdorf family, with their four children, regularly attended New England Yearly Meeting Sessions, where Paul and Mary became the "Quaker Books People," running the NEYM bookstore together for many years. With Paul, she was involved in the creation of the new Friends hymnal, "Worship in Song" published by Friends General Conference in 1996.

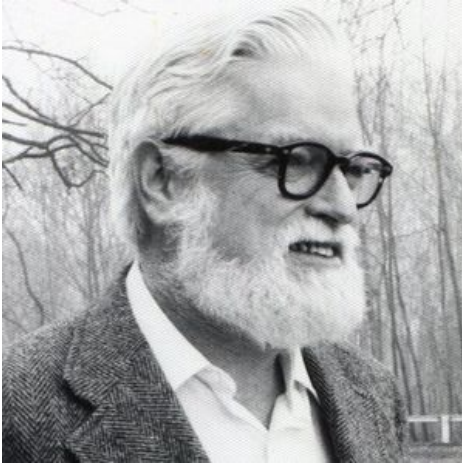
Mary is survived by her four children and their spouses: Helen Mangelsdorf and Roman Tybinko of Philadelphia; Paul Mangelsdorf III and Laurice Mangelsdorf of Atlanta, Georgia; Sarah Mangelsdorf and Karl Rosengren of Rochester, New York; and Martha Mangelsdorf and Roy Peabody of Boston, Massachusetts. She is also survived by her brother-in-law Clark Mangelsdorf of Carmel, Indiana, as well as by five grandchildren and nine nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by both her husband and her brothers, Frank Burnside and Robert Burnside.

Mary will be deeply missed by her family and friends. She is remembered for her kind heart and lively intelligence, her integrity, and her concern for social justice. Her many interests included history, Quakerism, choral music, and politics. She had a great love of books and reading that dated back to her childhood and that permeated many aspects of her life, whether she was reading to a small child, working or volunteering in a library, relaxing with a good book, or sharing her insights about something she had read. She remained actively engaged in community, family, and intellectual life until just a few days before her death.

A Friends memorial service for Mary was held on March 30, 2019 at Swarthmore Friends Meeting. An additional memorial service celebrated her life at West Falmouth Meeting on June 29, 2019.

(Approved by West Falmouth Friends on July 28, 2019.)

Paul Christoph Mangelsdorf Jr.



Born on January 31, 1925, Paul Mangelsdorf joined the Religious Society of Friends in Chicago in the 1950's at the same time as his wife. His early life was in a scientific non-religious household, but he felt that Quakerism was a religion that did not conflict with his own life as a scientist. He graduated from Swarthmore College, where he met his future wife, Mary Burnside, and received his doctorate from Harvard. He returned to Swarthmore to teach physics for 29 years, concurrently working as a research associate at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where he worked summers, vacations and sabbaticals. At Woods Hole he studied the chemical composition of oceans and their sediments. His research took him around the world, and even up the Amazon river.

Living in both Swarthmore, Pennsylvania and Falmouth, Massachusetts gave Paul a perspective on Friends that few will ever experience. He and Mary were part of the small group of Friends who, in 1965, restarted the West Falmouth Preparative Meeting of Sandwich Monthly Meeting as an unprogrammed meeting, bringing it back to its 1685 roots. Previously the meeting had been open only in the summer for many years, and had before that been a pastoral meeting during the Gurneyite separation. Paul's devotion and affection for the meeting continued until his death. His engagement with the Society of Friends both in Swarthmore and West Falmouth led him to be a confident explicator of Quaker practice both to youth growing up in a meeting and to adults experiencing Friends' ways for the first time. Most summers from the sixties on, Paul and Mary attended New England Yearly Meeting Sessions with their children. He and Mary ran the Yearly meeting bookstore and built it up into the large resource it is today. Paul participated in Yearly meeting in other ways, serving on the Permanent Board, and acting early on as advisor to the then newly hired General Secretary of Yearly meeting, Jonathan Vogel-Borne, but most publicly and perhaps most joyously playing trumpet in the "coffee house" Dixieland band that marks the last night of Sessions. He had learned to play trumpet as a child, and hardly missed an opportunity to play with Friends, as well as more than twenty years with the Falmouth Town Band.

Paul's Quaker life was active also in Swarthmore meeting, where he would serve a simple breakfast to students coming to worship and often was called upon to explain Friends' ways at weddings and memorial meetings. His activities for Friends General Conference included serving as a representative to the World Council of Churches, and as a committee member that produced the Friends General Conference Hymnal *Worship in Song* (Published in 1996). In its inclusion of African-American hymns and spirituals, songs from the Civil Rights Movement and anti-war protests of the 60's and 70's, as well as newly composed songs celebrating famous Quakers, the new hymnal reflects the rich spiritual diversity of 20th century Quakerism as well as an historic perspective. The historical notes included in the hymnal are mostly Paul's scholarly work. Paul also was a founding member of Friends Association for Higher Education, served on the board at Pendle Hill retreat center, and in retirement volunteered at the FGC office.

Paul was a witty, aphoristic, and carefully gentle speaker, easy to like, brilliant in insight. He felt the world was endlessly fascinating and worth learning about, from the most local details of the Quaker cemetery surrounding the West Falmouth meeting house to abstruse science, the arts, and the sometimes recondite matters of history. He died on March 6, 2015 in Newtown Square, PA.

Paul is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mary Burnside Mangelsdorf; four children, Helen Mangelsdorf (Roman Tybinko), Sarah Mangelsdorf (Karl Rosengren), Paul Christof Mangelsdorf III (Laurice), and Mary Mangelsdorf (Roy Peabody); five grandchildren; a brother, Clark Mangelsdorf (Peggy); and nine nieces and nephews.

Two memorial services celebrating Paul Mangelsdorf's life were held in 2015, one in the spring at Swarthmore meeting and the second at West Falmouth Preparative meeting in the summer. His ashes are buried in the West Falmouth meeting's graveyard.



Clarabel Marstaller, 97, died peacefully on December 2, 2019, in Brunswick, Maine. Clarabel was the daughter of Milton and Freda Morris Hadley, born November 19, 1922, in Vermilion Grove, Illinois. She was the last surviving sibling of six: Mark, Robert, David, Ruth, and Phillip. Robert and Phillip died in infancy.

Clarabel graduated from Olney Friends School, Barnesville, Ohio, in 1940, and Earlham College in 1944, with a BA in mathematics. She worked for Eli Lilly Company for a year and taught for three years at Olney Friends School and Earlham College before she married Louis Marstaller of Freeport, Maine, in 1948.

Clarabel was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, Friend, and friend. She loved people, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. In her later years when she didn't see them very often, she got tremendous pleasure in talking on the phone and seeing pictures and videos of her grandchildren and then great grandchildren. These were some of her most joyous moments. She was devoted to her communities and communicated with people near and far, taking interest in their activities and families. Her Christmas card list numbered in the hundreds! When her mobility made travel difficult, she continued to correspond with many and appreciated visits.

She helped in the family business, The Maine Idyll Motor Court, and served as treasurer of its corporation for over 20 years. She did substitute teaching in Freeport and Brunswick during the 1950s and served as office secretary of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) from 1959-1982 while Louis was its Field Secretary. She and Louis opened their home to many travelling and local friends and Friends, generous with time, food, and hospitality. She was a mentor to many in her local Meeting and broader community.

Clarabel was known for her deep faith. She wrote: *I thought I could be a good person without God's help, (but) realized I couldn't...* She prayed and read the Bible and other religious works daily, and helped others on their spiritual journeys. She was courageous and stood up when she saw injustice, and was generous with her support of organizations that helped others.

Clarabel was a birthright and faithful Friend and member of Durham Friends Meeting from 1949. She served as presiding clerk, trustee, Sunday School teacher, choir director, organist, on Ministry and Counsel, on the Christian Education Committee, and was active in the Woman's Society. She was a recorded Friends minister for her gifts in ministry by Durham Friends Meeting and Falmouth Quarterly meeting. She served the United Society of Friends Women of New England Yearly Meeting as president, newsletter editor, and treasurer, attending several triennial sessions of the United Society of Friends Woman International. She was active in Friends United Meeting for a number of years, serving on boards, as recording clerk and assistant clerk. She served several years as a representative to the Friends Committee on National Legislation in Washington, D.C.

She was a member of the Freeport Woman's Club from 1968 and served it as president, treasurer, and on committees. She represented the Woman's Club on the Women's Legislative Council for many years and encouraged others to become and stay interested in issues that affect communities and our world.

She is predeceased by her husband Louis, daughter-in-law Judy (Robert's wife), and Judy's son Michael Burns.

She is survived by her children, David and wife Sally of Brunswick, Maine; Nancy and husband David Brooks of Harpswell, Maine; Robert of Savannah, Georgia; Thomas and wife Betsy of South Hampton, New Hampshire; grandchildren Wesley (wife Rebecca and their children Will and Pippa), Tess, Amelia, Syretha, Erik, Kris, Ashley, Darrik (wife Kate), and Lance.

Memorial Minute for Michael N. Meller

Michael N. Meller of New London, NH generally known as Mike, died July 3, 2016 at the New London Hospital, New London, NH surrounded by his family. Mike was born in Budapest, Hungary on Dec 26, 1935. His parents were cultural but not assimilated Jews who saw the imminent rise of Nazism and Hitler, and converted to Catholicism. Mike was baptized^[L]_[SEP] and attended the Christian Brothers School in Budapest during the war. His mother, Dorothy, wanted to leave the country for the United States where they had relatives but Mike's father, Victor, a fourth generation lawyer, would not leave the country as an illegal immigrant. Consequently, they stayed in Budapest. Victor served time in Hungarian Jewish work camps that were hard but not fatal. ^[L]_[SEP]

Dorothy was associated with Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved many Budapest Jews from Auschwitz. The Meller family lived in Swedish Protected Housing in Budapest. It was because Sweden was a neutral country that they were allowed to operate housing in the city during the war. The family has documentation to suggest that Dorothy worked for Wallenberg and was there when the Russians arrested him. ^[L]_[SEP]

This was far from an ideal childhood for Mike. His own grandmother died after the Russians came in 1945 and had to be carried to the Jewish cemetery in^[L]_[SEP] a converted ox cart. Mike was frightened about being called a Jew and was reluctant to tell even close family for fear of being arrested or bullied. ^[L]_[SEP]

After living in Sweden for a time, the family immigrated to the US in 1948, when Mike was 12 years old. Eventually, his father found work at the Voice of America as a Hungarian broadcaster. Mike graduated from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering. He also was awarded and graduated with a law degree from George Washington University specializing in Patent Law. Mike gravitated to international work as he knew four

languages and felt the American establishment did not welcome him as a foreigner. He became very well regarded in the Patent Law field for his founding of one of the^[L]_{SEP} first patent law journals and his book, “International Patent Litigation”. Mike traveled extensively to Asia, Europe, and China where he helped write their patent laws in the 1980’s. He also sponsored many Chinese interns at his law office. ^[L]_{SEP}

Mike married Elizabeth Voelker in 1965 and they raised three children, Michael, Gretchen, and Katie. They lived in several places and finally settled in Sleepy Hollow NY. Liz worked as a visiting nurse in upper Manhattan and Mike’s law office was in the city as well so they commuted together to New York City. Mike spent his early years as a Patent Examiner at the US Patent and Trademark Office in Washington DC. Later he worked as a Patent Attorney at General Electric Co. and then with Exxon. He had private practices first in Chicago and later in New York City in the international arena.

Mike taught at University of New Hampshire Law School, John Marshall Law School, and Fordham University Law School and wrote extensively on international patent law. He represented major US companies as well as Japanese and European companies. The international travel that Mike’s profession required was a high point in Liz and Mike’s life together. Liz and Mike’s children were introduced to international travel during some of these trips. ^[L]_{SEP}

Mike remained a practicing Catholic until 1980 when the family found they could no longer embrace the teachings and practice. He and his family became a Quakers in 1982 after finding so many “like minded people” at the Chappaqua Friends Meeting in Chappaqua Meeting NY. Mike served there in many capacities including Clerk of the meeting, Ministry and Council, and was involved in Powell House, a Quaker conference and retreat center. The family especially enjoyed the meeting for the strong sense of community it fostered. Mike ended up hiring more than a few

members of the meeting to work in his law firm. He also hired several former felons to work in his firm where they began a new life personally and professionally. [1] [SEP]

Mike and Liz retired to New London NH after Mike witnessed the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center from his office in New York City. Moving north, they became members of Hanover Friends Meeting in Hanover NH in January 2006. [1] [SEP] Two of their grandchildren, Jacob and Jersey, attend Hanover Friend Meeting's Youth Programs. A third grandchild, Sofia has attended on occasion.

Mike became involved in local politics. He carried particular concerns around issues of equality and justice having seen the deterioration of life in Hungary during the war. He ran for New Hampshire State House Representative and was the President of the New London Democratic Party.

Mike was also active on several committees at Hanover Friends Meeting and especially enjoyed the Men's Group. This dedicated group came to visit Mike often when he became too ill to travel, and he greatly appreciated their visits. One friend related that because of Mike's frequent travels and experiences, he was especially tolerant of others and their foibles.

Memorial Minute for Anne Hollingsworth Thomas Moore

August 15, 1929 – January 24, 2019

Anne Moore did not arrive at Northampton as an empty vessel. She came to us as an alabaster jar filled with precious ointment. It has been wonderful to learn the ingredients.

Anne Hollingsworth Thomas was born on August 15, 1929, and grew up in a small house on the edge of the Thomas family farm and tree nursery near Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. She attended Old Eagle Elementary School, George School, where she was exposed to Quakerism, and Swarthmore College, graduating in 1951. After college, Anne worked at Baxter Labs in Evanston, Illinois, and worked as a research assistant at Penn in Philadelphia. After hitchhiking across country with her sister Amy, Anne was cooking at a Friends General Conference in Cape May, New Jersey, when she met Tom Moore, who was attending the conference as part of his exploration of Quakerism.

Anne married Tom Moore in 1954, and they moved to Lansdowne, Pennsylvania. In 1956 their first child, daughter Lydia, was born. In 1957 Ann and Tom moved to Washington, D.C. to be co-directors of the International Students House. Their second child, Howard Thomas, was born in Washington in 1958. In 1960 they moved to Lawrence, Kansas, where Tom was director of the University of Kansas Student YMCA. Their third child, Charles David, was born in Lawrence. For the next two decades, while raising three children, Anne was active in a number of community institutions. She was one of the core members of the Oread Friends Meeting. She was a member of the board of the American Friends Service Committee and collected clothing for them. Anne was also active with the Friends Committee on National Legislation from 1957 until 2018. She sold cards for UNICEF and pecans for Koinonia Farms, a racially integrated farm community in Americus, Georgia.

Anne was a director of the Volunteer Clearing House, which connected organizations in need of volunteer labor with people seeking to do volunteer work. She was a supervisor of Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) volunteers, a founding member of the Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice, and an organizer of Breakthrough, a mental health support group. She was a founding member of the Lawrence Peace Center, organized Nuclear Freeze activities, and lobbied Bob Dole against the war in Vietnam.

Anne and Tom moved east to live with and care for her parents in 1983. She became active with Pendle Hill, the American Friends Service Committee, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and Valley Friends Meeting. Anne's father died in 1993. A year later, her daughter Lydia, a doctor in Kansas City, died in a car accident. In 1998 Anne and Tom moved to the Hickman, a Friends Senior Community in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Anne joined the Chester County Peace Movement and was an early supporter of the Nonviolent Peace Force. She served on the Hickman Building Committee and was active in West Chester Friends Meeting.

In 2008 Anne's husband Tom died; a month later her mother died. Anne's sister Amy died in 2013, and that summer Anne moved to Northampton, Massachusetts, to be near her son Howard and his family. She quickly made new connections, becoming an active

and vibrant presence in Northampton Friends Meeting and attending New England Yearly Meeting. At Northampton Meeting, she served as clerk of Pastoral Care Committee and as the Meeting clerk's elder. She became active with the local chapter of the American Friends Service Committee, the Pioneer Valley Interfaith Refugee Action Group, and Swarthmore Alumni. She truly valued each of the people she knew throughout her life, and maintained many connections.

When first meeting this quiet, tender, forceful woman, it was clear that her life was a continuous expression of faith into action. Anne had the uncanny capacity to mentor younger folks into engagement in social action without communicating disappointment if her mentees did not pick up on the mission she regarded as essential. She had the rare gift of being able to cast seeds of inspiration onto the earth, hoping that some rooted and grew, and knowing that some would never take.

Her death marked the end to a decline that had been increasing over the previous year. Yet Anne continued to participate as much as her health allowed, walking with her walker from her apartment to vigils in downtown Northampton. She spearheaded and coordinated the Voluntary Carbon Tax Initiative at Northampton Meeting, and we are still trying to find ways to fill all the roles in which she served our community and for our community. Anne continued to grapple with her own understanding of race and class, a feeling of pride in her own family history, and perhaps embarrassment at her own unearned privilege. She continued to strive to express her ideals through action. Action was important to her. Many of Anne's conversations wrapped up with "Well, this isn't getting the dishes done."

Anne is deeply missed in our Meeting and by the many people whose lives she touched and inspired.

Approved by Northampton Friends Meeting, fourth month, 14th, 2019

**Memorial Minute
for Elizabeth “Brad” Noel
October 24, 1930 - January 23, 2019**

Brad Noel was known for her dedication to Hartford, her students, her family and travel, as well as for being a cheerful participant through it all.

Born in West Hartford, CT, Elizabeth Bradford Foulds, or “Brad” as she was known, lived most of her life near her home town. At least 60 of those years were spent attending Hartford Monthly Meeting of Friends with her family.

After graduating from Hall High School in West Hartford, Brad attended Oberlin College in Ohio since it was co-ed and didn’t have sororities. She earned her B.A. in history there in 1952 and then spent a summer volunteering in European workcamps sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee. At Cornell University, where she went for a graduate program in guidance counseling, she met her husband, Don Noel, at a meeting of Young Friends. He had attended Friends’ summer camps and was a pacifist and conscientious objector. They were married on August 29, 1953.

The early years of their marriage were spent in Japan, where they directed workcamps for AFSC and Don fulfilled his alternate draft service obligation. They then traveled home through Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Israel and, finally, Europe, where they directed another work camp in Berlin. In later years, they traveled around the world again, and twice went half way around and back!

Brad and Don built their first home in New Hartford, CT from a Japanese design, often with the help of family or friends from Hartford Meeting, which they had begun attending. During that time, daughter Emily was born in 1958 and son Ken in 1960. In 1967 they moved to a racially changing community in Hartford, Blue Hills, where they lived until 2018, both of them being very active in community affairs.

Brad’s professional life was spent in service to students in Hartford schools. She was a guidance counselor and then head of the Guidance Department at Weaver High School for 25 years. She pioneered the use of computers in maintaining guidance records, led a student exchange with Japan, co-wrote a booklet encouraging young women to take control of their own lives, and helped hundreds of students become the first in their families to attend college.

In subsequent years, she was the first woman trustee of the Fox Foundation which awarded scholarships to Hartford students, and served four terms on the Hartford Board of Education. Brad had a lovely passive way of getting the attention of her superiors there who felt they were too busy to see her. She would bring a bouquet of garden flowers to the secretary with a reminder that she wanted to see "the boss," who somehow then became available! She later used her vast experience with public schools to initiate and host a public access TV program "Brad's Beat" dealing with city schools.

In addition to her international travels, for many years Brad and her family enjoyed a vacation home in Jamaica and were part of a group of friends from Hartford who bicycled 70 miles for concerts and camping at Tanglewood, Massachusetts. At home she loved her garden and the birds who visited there, enjoyed canning, sewing, knitting, and mowing her own lawn. She taught First Day School in the early years at Hartford Meeting, and later ensured that her greeters committee made newcomers and visitors feel welcome. With other Friends, she helped start a women's book club that is still going today. She and Don loved and supported the arts in Hartford.

While her son Ken predeceased her, her daughter Emily has continued to live in Hartford and grandson, TJ, was a source of pride. During Brad's final years she was tragically robbed by Alzheimer's disease of her memories of the full and rewarding life she had lived. Three years ago, she and Don moved to Seabury, a retirement community in Bloomfield, CT, she in the memory unit. She died while being cared for in the skilled-nursing unit there.

Memorial Minute for Stella Slawin Penzer

September 9, 1921 – August 7, 2018

Stella Slawin Penzer, 96, died on August 7, 2018, at home in the Old North End of Burlington, Vermont, embraced by family and friends.

Stella and her twin brother, Lazar (“Lolek”), were born on September 9, 1921, to Ala Wajnsztejn Slawin and Szaja Slawin. Stella graduated from the Warsaw School of Nursing in the spring of 1942, after it was relocated to the Warsaw Ghetto. She escaped the Ghetto shortly thereafter and survived by assuming the Gentile identity of Sabina Gasiorowska. Her parents meanwhile were killed by the Nazi-led genocide and buried at a mass grave in their hometown of Otwock, Poland, in August 1942. Her aunt Szenka Wajnsztejn, uncle Abram Willendorf, and cousin Aleksandr perished at Treblinka that same month. Her twin Lolek was recognized as a Jew and shot dead by a police informant.

Stella met her future husband Victor Penzer in a displaced persons camp after the war. Together, they came to the United States as refugees and settled in the Boston area in 1950. In their Boston apartment, Stella found a discarded copy of *The Deepening Stream* by Vermont author Dorothy Canfield (later Dorothy Canfield Fisher). Considered a biographic novel, this is an account of a girl growing up into the fullness of womanhood and marrying into a Quaker family. Matey, the protagonist, helps in the war relief efforts in France during World War I. Pacifism is a strong element in the story. *The Deepening Stream* became a treasured family book.

In 1962-63, Stella and her family took in 18-year-old Moses Scott, a black youth whose Virginia county had closed its schools to protest desegregation. That action was under the aegis of the American Friends Service Committee initiative, “Prince Edward County, Virginia, Emergency Placement Program.” Moses finished high school while living with the Penzers. So began the family’s first contact with Friends Meeting in Cambridge.

Stella worked tirelessly for civil rights, nuclear disarmament, ecological conservation, and many causes relating to peace and reconciliation. She boycotted Woolworth’s during the lunch counter sit-ins by black students in 1960, followed by her opposition to American involvement in Vietnam. In 2001, she joined demonstrations to oppose any military response to the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center. For nearly forty years, Stella sent letters to the Boston Globe focused on peace and social justice. Throughout this period, the Society of Friends was a central point for her inspired activism.

In 2012, Stella moved to Burlington, Vermont to live with her daughter, Martha Penzer. Stella’s love of life was irrepressible and nowhere more evident than in dancing. She was dancing in the last months of her life – at Burlington music festivals and in the streets. Stella’s great joys also included poetry, music, friends, and family. She is survived by her beloved children Martha, Daniel, and Rosita (Rosie) Hopper, son-in-law Roy Hopper, two grandchildren, cousins, and many friends.

Stella attended Meeting for worship at Burlington Monthly Meeting with Martha and Martha’s partner, Paul Hood, where she often exclaimed “I love the Quakers!” Among the many poems penned by Stella is the following verse.

Brooklyn Friends Meeting- November 17, 1985

Shadows above the white-creamy
windowsill
giggly, squiggly, volatile

exchange vows with pyracantha bows.

Pyracantha in orange and green truth,
shadows on the white-creamy ceiling
their testimony into the Silence spilling.

The Silence tolerant, forbearing
Welcomes all -is not forswearing
Agnostic nor believer.

Unruffled by accidental sounds, stillness
You bring respite from the wordy world.
Into your presence, joys and sorrows flow
to be sustained by tranquil glow.

*Approved October 20, 2019 by Burlington Monthly Meeting
December 8, 2019—Northwest Quarterly Meeting*

Memorial Minute for Jean Elmer Robinson

Jeanie Elmer Robinson died at her home at Kendal at Hanover on Saturday, January 21, 2017. The daughter of Wellington and Elizabeth Taylor Elmer, and step-daughter of Paul M. Butterworth, she was born in Bronxville, New York in 1927, and grew up in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Jeanie weathered some difficult times as well as wild adventures and rich experiences throughout her lifetime. From age two to seven, she lived with her grandparents while her parents traveled seeking a cure for her father's asthma — leaving her with a sense of abandonment that never fully left her. After her father's death, her mother married a birthright Quaker, Paul Butterworth, who was a founder of the Hartford Monthly Meeting of Friends in Connecticut. Paul provided her with a loving and attentive father, and gave her an early introduction to Quakerism. She attended George School for a year and then transferred to the Walnut Hill School in Natick, Massachusetts, to be closer to the family during the war.

Jeanie had an early interest in nursing, and started working in the operating room at Hartford Hospital when she was fifteen. She was on duty when victims of the Hartford Circus Fire came to the hospital, an experience that affected her profoundly.

Jeanie graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts in 1950. She attended the Yale University School of Nursing from 1953-1954 and earned a Master's degree in nursing. She met her future husband, Franklin Robinson, who was at Yale training as an Episcopal minister, and they were married soon afterwards. She worked as a nurse in Connecticut before their son Morgan was born in 1955. When he was still a baby, the family moved to the Philippines for three years as missionaries for the Episcopal Church. Jean and Franklin served at the Brent School in Baguio and Holy Trinity Church in Zamboanga City.

During their time in the Philippines, their daughters, Beth, Mary, and Deborah were born. While in Zamboanga, Beth contracted polio, which caused paralysis in one leg. Their son, Morgan, was four years old, Mary one year, and their daughter, Deb, was only a month old at the time. The family moved back to West Hartford, and then to Rochester, New York, where Jeanie devoted herself to Beth and her recovery while working part time, serving as a clergy wife, and managing a large family.

In Rochester, the family's ministry included joining an African American church, where Jean sang in the choir and formed lifelong friendships. When Jean and Franklin decided to leave Rochester in 1965, Jeanie planned a journey following the route of Saint Paul. The four-month camping trip took the family across the Atlantic to England and through Europe to the Middle East, visiting family friends, traveling off the beaten track, and experiencing many wonders.

After this Odyssey, the family lived in Princeton, New Jersey for a year, then in Greenwich, Connecticut from 1966 to 1973, where Franklin served as minister at a large Episcopal church. Their youngest son, Ken, was born in 1968. Jean worked as a public health nurse and taught at Fairfield University. Their marriage unraveled, and the couple divorced in 1972 after twenty years of marriage.

Jeanie moved to Hanover, New Hampshire in 1973 and returned to nursing and teaching at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, where she worked for twenty years. She was a parishioner of St. Thomas Episcopal Church for many years.

When Kendal at Hanover opened in 1991, Jeanie moved in and made her way back to Quakerism. She became a member of the Hanover Friends Meeting and immersed herself in Quaker activities and reflection. Jeanie loved being at Kendal. She loved the Quaker faith, practices, and was very proud to be

a Quaker. She served for several years as Clerk of the Quaker Worship Group at Kendal and on Ministry and Counsel of Hanover Meeting.

She was friendly, welcoming, and very caring of others. Jeanie enjoyed traveling and adventure. She participated in College Cevenol, a work camp in post-war France; survived an Austrian avalanche; camped for four months in Turkey, the Holy Land, Greece, and Europe with her young family; traveled in Nepal and Bhutan; stayed in an ashram in Bali and in village homes in the Cook Islands, American Samoa, and Fiji; and was a member of an American medical team studying geriatrics in China. In her fifties she got into shape for a trek led by Tenzing Norgay, a Nepali-Indian Sherpa mountaineer who was one of the first two individuals to reach the summit of Mount Everest. Her time in Sikkim (in the Himalayas) hiking with Tenzing was a peak experience of her life.

She had many hobbies; she enjoyed reading biographies, making pottery, doing puzzles, woodworking, studying Renaissance art, watching old movies, kayaking, and cutting brush around her beloved Squam Lake. She also spoke French and German.

Most of all she was devoted to her large family: her sister, Lucy Townsend of Wellesley, Mass.; her former husband, Franklin Robinson of Sarasota, Fla.; and her children, Morgan Robinson (and partner, Patti Waller) of Seattle, Wash.; Beth Robinson (husband, Alan Dehmer) of Chapel Hill, N.C.; Mary Mailand (husband, Ron) of Center Sandwich, N.H.; Deborah Robinson (husband, Jay Cary) of Lyme, N.H.; and Kenneth Robinson of Pittsburgh, PA.; and grandchildren, Noah and Zoe Dehmer, Sam and Dillon Mailand, Ellenora and Rowan Cary as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by two stepbrothers, Oliver and Harrison Butterworth; stepsister, Virginia Parmalee; and a foster-sister, Shizue Dobashi.

Throughout her life, Jeanie liked planning things, possibly because her own life deviated from the expected. As a young mother, she worked to balance the many demands involved with having five children. As she got older, she struggled with depression and slowly turned inward and became more isolated. As with all of us, she had her public life and the parts of her seen only by those who knew her well.

Jeanie was very caring and giving to many people: families she stayed in touch with and supported in the Philippines for many years, hospital patients and coworkers, students, neighbors, friends, family members. She had a loving and welcoming smile that was enjoyed by all who knew her. She will be loved and remembered around the world and is greatly missed at the Kendal community and at Hanover Friends Meeting.

*Approved by Hanover Friends Meeting 11-17-2019
Northwest Quarterly Meeting 12-08-2019*

Leon “Jack” Ross
October 16, 1928 – June 5, 2019

Jack Ross, age 90, died at his home in Wellesley, with his loving children Wendyl Ross and David Ross at his side.

Jack was born in the People’s Republic of Cambridge, the youngest of four children of Somerville alderman David Y. Ross and Amy (Irving) Ross. He was a WWII era veteran of the U.S. Navy and spent most of his working life as an active Graphic Communications Conference union member in the lithography trade. He married Ruth Georgette Perry in 1951 and together they raised their family in South Weymouth, MA. In addition to his two children, he leaves four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was the last family member of his generation.

Jack’s passions included current events – civil rights, politics, the Patriots and Red Sox, conversation, humor, gardening, and constant self-improvement: physically, mentally, and spiritually. In retirement he finally found time to go to college. At Mass Bay he delighted in the challenges of “keeping up” with his young classmates and was honored to see several of his humorous short stories and poems published in the College paper and magazine.

A “Friend of Bill’s” for forty-nine years, Jack was a dependable presence in his local meetings and reached out with compassion and humor to guide countless others along the path to sobriety. Jack’s humility did not lead him to speak of his many acts of generosity and service.

He sought his Higher Power in the company of Friends and made his spiritual home at Wellesley Friends Meeting. He particularly enjoyed the AA meetings at New England Yearly Meeting sessions.

For thirty-two years Jack lived with his daughter, Wendyl, in the Wellesley Friends meetinghouse. Together, their care of the building, the grounds, and of the meeting community was a valuable and much appreciated ministry.

Jack is deeply missed by us all; we wish him “Fair Winds and Following Seas”.

Marlee Turner Memorial Minute

Marlee was ebullient. Like a high-energy blacksmith, she loved to be creative and get things started. She always had as many irons jammed in the fire as possible. It could get chaotic but her good-hearted enthusiasm was irrepressible. She was feisty and compassionate. A lifelong Quaker she always sought a Spirit-led life.

Marlee Turner of Raymond, Maine died peacefully on November 28th, 2018 in Enchanted Oaks, Texas at the age of 85. Marlee was born in Bronxville, New York to Quaker parents Henry Chandlee Turner, Jr. (son of the founder of Turner Construction Company), and Virginia Ann (Melick) Turner. The family moved where Henry's construction work took him, including several years in the Philadelphia area, where they attended Haverford Meeting. Turner Construction Company built several buildings at Swarthmore College. Marlee graduated from an all-girls school, Rosemary Hall in Greenwich, Connecticut. She went to Swarthmore College for 2 years, then finished at Stanford University, where she received her Bachelor's degree in Education. She began a career in teaching in the Greenwich CT area. She met John "Jay" Whitcraft when he sailed his yacht into the Indian Harbor Yacht Club in Greenwich. They married and together raised their 3 boys, John, Steven, and David where Jay's work with IBM took them--Cincinnati, Dallas and Los Angeles. Never content with staying at home, Marlee was active in the League of Women Voters, and in Los Angeles co-founded the public relations consulting firm CKT Associates (which had critical assignments leading to the success of the 1984 Olympics, and the start of the Los Angeles "Metro" transit system); During their time in California, the family attended Sylmar Friends Meeting in the San Fernando Valley. In the early 1970s Marlee's marriage ended and she moved to Maine where she became an owner of Northern Pines Health Resort and Bed and Breakfast in Raymond, Maine. She began attending Portland Friends Meeting where she was active throughout the remainder of her life. Over the past several years, Marlee went to Texas for Thanksgiving with family and to spend the winter with the many friends she met in the area.

Quakerism has always been important to Marlee. She was raised in the Quaker tradition in New York and Philadelphia and at Swarthmore College. For the last few decades she has been an involved member of Portland Friends Meeting (PFM). She has also been active in Falmouth Quarter. As she began spending winters in Texas, she started sojourning with Dallas Friends Meeting. She also supported American Friends Service Committee and the historic Quaker Ridge Meetinghouse in Casco, Maine. We will miss her profound vocal ministry which was delivered in a few brief sentences.

Marlee loved to build connections with people. This seemed to motivate her in all areas of her life from her work as founder and manager of Northern Pines health spa to welcoming visitors to Meeting. She ran for the office of State Representative for her district in Maine, and although not elected, she met many new people who became friends. In her Bridgton, Maine community, she was active in many groups including local politics, the Rotary club service

projects, senior lunches at the community center. On her recent annual Maine to Texas train rides, she claimed that they always generated at least one permanent email friend.

Marlee loved to help others connect. Many have commented that this was one of her gifts in her work in Northern Pines, for example, connecting guests with practitioners of the healing arts. Several PFM events were held at Northern Pines connecting her work and her meeting. Marlee volunteered to visit all Meetings in Falmouth Quarter. As she did this travel, she would enthusiastically work to build connections between meetings. Recently she invented the After Meeting Lunch by standing at the rise of meeting to invite any and all to have lunch for fellowship at some small local restaurant.

Marlee really engaged with her health challenges. She was diagnosed with both cancer and multiple sclerosis in the 1970s. Her thyroid was removed and her cancer was in remission. Her MS slowly reduced her mobility. Her health spa shrank to a bed and breakfast then to an AirBnB but each iteration reflected her belief in nature's restorative power, and her welcoming care. As she dealt with MS, she treated herself based on her own study and intuition even against the advice of doctors, a strategy that many of her doctors would come to acknowledge was effective. We will always remember Marlee's faith and courage in these last years as MS decreased her mobility even more. She would use crutches or her walker to climb over obstacles getting to a new lunch place and let her laughter overcome all.

Marlee lived in the present and was hopeful about what was coming next in her colorful life. Portland Friends Meeting is grateful to have had so many years with Marlee's ebullient spirit.

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Memorial Minute for Paul Manthey Zorn, Jr.
May 8, 1927 -- April 29, 2016

Paul Zorn was a weighty Friend who carried himself Lightly.

Paul Manthey Zorn was born on May 8, 1927, in New Haven, Connecticut. He kept his boyhood love of learning and adventure throughout the course of his life.

Paul enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1945 after graduating from high school. Following his Navy service, Paul attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating in 1950 with a degree in chemical engineering. While at MIT, he was a founding member of the Logarithms, an a cappella singing group. On a visit to his sister Sue at Bryn Mawr to attend the Army/Navy football game, Paul met Sue's good friend Sally Brown. Paul and Sally were married at Sally's home in Winnetka, Illinois, on August 30, 1952.

Paul and Sally began their lives together in Reading, Pennsylvania, where they joined the Religious Society of Friends. They resided in various neighborhoods around Philadelphia, including Concord Park, a planned integrated community dedicated to achieving racial integration in a suburban setting.

Finding work in the chemical industry unfulfilling, Paul pursued an alternative and in 1960 received a master's degree in teaching from Harvard University. He and Sally moved to Wycombe, Pennsylvania, in Bucks County, where they lived for 42 years. Paul taught chemistry and environmental sciences at William Tennant High School and was the faculty advisor for the astronomy club, inspiring scores of young scientists and stargazers. He designed the sundial placed around the Creation Pole at Bucks County Community College. While living in Wycombe, Paul was an active member of Wrightstown Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, participating in the work of many committees, including a restructuring of the Yearly Meeting.

Paul was a man of many interests. He served on the Mohawk Canoe Club River Rescue Team, which focused on canoeing on the Delaware River. He founded the Wrightstown Township Parks and Recreation Board. Paul and Sally, both avid bicyclists, took several bicycle trips to domestic places such as the Canadian Rockies, Mississippi River valley, as well as abroad in Belgium, France, Germany, and New Zealand.

Paul retained his love of music and reading all his life. He shared his love of reading by tutoring in literacy programs and working in prisons. After retiring from teaching, Paul developed an interest in the visual arts, and produced a number of photomontages and screen prints.

Paul generously shared his time and gifts with Northampton Friends, whether introducing a college-bound young Friend to MIT or ensuring the Meeting's heating and air conditioning system operated efficiently.

Paul's presence in our Meeting was a gift that we cherish.