

Memorial Minutes ~ 2021 ~

NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

Each of these minutes has been read aloud at each Friend's monthly meeting and quarterly meeting and at a meeting of the Yearly Meeting Permanent Board. Each time a minute was read, those listening learned something new about the different ways in which Friends live out their Quaker faith. Those who knew the remembered Friend in different contexts have had the opportunity to share, and perhaps to add, some telling memory. It is a rich and living process.

Mildred Alexander (1930–2020)

Claire Bateman (1934–2020)

Nancy Booth (1922–2020)

David Cadbury (1945–2018)

JoAnne Chickering (1929–2020)

Harry Colwell (1922–2019)

David Davis (1926–2020)

Annette Donovan (1921–2015)

Margaret Eastman (1931–2021)

John Gaffney (1949–2020)

John Hunter (1934–2019)

Elise Knapp (1924–2018)

Carl Newlin (1937–2019)

Susan Rice (1945–2020)

Rudolph Scheltema (1926–2019)

Katherine Stillman (1943–2020)

Edward Turco (1945–2021)

Ronald Wain (1950–2020)

Margery Walker (1926–2019)

Meredith Walton (1936–2020)

Theodora Waring (1927–2020)

Phyllis Wetherell (1936–2020)

Edith Whitehead (1923–2020)

Mildred Dumas Alexander
October 28, 1930 – September 18, 2020



Mildred Alexander, long-time member of Durham Friends Meeting, passed from this life on September 18, 2020. She was a resident of Pinkham Brook Road in Durham, Maine, and was born in Lisbon Falls, daughter of the late Louis and Annette (Boultbee) Dumas. She was educated in local schools. Mildred married Andrew Alexander in January of 1949, and they spent many happy years together until he passed in

2009. Mildred enjoyed jigsaw puzzles, her cats and, most of all, time spent with her great grandchildren. Mildred was an active member of the Meeting Trustees. While a trustee she was the meeting janitor and went the extra mile to keep the building in good shape. One friend's fond memory of Mildred was that she was good-natured with a great sense of humor: "Once when there was a jug of Babcock's apple cider in the meeting fridge Mildred drank a cup. 'I love cider,' she said. The friend said, 'Especially when it is about to turn.' Mildred replied. 'Me too! Look at us! Drinking hard cider in the meetinghouse!'" Mildred was one of many from the meeting who worked at the Maine Idyll for many years.

She is survived by her sister Laurette Chapman of Lewiston, four grandchildren: Thomas St. Germain of Durham, Carrie St. Germain of Lewiston, Angela Loucka of Tampa, FL, and Johnell Ramos of Costa Rica, four great grandchildren, and seven great-great grandchildren. She was predeceased by a daughter Pauline (Alexander) Harvey in 2006 and three sisters, Annette Tibbets, Beverly Craig, and Bernice Curtis.

DURHAM MONTHLY MEETING
FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING

Claire Louise Bateman
August 11, 1934 – October 30, 2020



Claire Bateman was a Quaker even before she found the Religious Society of Friends.

Claire Louise Bateman was born on August 11, 1934, in Johannesburg, South Africa, when it was still a small town. She was sent to boarding school at age 8, and at age 16 to finishing school in America. In her words, finishing school was “a way to polish this very rough tomboy diamond.” It was during school vacations spent with an aunt and uncle in West Virginia that Claire was introduced to Quakerism.

Claire credited her aunt with encouraging her to apply to Wellesley College instead of returning to South Africa after graduating from finishing school. When Claire’s father demanded she come home after her sophomore college year and refused to pay tuition, Wellesley awarded Claire a total scholarship for her last two years; she graduated with a BA in geography in 1956. In 1979 Claire attended Antioch College in Keene, New Hampshire, graduating at age 56 with an MA in psychology.

In 1957 Claire married Chris Van Peski, a graduate of MIT, and moved to California, where their three children were born. Upon their divorce in 1969, Claire drove with her children across the country to New England, where she had always felt at home. After living for seven years in Amherst, during which she was a member of Mt. Toby Monthly Meeting, Claire bought Running Fox Farm in Worthington, where she lived, with some exceptions, until 2004.

Claire’s early years at the farm were spent as an organic farmer with chickens, cows, pigs, grain and vegetable crops, and blueberry bushes. She continued her interest in and support for local agriculture throughout the rest of her life.

In 1981 Claire moved to Washington, D.C. and a new career path as a consultant to non-profit organizations, specializing in the work of boards

of directors. She worked with a number of arts organizations, particularly symphony orchestras. In D.C., Claire was an active member of Florida Avenue Meeting.

When in 1991 Claire saw that Nelson Mandela was definitely going to become the president in South Africa, she decided to return and “do my bit in the brave new world we all hoped would develop there.” For five years Claire worked with non-governmental agencies in South Africa, training staff and directors in process and management. While there she was a member of Cape Town Meeting.

That year Claire transferred her membership from Cape Town to Northampton Friends Meeting. Northampton Friends were worshipping in a space at Smith College and contemplating building a meeting house.

In 2000, the building known as the former Elks Lodge on 43 Center Street was purchased by a local businessman who conceived it as a mixed-use building—commercial and residential. He attracted Safe Passage, which had outgrown its space; Northampton Friends Meeting, which had been actively looking for space; and the Hampshire County Friends of the Homeless who had spent five years searching for a permanent space for a cot shelter. The rear of the building was extended to provide needed space for the meeting and the shelter, and the fourth floor was planned as residential units. The original developer underestimated the build-out costs and was on the verge of bankruptcy when Claire stepped in and bought him out so the project could be completed, bringing in her own construction team. The project was completed in 2004. For 11 years Claire lived in Unit S on the fourth floor, after which she built her last home, a passive energy house surrounded by gardens in Williamsburg.

While she grew up in privilege, Claire only saw people as equal to one another, starting with the servants in her childhood home and extending to the guests at the homeless shelter. She was a valued and active member of Northampton Friends Meeting. Claire oversaw and managed the meeting’s monthly shelter dinner for 15 years. She infused her spirit of equality and service into everything she did. Claire resigned from the meeting in 2005 as a matter of conscience; she said she “had come to understand herself to be an atheist, though she followed Friends’ testimonies.”

Indeed, her life was witness to Friends’ testimonies. Claire’s guiding vision was “to leave every place I have lived a little better for my having been there, thus bringing constructive energy to the planet.” That Friend speaks our minds.

NORTHAMPTON FRIENDS MEETING
CONNECTICUT VALLEY QUARTERLY MEETING

Nancy Booth
May 18, 1922 – November 6, 2020



Nancy was born Anne Curtis Booth on May 18, 1922, in Wrightstown, Pennsylvania, the fourth of six children born to The Reverend Samuel Babcock Booth and Anna Peck Booth. In her early years she lived in New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Maine, graduating in 1940 from Lincoln Academy in Newcastle. She trained as a teacher at the Lesley College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and graduated from Teachers' College at Columbia University, where she later earned her master's degree.

Over the years she taught in Colorado, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Maine. While teaching in Newton, Massachusetts, she began attending Friends Meeting at Cambridge. Quaker meeting then became a lifelong affiliation for Nancy. She moved back to Maine in 1963, where she resided the rest of her life.

Nancy was a passionate member of the Midcoast Monthly Meeting in Damariscotta, from its founding, in which she participated c.1970, until her death. This became a vital connection for Nancy as she provided many new initiatives and leadership. She was a faithful and creative member of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. One of her projects was to provide stamped postal cards once a month at the rise of meeting, inviting attenders to write to political leaders regarding timely issues, prompted by FCNL advisories or State of Maine affairs. There were visits to senators and Congress members to protest wars, critically before the invasion of Iraq and riding the overnight bus to Washington, D.C., to protest. She attended the meetings of the Friends Committee on Maine Public Policy. The major concerns then were the youth rehabilitation center in Portland and association with the Wabanaki people (the four tribes of Maine).

In 1988, having met in several locations for years, Midcoast Meeting undertook a series of moves. With the meeting growing, a group of Quaker women who met monthly for lunch voiced interest in a permanent home. After a called meeting and skillful leadership, the decision was made to

build a meetinghouse. Construction began soon after. Nancy was deeply involved with a newly formed building committee until the meetinghouse was built in 1995. At the same time she was clerk of the meeting from 1990 through 1992 and guided it skillfully through countless decisions.

Following her clerkship, she continued to serve on numerous committees. In the 90s she was on the Meetinghouse Committee, Peace and Social Concerns, and Ministry and Counsel, and attended Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting. As the new century began, she was on the steering committee for the newly formed Peace Outreach Center, which became a meeting priority, and a member of the Pastoral Care Committee. She was at the center of meeting life for so many years, the woman who reached out to everyone—new attenders and long-time members, the young and the old. Always concerned with others, she often visited members unable to attend meetings due to illness, age, or circumstance. In her final years members were eager to return the favor, enjoying her stories, humor, and her appreciative, loving nature.

With friends from the meeting, Nancy began an arts program, “Treasure Hunt,” that traveled around to area schools bringing art, theater, and music together, with Nancy heading the art effort. This program, funded by a federal grant, was renewed for three years, then picked up by the towns. It became the Volunteer Teachers Resource Center, and invited retired, informed people to work in the schools. This was a program based on educational theory way ahead of its time; she loved and put her heart into it. Having served on the First Day School Committee in the early 80s she helped run a very active First Day School. Another project was the People To People clothing exchange, which continues thriving to this day.

Nancy’s primary interest, peace and social concerns, extended to all of Lincoln County. Active in the Carpenter’s Boatshop, begun in 1979 in Pemaquid, she was close friends with founders Bobby and Ruth Ives. Quaker worship and testimonies undergirded the teachings and work of this major endeavor. Many of the young apprentices came from Quaker meetings in New England and beyond. They often attended our meeting’s First-Day worship, especially in the summer. Several settled in Maine and joined the membership of our meeting.

The well-known CHIP (Community Housing and Improvement Project) was formed in 1984. Nancy was in the leadership and led the effort for our meeting to form a lasting association. After Nancy’s retirement, our meeting has participated in sending an active representative who reports to our meeting.

In 1989, overwhelmed with requests for money for food, members of the Second Congregational Church approached seven local churches to see if an ecumenical pantry could be formed. It was organized as a completely volunteer non-profit organization and remains so to this day. Nancy, as well as other meeting members, quickly became involved and

for years people were greeted at the door by Nancy, who donated food and her time to the effort. It is believed that Nancy might have been the first to contribute dog food so that needy pets could be fed as well as their owners.

She was active in the Interfaith Peace and Social Concerns Association, having personal contacts in many of the churches. She initiated the weekly lunches held at the Congregational Church that included the Midcoast Friends Meeting's provision and organizational aspects: she signed up the volunteers and loved being the greeter. Volunteers from Midcoast Friends Meeting were urged to stay for the meal and to meet and converse with the community's people in need.

Nancy had a personal connection with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, having a close friend whose mission was in Haiti. Her frequent visits to Newcastle were occasions for fundraisers: arts and craft sales and suppers to support the suffering people of Haiti.

She led volunteer efforts on frequent occasions for professing the Quaker peace testimony, such as public demonstrations for Bridges for Peace vigils on a wide network of bridges, including Damariscotta. It was Nancy's leadership that allowed many members of Midcoast Meeting to "speak truth to power" consistently and urgently.

An avid outdoors person, Nancy was a member of the Sierra Club and a life member of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). She hiked and climbed mountains around the country and abroad, including a trip to the Matterhorn at age 50. She knew the names of many woodland plants and annually greeted and counted the lady slippers on her springtime walks. Nancy took hiking-trail maintenance seriously, helping to clear trails in this and other areas. But maintaining trails was not the end goal. She took many members on hikes on the trails with which she was so familiar, building friendships and making newcomers feel welcomed and a part of the meeting as well as the community.

Nancy is remembered as a tireless volunteer, able to out-climb hikers 20 years her junior, able to connect with strangers quickly and easily, and as an inspiring mentor to many at Midcoast Meeting and the community at large. She always had an ability to reach out to people and to express deeply how she felt. Even when housebound in Newcastle in her mid-90s, she was always eager to know what was going on at meeting. She was a major part of many lives with her indomitable spirit, generosity, and on-going quest for the next trip or good time. She will be missed very much by those who knew and loved her. We, her friends, may meditate on how much her love and faith have given to our meeting.

MIDCOAST FRIENDS MEETING
VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING

David Cadbury
June 3, 1945 – February 2, 2018



David Cadbury was one of a kind: a gentle, soft-spoken man of high principles and great optimism. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 3, 1945. He attended Germantown Friends School and graduated from Wesleyan University in Connecticut. He also attended Maryland Institute, College of Art/The Peabody Institute in Baltimore, where he received a second undergraduate degree as well as a Masters in sculpture. He completed post-graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania in landscape architecture.

From the early 1970s until the 1990s David lived in Philadelphia and Maine. He worked as a sculptor, producing conceptual installations about natural and environmental systems. He was chairman of the Nexus Gallery in Philadelphia, and had work exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery and at Max Protetch's in Washington, D.C. He also founded two construction companies: one that focused on the historical restoration of 18th and 19th century houses and another for high-end commercial and residential projects.

In 1992 David, his wife Karen, and their two children, Benjamin and Rachel, moved to Maine, where he continued working as an artist and as a building consultant. He began creating beautiful computer-generated images that were exhibited in galleries throughout Maine.

He was a passionate sailor who restored and sailed numerous wooden boats.

David came from a long tradition of Quakers. He took Quakerism seriously and was deeply concerned that the religion not get stuck in antiquated, tradition-bound practices or outlooks. He wanted the practice to be dynamic and relevant to the 21st century. He was born and married in Germantown Monthly Meeting and later became an active member with his family in the Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. When he moved

to Maine he became a member of the Midcoast Friends Meeting, where he served as clerk.

David is greatly missed by his family, friends, and Midcoast Friends, and he is remembered for his tremendous sense of humor, his wisdom, and his warmth.

MIDCOAST FRIENDS MEETING

VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING

JoAnne Chickering
April 28, 1929 – June 24, 2020



Even as we celebrate the light and love she brought us, we mourn the passing of Jo Chickering, beloved member of Plainfield Monthly Meeting. Jo was first part of our community in the 1960s, returning in the 1990s after she and Art, her husband and life partner, retired. She participated fully, listened deeply, and celebrated with a gusto and love that nurtured and inspired us.

In our monthly meeting as well as the wider community she was exuberant in supporting the movement of the Spirit in both mystical and practical ways. She encouraged the budding ministry of many Friends, as well as supporting Friends who were more sure of their path. She served faithfully on Ministry and Counsel. She contributed the first check towards our meetinghouse. In the community, along with other seasoned Plainfield Friends, she was active in the beginnings of the first Vermont bail fund, the reparative justice board, restorative justice, and later with integrating former inmates back into the community.

Jo's ministry grew from her warm, generous heart. She listened deeply. At her memorial meeting Friends remembered that when in a conversation you "felt as if you were the only person in the room." "She gets to know the life story of anyone she is around," one daughter remembers, "Jo's life story is about making deep connections, whether it be a brief encounter or a lifelong friendship."

In both her professional and spiritual life, Jo's ministry empowered others: supporting blind students entering public school, drawing Headstart teachers into education, following student leads in learning, developing programs in women's studies and Title IX affirmative action programs for college students, and in recognition and inclusion of other races and cultures. The cover of *Sunlight & Shadow: Glimpses into the Life of Jo Chickering*, a memoir by Jo Chickering written with Rachel Walker Cogbill, best sums up Jo's ministry among us. "Jo Chickering, Quaker,

but also a Buddhist practitioner... A counselor, educator, and advocate for empowerment, Jo[was] active on many frontiers: education for the blind, women's issues, changes in the justice system, civil rights, and progressive education. She ... spent time in arts: painting, writing, poetry, and making pottery. Nature, outdoor activity, and travel weave through her narrative."

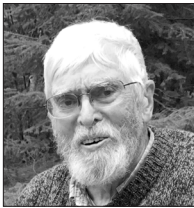
In an old farmhouse they renovated at the end of the road, Jo and Art raised four children together, celebrating and supporting them through times of joy and times of grief. Years later, Jo and Art returned to Chickering Road in a home their family built for them, not far from the old homestead, where a daughter still lives. Art described those later years: "For many years, Jo used her creative talents as a partner, parent, painter, potter, and Ph.D. On February 1, 1999, a stroke eliminated potting, as well as hiking, skiing, and tennis. Then during the 2000s failing vision shut down painting ... poetry became her creative outlet." Jo published two books of poetry; *Saying Yes to Life* was published in 2011 and recommended by Parker Palmer, and *Relationships that Matter* in 2015. Jo said that "the point is that when love grows, fear diminishes" and all around her love not only grew, it blossomed.

Jo found a depth of the Spirit through nature. She wrote, "I sit on the screened-in back porch and savor the sounds of my surroundings: robins, the red-eyed vireo, the white-throated sparrow, finches, and wrens. I know this symphony is too beautiful to be chance. It is the song of the spheres or angels sharing their joy." And dreams were also an important vehicle to Jo's understanding and spirit. She recounted one dream where she was riding a bike with friends Jesus and Buddha walking beside her. We like to think of her that way now, grateful for sharing her path for a while. She was a blessing.

PLAINFIELD MONTHLY MEETING

NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

Harry (Ted) Colwell III
November 3, 1922 – November 28, 2019



The Middlebury Friends Meeting community celebrates the life of Harry “Ted” Colwell, a member of the meeting since 1982, after he and his wife, Olive, took up permanent residence in East Middlebury and transferred their membership from Scarsdale Friends Meeting in New York. Ted and Olive became dedicated supporters of Middlebury Friends Meeting and warmly embraced members and attenders, serving on meeting committees and often opening their home to all for special Christmas celebrations. Ted also represented Middlebury Friends as a member of the Middlebury Area Clergy Association and the Addison Country Clergy Association. He offered strong support for such local organizations as Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Ilsley Library, Smallholders group, and Friends of the Arts.

Ted was raised in a Presbyterian household, served in the US Air Force during WWII, and earned a BA in Philosophy in 1946 from Dartmouth College. For a short time, he considered a career in the ministry and enrolled in Princeton Theological Seminary. Ultimately, he decided to pursue a career in banking and joined Chase National Bank in 1947, from which he retired as Division Executive of Aerospace in 1981. His time at Chase took him around the world on many occasions.

Ted came to Quakerism through his love for philosophy and wide reading. The works by Rufus Jones, Henry Cadbury, D. Elton Trueblood, and other major Quaker writers brought him to the concept of “continuing revelation” and he found the Quaker leading to go inward in search of one’s own spiritual truth a very compelling path. Always deeply dedicated to ethics and the pursuit of leading an ethical life, he sought to set high standards for himself and lead by example. He would always start the day with a spiritual reading, often from the Bible, and always found time for prayer throughout his life. Dorothy Day, Thomas Merton, and Thomas Kelly inspired Ted to embrace a life of service to others and follow the

example of Jesus of Nazareth as a model for how to live our lives in the here and now. In his later years, Ted began to study Buddhism and found its teachings an inspiring extension of his Quaker faith. His dedication to peace, justice, and environment stewardship is aptly reflected in his motto: "Small is Beautiful; Less is More; Moderation in All Things." Ted is fondly remembered as a great companion and loyal friend.

Ted was predeceased by his wife, Olive, and his son-in-law, Jack Bouffard. He is survived by his two daughters, Sally of Minneapolis, MN, and Linda of Middlebury, VT, and his son, Win, who continues Ted's active involvement in Middlebury Friends Meeting. He also leaves seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING
NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

David Llewellyn Davis
November 25, 1926 – April 3, 2020



“Two Constants of this World”

*The constant murmur of spirit deep inside our being
That of God in each of us.
Change, the other constant
oh, yes
Movement day in day out,
Hour by hour
Minute to minute*

*Events, wonderful and horrific tumble over us
Like shells and pebbles in wash of restless water.*

*The attentive ear will give pause
Seek a quiet space where it is
Delve within, listen to the still, small voice
Receive strength, solace,
Yes, peace.*

(Taken from his book, *Ready to be Surprised*)

Dave Davis would not want us to begin a memoir of his life by listing his many contributions and achievements. He was not that kind of man. Our local paper, the *Bucksport Enterprise*, described Dave as “the poet who dwelled and flourished by the river”—the Narramissic River in Orland, Maine, to be precise. He was a gentle man, a humble man, who observed and appreciated all that life brought his way. Dave’s collection of poems is titled *Ready to be Surprised*. In his poem “Wishing,” Dave wrote “Tears come to my eyes when I count all blessings. No more will I wish my life away.” His book is full of poems about his family activities with his wife, children, grandchildren, and friends. Poems like “Belly Hockey,” “One More Swing,” “Late Winter Snowfall,” and “Whence Hoo Hoo” describe a man in love with his family. He was also a man with a hint of mischief in his eyes, a ready smile, and a contagious laugh.

The accomplishments of a person who has been married for 70 years are never about just one person. Ginny, Dave's wife and active partner, was beside him and supported him as he participated in many career and community activities. Dave wore many hats: millworker, manager of the Community Development Department of the Cooperative Extension at the University of Maine, and greenhouse business manager. He participated in the local Grange, the Masons, the local Methodist Church, the Orland Historical Society and the Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. He and Ginny were also instrumental in starting the Narramissic Valley Friends Meeting in Orland, which has continued to meet since the 1970s. Anyone who knew Dave would agree he lived his beliefs.

Dave was not a person to give unsolicited advice. The closest he comes is a poem in his book *Ready to be Surprised* titled "A Living Marker."

*On this solstice night
A winter's moon shines full
Upon majestic, white pine
Reminding us all:
Stand firm, stand tall.
Faith, tenderness and love will
Weather all seasons.*

We believe that Dave is still "Ready to be Surprised."

NARRAMISSIC VALLEY MONTHLY MEETING

VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING

Annette F. Donovan
March 10, 1921 – April 28, 2015



Annette F. Donovan was a beloved member of New Haven Friends Meeting. She died peacefully on April 28, 2015, at Branford Hospice in Branford, CT. She was 94.

Many remember Annette sitting with her husband Ted and a full row of nine children in Connecticut Hall on the Yale Campus, where we met until we moved to our present location on East Grand Avenue in New Haven, CT. Annette always took an interest in everyone who attended meeting regularly, and she called or wrote thoughtful notes to people whom she hadn't seen for a while.

She loved poetry and was known for sharing quotes from poems in meeting for worship, and she participated in a regular poetry group at Elim Park in Cheshire, CT, where she lived in her final years. She also loved watercolor painting and made hand-painted cards for her thoughtful notes while at Elim Park. She and Ted had strong Quaker beliefs and were leaders in all aspects of New Haven Friends Meeting.

She is survived by her children, Mark of Kalamazoo, MI; Ann (Cote) of Bethany, CT; Marty of Berlin, CT;* Emily (Patton) of Wilton, IA; Rachel of Glastonbury, CT; Naomi of Green Lane, PA; Greta of Barto, PA; Deborah (Orris) of Colchester, CT; and Christopher of Burlington, CT. She is also survived by a sister Rosemary (Horrigan) of Cheshire, CT, as well as 19 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Annette, a daughter of the late Mabel (Roberts) and Bernard Fitch, was born in Hamden, CT on March 10, 1921, and was predeceased by her husband, Theodore W. Donovan, in 2001. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 23, 2015, at New Haven Friends Meeting.

NEW HAVEN MONTHLY MEETING
CONNECTICUT VALLEY QUARTERLY MEETING

*Marty has since passed away, July 2020

Margaret (Peggy) Eastman
September 21, 1931 – January 27, 2021



Margaret (Peggy) Eastman came to Friends in the early 60s and became a member in 1965. She left her former religious affiliation after expressing her concern to the minister that she was not comfortable teaching “fire and brimstone” in Sunday School, and the minister suggested she should leave, so she did. Margaret eventually found her true home with Friends. When she first came to the Yarmouth Preparative Meeting, there were some very weighty friends in attendance, as this was the only active year-round meeting on the Cape at that time (the meeting was officially reactivated in 1955 after having been laid down in 1909). Peggy reflected that the meeting was very active, although small in numbers, with a very lively First Day School, where she often brought her three young daughters. Peggy remembers this as a very wonderful time and reminisced about when they all traveled to the grounds of the East Sandwich meetinghouse for a summer picnic even though that meeting was not active at that time.

Peggy was considered a true “elder” and held in high regard by friends near and far who had the good fortune to know her. She served as co-clerk and then clerk, and sat on committees at Yarmouth Meeting, and as recording clerk for Sandwich Quarterly and often traveled to quarterly meetings, and to NEYM retreats and Sessions events. While co-clerking Yarmouth Preparative Meeting (YPM), she and her co-clerk organized a protest on the grounds of the meetinghouse to stand against the invasion of Iraq; over 100 people showed up. For years YPM held gatherings in Friends’ homes to share hospitality followed by a presentation. Margaret often hosted such meetings; one memorial gathering was when her uncle Robert Leach, a well-known Quaker who was a conscientious objector in WWII and helped start Pendle Hill, spoke about the history of Nantucket Quakers. Margaret reflected on when she came to the Cape with her uncle

when she was about 9 years old specifically to visit the East Sandwich meetinghouse and this experience stayed with her.

During a lengthy career as a journalist, Margaret held many roles, such as editor and political columnist at the *Cape Cod Times*. She felt being a journalist was “somewhat of a calling” and viewed this as an opportunity to “make a difference.” Margaret attended the United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing, China, in 1995 on behalf of the *Cape Cod Times* and noted there was a strong contingency of Quaker women in attendance. She often spoke publicly across the Cape about the conference. In her role as a journalist, Margaret was noted by colleagues as a mentor and matriarch by some, and although she had a kind and patient demeanor, she “was not to be underestimated.”

When Margaret semi-retired she wrote a gardening column and often wrote a freelance column summarizing her many travels across parts of Europe with traveling companions. One wonderful memory was of the annual New Year’s Eve gathering hosted by the East Sandwich Preparative Meeting, Peggy meeting a Friend’s mother who discussed her appreciation for Peggy’s gardening columns. All of Peggy’s work, be it for the newspaper and/or within the Quaker community, reflected her strong belief in speaking truth to power and of her deep faith. As part of her faith, Margaret was a firm believer that there were “angels among us.”

In addition to being an active member of Friends and her calling as a journalist, Margaret also found time for advocacy work as a member of Cape United Elders, a former Community Action Committee of Cape Cod & Islands program. Members served as trained ombudspersons, which allowed them to visit nursing homes unannounced to observe the facilities, talk to residents and staff, and to report issues of concern to the State’s Department of Elder Affairs when necessary. She stayed involved in this program until it was terminated.

Margaret was truly a “weighty Quaker,” and Friends often turned to her for advice and friendship. However, she was not beyond speaking up when she felt it was important to express her deep concerns. We could all aspire to and learn from such an example!

As Margaret’s health declined, she spent her last two year in a nursing home, where close Friends had the honor of participating in worship at her residence until the pandemic made this impossible. She died of respiratory failure in the early morning of January 27 at the age of 89, leaving behind her three daughters, Barbara (who was her caretaker) (partner David), Susan Eastman, and Sheila Eastman Jeffrey (husband David Jeffrey) and their two adult children, Kurt and Sara (husband Christopher Damp). Margaret was widowed in 2001.

SANDWICH MONTHLY MEETING
SANDWICH QUARTERLY MEETING

John Kevin Gaffney
(May 15, 1949 – April 12, 2020)

John Gaffney, a life-long activist for justice and equality and a beloved member of Providence Monthly Meeting, died at his home in Providence, Rhode Island, on Easter morning, 2020.

John was born on May 15, 1949, to John F. Gaffney and Doris N. Simsek Gaffney of Wayne, New Jersey, where he grew up with his younger brother, Richard. As a teenager John attended St. Francis Xavier High School, a Jesuit college preparatory school in the Bronx, New York, where he joined the Junior ROTC program and graduated in 1967. He went on to earn a BA in political science at Fordham University in 1971, and his first job as a field representative for the Civil Rights Division of the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety set him on the path he walked for the rest of his life: resolute commitment to the protection of basic human rights for all.

John's work in civil-rights-law enforcement took him to Massachusetts in 1974 to serve as executive director of the Framingham Human Relations Commission. A year later, he moved to Providence, where he served for three years as director of Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Program at Providence Human Relations Commission (HRC). John would serve the city as commissioner on the HRC many times throughout his life; his last appointment from Mayor Jorge Elorza would have expired on January 31, 2021.

The years between 1975 and 1980 would prove to be formative ones for John. During that time he became connected with Providence Monthly Meeting, eventually deciding to join as a member. From his earliest days among Friends, John was a strong, conscientious voice in the meeting. It was during these years that he met and fell in love with Dale William "Bill" Brown, the man who would become John's soulmate, partner, and husband. And it was during these years that John experienced an accident that changed his life. In the summer of 1978, while on his way home from a Gay Pride celebration and fundraiser, the car John was riding in was struck by a drunk driver. John became paraplegic, and after nearly a year

spent recovering in the hospital, he resumed his work for civil rights—but this time as a wheelchair-user. His experiences and challenges navigating the world helped shape his passionate advocacy on accessibility issues and disability rights.

From June 1979 to spring 1980, John served as executive director of the Rhode Island chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, but the position could not accommodate his need for intensive physical therapy. He left that job to focus on his physical recovery, but soon he was engaging in volunteer work and consulting, building a career in advocacy that would leave lasting impressions across many states, communities, and industries.

One of the great commitments of John's life was the LGBT civil rights movement, and as he worked to regain his health, he volunteered for the National Gay Task Force (later known as the National LGBTQ Task Force). In his work there, John played a pivotal role in an early victory for gay youth in Rhode Island: In 1980, an 18-year-old at Cumberland High School, Aaron Fricke, asked to take another boy to the senior prom. The principal refused the request, as he had done with a similar case the year before involving a younger student. John learned of the case and reached out to Aaron, encouraging him to file a federal lawsuit and promising to pay the court fees. John connected Aaron with a Boston-based attorney with experience in filing gay rights suits, and a case was brought against the school alleging violation of same-sex couples' First Amendment rights. The case was successful and the federal court judge demanded that Aaron Fricke and Paul Gilbert be allowed to attend their prom together in May 1980. The victory was a painful one, with both boys suffering harassment and verbal abuse from their community and their peers—but their court win was significant for gay rights in Rhode Island and nationwide. Many today know the names of Aaron Fricke and Paul Gilbert, but few know that it was John Gaffney who set their case in motion.

From 1986, John was deeply engaged in advancing, supporting, and monitoring accessibility initiatives in public life, especially in the domains of housing and transit. He served in the Governor's Office of Handicapped Affairs in Boston, worked as assistant to the manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority, and became widely known as a consultant on paratransit issues after the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. John really did (co-)write the book on ADA paratransit service; his 1991 handbook on implementation, published by the U.S. Department of Transportation, ensured that transit operators and planners across the United States heard from the constituency they served: individuals with disabilities, whose voices and experiences had previously been discounted and overlooked in designing, maintaining, and evaluating transit systems. John knew that access to courts was one of the most important developments for people with disabilities; passage of the ADA meant litigation be-

came a crucial tool for expanding access and inclusion. In April 1991 John moved to southern Florida to open an office for Katherine McGuinness and Associates, a Boston-based firm that provided consulting services on ADA compliance, from collective bargaining to access to transportation.

Over the next two decades, John's influence helped shape policies in the states of Washington, Florida, Virginia and New Jersey, numerous municipal and regional transit systems, universities and institutions, and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

After their retirement, John and his partner, Bill, moved back to Providence from Florida. Their return coincided with important legal developments in Rhode Island and nationally. On May 2, 2013, when Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee signed into law a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in the state, John and Bill had been living together for 33 years. The new bill would make it possible to wed legally in Rhode Island beginning on August 1 of that year, but John and Bill didn't wish to wait any longer. On June 14, 2013, they held a civil ceremony on the lawn of the Massachusetts State House, where a Friend from Providence Meeting, Debbie Block, officiated. The following afternoon, they became the first same-sex couple to marry under the care of Providence Meeting. Throughout their many decades together, their mutual devotion and steadfast commitment to one another was an inspiration. Those who wanted lessons in how to love freely, fully, and well could do no better than watch Bill and John.

John was not afraid to push, and push hard, for the causes he believed in. His deep, gravelly voice diminished in volume over the years, but the messages he offered were no less resonant. As a gay, married Quaker and member of NEYM, John objected strenuously to Friends United Meeting's policy against employing openly gay staff. He found NEYM's financial support of FUM to be at odds with Friends' commitment to marriage equality, and he actively protested NEYM's continued relationship with FUM, pressing Providence Meeting to play a greater role in changing NEYM's position on FUM's gender inequality. As the sole wheelchair user at Providence Meeting, he urged the meeting to give serious attention to the inadequacies of our meetinghouse. In response to his request for improved access, a wheelchair-friendly ramp was added to the front entrance and a brick walkway was added to improve access to our lower floor. These additions were necessary, but not sufficient. In the recent meetinghouse expansion, the design of doorways and bathrooms prioritized compliance with ADA Accessibility Guidelines, and thanks to the generosity of a NEYM Legacy Grant, the meetinghouse was finally equipped with an accessible elevator in 2018.

In his service on the Providence Human Relations Commission, the minutes of meetings show the same features of John's leadership and advocacy that Friends heard monthly in meetings: his thorough approach, his sharp ears, his incisive commentary, and his resolve to see problems

named, diagnosed, and addressed. Whether the topic was entrances, elevators, ramps, curbs, corners, doorways, slopes, fare hikes, route maps, response time, usage surveys, or service satisfaction, John insisted that the voices, perspectives, and experiences of the marginalized be a part of every discussion and decision. After John died, the Providence HRC released a statement containing this comment: "Commissioner Gaffney was a true warrior for equality and equity in the City of Providence, whose deep historical knowledge, passion, and leadership on the commission will be missed."

All of us are challenged in where we draw a line between active protest and divine leading. We often wince when reminders of injustices interrupt quiet meditation. But John knew that inaction can be a disability, and though he faced many challenges, passivity was never one of them.

John invested his entire life in the causes he believed in: ensuring the right of all people to love, to marry, to work, to be safely housed, and to move freely through the world. His life and work left an indelible impression not only on those who knew him, but also on the many people who benefited from his advocacy without ever knowing his name. Through love, commitment, discipline, and action, John Gaffney shaped his world for the better and challenged those around him to do likewise. He was a catalyst for human dignity and equality, and we are enriched by his memory.

PROVIDENCE MONTHLY MEETING
SOUTHEAST QUARTERLY MEETING

John Walter Hunter
January 15, 1934 – December 9, 2019



Hanover Friends Meeting mourns the passing and celebrates the life of our beloved member, Jack Hunter, who died December 9, 2019.

Jack was raised a Methodist in Hastings, a close-knit community in the coal-mining region of Pennsylvania. His father left school in sixth grade to support his family. Jack's graduation from college—the first in his family—was a source of pride in a multi-ethnic area where education, religion, and family were highly valued. Jack cherished his roots and loved returning to the area for family visits and reunions.

Jack graduated from Lycoming College, where he majored in psychology and met his future wife, Ruth. Graduate work at Boston University led to a Masters of Divinity, ordination as a United Methodist minister, and a Doctorate in sociology and social ethics. During Jack's graduate study, he and Ruth co-directed an American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) youth work camp in Boston. Following graduate school he taught sociology at Greensboro College in North Carolina and became increasingly engaged in the civil rights movement. While Jack's graduate work introduced him to the Quaker faith, his connections were deepened when in 1967, he and Ruth were hired to be the co-directors of Saltash Mountain Camp, one of the Farm & Wilderness Camps founded by Quaker educators Susan and Kenneth Webb. Introduced to Hanover Friends Meeting by the Webbs, the Hunters quickly became active members. Jack maintained his membership for 52 years until his death.

Hired to work full time for the Farm & Wilderness camps, Jack assisted the Webbs in all aspects of the day-to-day operations. As the founders approached retirement, Jack helped them establish the Farm & Wilderness Foundation, a nonprofit organization to operate the camps, and in 1970 became the first executive director.

When Jack was hired by Sandy Spring Friends School in Maryland in 1977, he began a long and fulfilling career teaching religion and social

ethics in Friends' schools, including John Woolman School in California, Oakwood School in New York, and Westtown School in Pennsylvania.

When Jack retired from Westtown School in 2000, he and Ruth returned to Vermont, where Jack's passion for education and concern for living by his values was evident in his many activities. He was involved in local politics, served as the Farm & Wilderness Foundation archivist, and on boards at Kendal at Hanover, The Meeting School, and Woodstock Union High School Endowment Fund. Jack volunteered at the Woodstock Historical Society, tutored in the local school, taught in the adult education programs at Dartmouth College and in Woodstock, was an enthusiastic participant in Freelance Singers, and enjoyed the arts, gardening, stamp collecting, a good pun, fine chocolate, and the Sunday *New York Times*.

While Jack's participation in religious education committees and vocal ministry were greatly appreciated by Hanover Meeting, it was his special connection to its young people that members found most remarkable. Hanover Meeting remembers with fondness and appreciation Jack's special connection to its young people. Meetings with Young Friends each month allowed him to delve into many topics and ask challenging questions, such as "What is your idea of God?", which would lead to stimulating, thoughtful conversations on spirituality and social justice. His gentle, careful listening encouraged teens to express themselves. His concern for youth extended beyond First Day School. He asked about their lives; they knew how much he cared about them.

Jack was known for his kindness and his cheerful demeanor. At alumni events, even years after he had left an institution where he had worked and taught, former campers, students, colleagues, and staff went out of their way to reconnect with this modest man. Those of us who knew Jack never ceased to be amazed at the way people flocked to his side just to catch a glimpse of his infectious spirit. Jack always made you feel like you were his best friend.

Jack is survived by his wife, Ruth Laura Glazier Hunter; his children John David Hunter and his wife, JoAnn Coates-Hunter; Emily Lucille Hunter and her husband, Mathew Patterson; Edward Allen Hunter, and Amy Elizabeth Hunter, as well as his grandchildren, Sadie Jane Hunter, Samuel Hartt Hunter, Hannah Ruth Hunter Patterson, Iris Montgomery Hunter Patterson, Jordan Tamura Rose, and Margaret Isabel Hunter.

Jack's warm and bright spirit continues to inspire us. We remember Jack with joy and thanksgiving.

HANOVER FRIENDS MEETING

NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

Elise Trowbridge Ford Knapp
July 1, 1924 – October 21, 2018



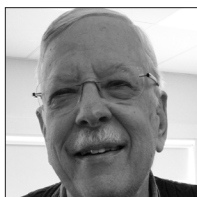
Elise Knapp was a beloved member of New Haven Friends Meeting. She died on October 21, 2018, at age 94, at her home in New Haven, CT. A memorial service was held at our meetinghouse May 11, 2019. Friends remember Elise as someone who took an interest in all attendees and loved keeping in touch with people. She is fondly remembered for making soup for meeting attendees who were recovering from illnesses, and she also volunteered regularly at hospice. She loved poetry and enjoyed sharing poems and discussing literature. When she was in her 80s she wrote a memoir about the house her grandfather built in Sagaponack, Long Island. She worked with meeting member Linda Miller for 10 years to complete this project, which was a real gift to her family. It is illustrated by Linda.

Elise Trowbridge Ford Knapp was born in Honolulu, HI, July 1, 1924, to the late Brigadier General William Wallace Ford and Alice Trowbridge Harris Ford. Following her father's many Army postings, she had attended schools in seven states by the time she entered Duke University in 1940. She married Robert Phineas Knapp Jr. of Manchester, CT, at Fort Sill, OK, in 1943 and moved to New York after the war, where Elise became the first married student at Barnard College. She graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1949. After living 15 years in Port Washington, NY, the family moved to Redding, CT, where Elise remained active in community affairs. She earned a Master's from Western Connecticut State University in 1971 and a PhD in English from Columbia University in 1975. She went on to teach and head the English Department at WCSU for over 20 years. She was a lifelong lover of English literature. Predeceased by her husband in 2000, Elise is the mother of David M. Knapp (Pan), Michal Brownell (Bart), Robert P. Knapp III (Eun Soo) and Frederic H. Knapp (Donald).

Elise is survived by 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

NEW HAVEN MONTHLY MEETING
CONNECTICUT VALLEY QUARTERLY MEETING

Carl Albert Newlin
May 23, 1937 – October 10, 2019



Carl Albert Newlin of New Haven—archivist, artist, poet, illustrator, and teacher of art and art history—died October 10, 2019, at age 82 in hospice care at Yale-New Haven Hospital, following a bout of pneumonia. He was attended by relatives as well as fellow New Haven Friends and the rabbi of Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden. At his death he counted close friends among members of both congregations.

Born in 1937 to Janet and Albert Chauncey Newlin, Carl was the son of a prominent Wall Street tax lawyer who frequently worked with philanthropists to finance projects in the arts and other fields. Brought up in Scarsdale, NY, Carl began his art career at the tender age of 12. He attended the Putney School in Vermont, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (BFA, 1959) and the School of Art and Architecture at Yale University (MFA, 1964).

The youngest of three sons, Carl was originally named after his father. Customarily, it would be the eldest son who would be named for a father, but this exception in Carl's case was not the first. When he was old enough he took the unusual step of changing his name, dropping Chauncey and adding Carl. This example of independent thought and expression was a recurring theme in his life. Baptized Episcopalian and brought to church each week during childhood, Carl later came to deeply admire Japanese Buddhism in adulthood, but ultimately chose to return to Newlin family roots in Quakerism, embracing principles of tolerance and love.

At New Haven meeting, Carl began attending in the 1970s, became a member and was a faithful New Haven Friend in his later years. He was known for speaking eloquently to Friends at meeting for worship and for his feisty Spirit—in spite of growing physical challenges. Whenever he possibly could he was determined to be with Friends in

worship and during fellowship, frequently attending the weekly Bible study group.

New Haven Quakers remember how Carl enjoyed adding to the conversation from his deep knowledge of the Hebrew Bible as well as his extensive training in art history. In addition, he loved to watch all the children enter the meeting showing their natural exuberance for life. Carl also had a special place in his heart for “Boomer,” a Friend’s three-legged golden retriever who, belying his name, was “quiet as a Quaker”—and an exceptionally gentle being.

New Haven was Carl’s chosen home and he chose it deliberately after many travels and cultural immersions across the United States and the world. Carl studied drawing with George Grosz at the Art Students League in New York and drawing and graphics with Gabor Peterdi. He was also apprenticed for two years in the Sugar Loaf, NY, studio of the Swiss surrealist painter, author, and scholar Kurt Seligman. Eager to soak up all the knowledge, wisdom, and skill he could from other artists and cultures, Carl journeyed in 1959 to the Eheiiji Zen Buddhist Monastery near Kanazawa, Japan. There, he studied haiku and calligraphy alongside Japanese master Masitoshi Thenz Konishi.

But his greatest artistic influence had come in 1954 when he met Swiss surrealist Kurt Seligman. Carl’s self-illustrated book, *The Crow and Other Poems*, published by the Boston Book and Art Shop in 1967, paid careful homage to Seligman and Konishi. In typical Carl fashion he also added another personal touch: the book’s introduction was written by his fourth-grade teacher, Helen Lorraine Hultz. Her introduction concluded: “With the crow to guide, enter this domain aware that it testifies to Albert’s belief and faith that Art possesses a universal language with power to join mankind the world around.”

Carl’s father was exceedingly proud of his son’s artistic talent and sought to promote Carl’s work. In the spring of 1980 a retrospective exhibit of Carl’s work was held at Centre College’s Regional Arts Center in Danville, Kentucky, and he spoke about his work at the opening of the month-long exhibit.

Carl also taught art and art history for many years at Albertus Magnus College, Southern Connecticut State University, Yale University and Greater Hartford Community College. During his teaching career he developed a close working relationship with Henri Nouwen, a noted Catholic theologian he met at Yale Divinity School, and they ended up teaching a course together on Van Gogh. In 1971, he received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop an art history of American minorities.

His mid-life brought with it new examinations and freethinking, leading to Carl’s learning Biblical Hebrew and converting to Judaism. On his 50th birthday he celebrated his Bar Mitzvah. It was the begin-

ning of many years of commitment to the Jewish community in New Haven.

Restless for new experiences and challenges, Carl left the safety of a tenured academic position and became archivist of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven. Perhaps his fondest memory at the Jewish Society, he told family members, was the four days he spent with future U.S. Senator Joseph Lieberman researching the Lieberman family's history.

Within the Newlin family Carl held the reputation of possessing an exacting encyclopedic knowledge of known relatives and family events. Ever on the hunt for a chuckle or a good belly laugh, Carl rejoiced in humorously regaling family and friends with stories of family dysfunction and his own folly. He was a sweet, humble man and a gentle soul.

Carl was predeceased by his parents and elder brothers, George and John, and is survived by his three nephews, a niece, two first cousins and the children of those generation—for whom he had great fondness.

A memorial meeting for worship celebrating the life of Carl Newlin in the manner of Friends (Quakers) was held on Sunday, November 3rd, at the meetinghouse of New Haven Monthly Meeting.

NEW HAVEN MONTHLY MEETING
CONNECTICUT VALLEY MEETING

Susan (Sukie) Bellows Rice
November 1, 1945 – July 17, 2020



Susan (Sukie) Rice was born in New Rochelle, New York, on November 1, 1945, to Charles D. and Winifred Rice. She grew up in an old farmhouse in the countryside, about an hour by train from Manhattan. There, her love of music, theater, cats, dogs, and the world of nature took root in the warmth of a loving home. In the 1960s, after earning a BA in psychology at Hiram College, she went to work for an advertising agency in New York City. Simultaneously, she immersed herself in the Morningside Heights Friends Meeting.

The Society of Friends became a lifelong source of strength and inspiration for Sukie. As the Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship grew in importance for her, her work in commercial advertising held less and less allure. In 1969 she left New York City and moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she worked at two Boston area hospitals during the 1970s. Here, she threw herself into a host of nonviolent civil disobedience actions against the Vietnam War, some of which led to her arrest, and one to a couple of weeks in jail. As the Vietnam War was ending, she joined the staff of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). There, she allied AFSC with the anti-nuclear Clamshell Alliance and helped train protesters and organize successive nonviolent occupations of the construction site of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant.

In 1971 Sukie met and fell in love with Lee Chisolm. Later, they would acknowledge to each other that it was indeed love at first sight. Through Lee she was introduced to Anthroposophy, the spiritual philosophy and teachings of Rudolph Steiner. From that seed, planted early in her consciousness and cultivated through study motivated by her deep love and admiration for Lee, together they formed a shared spiritual path. Steiner's teachings came to be the cord that strengthened and infused their lives as a couple and produced meaning and purpose in their work together in the world. Anthroposophy, along with Quaker faith and practice, became

the foundation from which Sukie grew in spirit and presence. And in Lee's own words, "she drew ideas from the ozone. She was a natural conduit for spiritual inspiration."

In the late 1970s Sukie and Lee moved to Maine, where Sukie joined the Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends in 1979. In the 1980s Sukie and Lee moved to Freeport, where they started a family. When their first child, Adam, was not quite three, Sukie and Lee resolved to start a Waldorf School. For the next several years, Sukie worked indefatigably. She held informational and fundraising events, pulling together a nucleus of founding parents, a teacher, and eventually a class. What began as a little kindergarten of a dozen students continues today as a mature K-through-12 school known as the Maine Coast Waldorf School.

As her children grew older, Sukie enrolled in the University of Southern Maine in the 1990s for a degree in music education, and for the next 20 years she was a full time K-through-5 music teacher in the Portland Public Schools. She also acted with the Freeport Community Players, later becoming their musical director. In this role, she worked on a handful of plays and annual performances of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* for seven years. Stepping away from the Freeport Community Players, Sukie next founded the Greater Freeport Community Chorus, which she directed for six years.

Sukie was an active member of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends for four decades. She served the meeting in a variety of roles over the years, sometimes wearing multiple hats. For many years she was the music director for the meeting's annual Christmas and Easter choirs. She also served on Ministry and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns, and Finance committees, and as both recording clerk and presiding clerk.

In 2001 Sukie was inspired by a small group of Quaker women from Kenya who were providing a feeding program to AIDS orphans in their community of Kakamega. Sukie volunteered her time extensively to support this program, ultimately founding Friends of Kakamega, a New England-based program that partners with its Kenyan counterparts to support their grassroots mission. Through her work with Friends of Kakamega, Sukie spent the last two decades of her life helping to support the wellbeing and education of vulnerable children in western Kenya, giving hope to hundreds of young Africans. True to her character, she grew to know, love, and individually connect with both the children served by the project and the Americans who embraced the opportunity that Sukie gave them to help. Her son John has continued that work at the Kakamega Care Center.

Trailblazer that she was, later in life Sukie also devoted time to exploring the topic of death and dying and the spiritual journey of the soul during this final passage. This in turn led her to the next frontier of green burial for herself as well as others. With the assistance of family, close friends, and members of the Durham Friends Meeting, she realized her

desire to be buried in this manner and so opened the way for others to follow in the newly dedicated lot for green burials in the Lunt Cemetery.

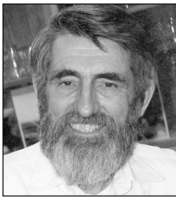
Sukie's great energy, compassion, and integrity guided her life in remarkable ways. As one Friend described her so well, "Sukie has been the spark and flame of a better life for so many." While her work and life were always filled with purpose and encouragement, particularly memorable was her joy. Sukie asked us to remember her joy. We do, Sukie. We surely do.

Sukie passed from this life on July 17, 2020. She is survived by her husband, Lee Chisholm, and sons Adam, Ian, and John Chisholm.

DURHAM MONTHLY MEETING

FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING

Rudolf Siegfried Scheltema
(May 27, 1926 – August 5, 2019)



Coming out of WWII as a foot soldier and newly convinced pacifist, Rudolf Scheltema pursued his love of biology through graduate school. While finishing his PhD, he fell in love with Amelie Haines while they were both doing initial graduate work at Harvard. They would discover the Society of Friends together, as well as a way of life dedicated not only to scientific truth but also the holy perspective of being and doing good gently in the world.

In the mid-sixties, the West Falmouth Preparative Meeting of Sandwich Monthly Meeting had resumed unprogrammed meeting for worship year round without a pastor. Rudolf and Amelie now had two boys to raise and Rudolf had acquired a position at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution studying planktonic larvae. They had been attending the Falmouth Unitarian Universalist meeting, which at the time was sharing the meetinghouse with the much smaller Friends meeting. Once they discovered Sandwich Monthly meeting, Rudolf and Amelie joined without hesitation. Quaker pacifism and the active commitment to a life of nonviolence and justice was compelling to Rudolf. Also the silent form of worship, where personal responsibility, modesty of expression, and communal support represented the most valid expression of a religious life for him. This became the foundation for the rest of his life, often referred to in conversations with him where religion was a topic.

Quakerism nurtured the whole person for Rudolf. Not only was he a scientist, he was also his own illustrator for his papers. His work included, for him, the necessary component of teaching others. Love for the arts, love for learning, pushed the violent and authoritarian experiences of his youth away from him as a regretted and damaging period. Having experienced what war does to everyone, Rudolf was often involved in counter-recruitment visits to local schools, draft counseling, and peaceful protests. He was also a longtime supporter and member of veterans for peace movements, except when the fact of being a veteran became

a badge of honor and authority. Then his modesty and reason made him step back. For many years he and Amelie sponsored the Veterans for Peace Poetry Contest on Cape Cod, giving voice and encouragement to young people in the schools, and to older voices often marginalized or muffled by a public society obsessed with patriotism and military “service.” However, he rarely if ever made himself the center of a rational critique of war and violence. He felt that good, comprehensive reasons would have weight that other rational people would see and be able to own for themselves. The fact that he was present as a committed Friend made the point more finally than any words could.

When Rudolf traveled in the interests of science, he and Amelie would attend Friends meetings all over the globe. They made lifelong friends among Friends everywhere they went. When he and Amelie sponsored weekly Bible studies (Sharman’s book on synoptic gospel records), they would bring pikelets** as a snack, having learned how to make them from scientific and Quaker sojourns in Australia. Their travels brought a cosmopolitan perspective to the West Falmouth meeting, partly because it seemed natural to Rudolf to share time with Friends wherever they went, thus connecting disparate places and experiences. For Rudolf, the worship discipline of the silent meeting was universally understandable and communicative.

Born in 1926 to a Dutch-American family, Rudolf was brought up bilingual. His father was a research librarian for the Library of Congress. He went to war at 18, became a convinced Friend at 40, lived his entire life as a research scientist (even coining a term that is part of the science lexicon, “teleplanic” or far-wandering, to help describe planktonic movement in the oceans), gave himself over to human generosity and scientific rigor, and died on 5 August (eighth month) 2019, at home with his children and grandchildren in attendance.

SANDWICH MONTHLY MEETING
SANDWICH QUARTERLY MEETING

**A type of pancake

Katherine Stillman
October 5, 1943 – July 20, 2020



Katherine Stillman moved to Wellfleet in 1972 and became a member of Sandwich Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends on April 7, 1996. She attended Yarmouth Preparative Meeting, where she took on many roles, including once serving as clerk. She also hosted a midweek worship at her home under the care of Yarmouth Preparative Meeting.

Always sociable, Katherine's home was forever open, whether it be for conversation, companionship, to share a delightful meal, or to simply sit and savor the marsh that abutted her property.

Katherine loved to travel. Two of her many trips included traveling with Quaker Friends to Italy and to India and, as a young woman, taking a month-long trek in the Himalayas. If a Friend needed a traveling companion, Katherine was always willing and ready to accompany. Katherine was a member of Common Voices, a women's a cappella singing group. Friends who attended the concerts always made it a point to connect with Katherine at the receptions following the performances. Katherine's community involvement included serving as chair of the Wellfleet Library Development Committee.

Katherine was a potter with extensive training. Her repertoire included techniques learned from Acoma Tribe artisans in New Mexico. In her potting shed and shop, Katherine had a small tin where people could leave money for their purchase with a note stating, "If you are in need of money please take some." In 1988 the Wellfleet Public Library interviewed Katherine, captured in a documentary titled, "Katherine Stillman, The Potter."

Potting was not her only trade. At various times, Katherine taught at a school for children with special needs, created pastries for a local restaurant, and worked as an outreach coordinator for the Truro Council on Aging.

Katherine remained active in the meeting until her health declined. She died on July 20, 2020, at the age of 76, and will be remembered with

love by those Friends who experienced her quiet presence in Quaker meeting and her great joy for life.

SANDWICH MONTHLY MEETING

SALEM QUARTERLY MEETING

Note: Some information for this memorial minute was published in The Cape Codder Dec. 19–31, 2020, issue.

Edward Franklin Turco
March 23, 1945 – March 28, 2021



Truly a Renaissance man, Edward Franklin Turco lived a full and well examined life. He was voraciously interested in this world and the universe beyond, but also delved into the workings of the human mind. He shared those passions with his wife of 40 years, Denise (Prive) Turco. She was constant in her support of him and his unique talents and keen intellect and together they were never at a loss for conversation about their learnings and wonderings. Ed creatively charted his own path in life and from this world. Edward, at 76 years of age, passed away peacefully with his wife by his side at their home in Lincoln, Rhode Island, on March 28, 2021.

Born in Providence, Rhode Island, on March 23, 1945, he was a son of the late Alfred and Delia (DiMeo) Turco. In this family of Italian-American heritage, Ed spent his youth in Warwick and Cranston and later resided in Lincoln for many years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son David Bernard Greene Turco and his wife, Lisa, of Cumberland; his granddaughter Emma Rose Turco, also of Cumberland; his brother Alfred Turco and his companion Maureen O'Dougherty of Portland, CT; niece Ellen Schell, and nephew Jeffrey Turco.

Edward graduated from Brown University with a Bachelor's degree in anthropology in 1967 and a Master's degree in English in 1971 and later in life pursued course work in mathematics. He worked at the Brown University Mail Services after graduation and held various jobs before he moved to the United States Postal Service, where he was promoted to the engineering technical unit working with computer software applications, as he was a self-taught programmer. As an adjunct professor in English at the Community College of Rhode Island and as a substitute teacher in secondary schools in the late '90s and early 2000s, Ed was a notable success with students, even if not with bureaucratic administrators.

A meticulous craftsman and a scholar, Ed read widely and was fascinated by the world of numbers and scientific observation. Precision was Ed's

thing. And he held strong opinions about things he cared deeply about. Astronomy was his lifelong hobby and passion. He was intrigued by the planets, stars, meteors, constellations, comets, and especially eclipses. His interest with telescopes began when at 13 he received a telescope as a gift and became so fascinated that he wanted another. His father said he could only have a second if he made it himself, and so he did. And continued making ever-more-precise and aesthetically beautiful ones from his early teens onward. Avidly pursuing his interests in high school, he represented Rhode Island in the National Science Fair in his junior year at Cranston West. He was a life-long member of Skyscrapers Astronomical Society in Scituate, Rhode Island, joining in 1961 when he was just 16 years old. Ed gave many talks for the organization, wrote articles often for the Society's publications, and shared his knowledge of telescope-making informally and in formal workshops for many people over the years.

With two high-school friends he started RI Meteor Research Organization (RIMRO) and their observing data was sent to the American Meteor Society. Ed was a contributor to the magazines *Sky and Telescope* and *Amateur Astronomy* and continued to publish regularly. More than 50 years later, he titled his last piece "The Definitive Newtonian Reflector"—a monograph-length technical essay published on CloudyNights.com

When Ed met his future wife, Denise, he wanted her to appreciate his passion for sky-gazing and for crafting fine instrument telescopes. He extended a challenge to her when they were dating, asking her to build one. It was typical of Ed that the plan for it was completely unusual. Made of a bowling ball with coffee cans for the lens tube, a coat rack as its stand, the swivel mount made from a piano caster cup, and a handle fashioned from a porcelain door knob, the telescope nonetheless was a working instrument. Denise fortunately passed the test and they were married on February 14, 1981. Together they raised their son David, who today owns and runs a local landscaping business.

In his home, Ed constructed instruments that were works of art—each requiring daunting microsurgical labor—grinding and polishing mirrors, constructing tripods and (along with much else) crafting the tubes, ranging from fine woods to brightly painted composite materials. Ed was an inventor as well as an exacting, highly skilled craftsman, pushing his expertise into new realms; for example, with the creation of a projector-kaleidoscope made of fine brass, a present for his wife's birthday.

Not a scanner of the skies only, Ed had other enthusiasms as well. He was a pipe-smoking inveterate collector of all sorts of things—of coins, of stamps, of stones, of shells, even old radios. An autodidact, he became interested in chaos theory and, combining his love of music and mathematics, he wrote a computer program that generated compositions of chaos-created music which brought him to the attention of the chairman

of Brown University's Mathematics Department. He was impressed with Ed's work and deeply appreciative of the originality of his explorations.

A lover of both Classical and contemporary music, Ed had a keen appreciation for the life and creative work of the Russian composer and conductor Sergei Rachmaninoff, whose gravesite in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, New York, he and Denise visited and where he specially played a recording of one of his favorites of the artist's compositions, *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*.

It was Ed's love of history that brought him in mid-life to the Saylesville Quaker Meeting along the Great Road in Lincoln for the Christmas Eve candlelit worship in 2000. He was drawn to the early 18th-century building and immediately noted the need for significant repairs. While by temperament skeptical, in mid-life Ed began reading deeply about the Religious Society of Friends and a year later became a Quaker, explaining that he liked the Sunday sermons at the meetinghouse—meaning that there weren't any. Being able to help drew Ed in and he spent months rehabilitating the meetinghouse, making improvements that extended from restoring small interior details to repainting interior walls that had begun to flake, to adding a built-in bookshelf and organizing the basement workshop area. He was a faithful attender and dedicated himself to service to the meeting for as long as he was able. A hybrid memorial service for him was held there, both in-person and online, on May 1, 2021.

While he never achieved the stable teaching career that he desired, he was ultimately an educator through and through. Ed worked both formally and informally with students on those subjects that fascinated him. The physical challenges of advanced rheumatoid arthritis limited his mobility in recent years but led him to reach out in new ways to communicate those passions with others. When he became housebound, he continued his mentoring and teaching via the internet.

Ed's brother, Al Turco, in his comments at the memorial service, closed with this:

"In his own way, Ed could be a tough customer. He claimed that he did not suffer fools gladly, and thought he had seen quite a few of them. He felt that his achievements were neglected by persons who should have known better. But if he overestimated the extent to which he was ignored by some, he underestimated the esteem with which he was held by others.

"All in all, my brother was a creature of confident doubt. While uncertain that the emergence of life on planet earth was a good thing, he never ceased to value the good things in life. For this reason, among others, Ed Turco will be much missed but well remembered by all of us, because he has become an irreplaceable part of our own lives."

PROVIDENCE MONTHLY MEETING
SOUTHEAST QUARTERLY MEETING

Ronald Earle Wain
May 10, 1950 – December 18, 2020



The Lord saw fit to introduce Ronald Earle Wain to this world on May 10, 1950. He came to us in humble status, never boastful or with self-centered ego, a man who touched the lives of others in his own unique way. He was a blessing to, and blessed by, those whose lives he touched in his earthly presence.

Life held many challenges and lessons for this treasured soul, and he met them head-on and grew into the person who practiced kindness and faith and love and fortitude in many endeavors. Ron was known for his sense of humor, a helping hand, the willingness to reach beyond a given moment. He was dedicated to family and his callings in life, a man who saw a need or an opportunity for better in this world.

Ron's work-a-day world was met with persistence. His outreach was expansive, for he not only held a job at Central Maine Power as a control-room operator for many years, retiring with dignity, but was a loving family man, a caring neighbor, a faithful friend, and a godly example to fellow beings in his own special way. He met community needs as in leading efforts to support the local family services center. He gave of his time and energy to the greater community in helpful ways like assisting when needed in the service of our local police and fire departments; he performed tax services for many friends and others and would not accept any payment. He and Sandy opened their home for many years to fundraisers for those in need, such as cancer victims or someone who lost their home in a fire. During the holidays their yard was a Christmas wonderland, where the only price of admission was a donation of food for the Windham Food Pantry.

Ron was always willing to lend a hand in his faith community, whether it meant delivering a message of the Spirit in meeting for worship or in manual labors for upkeep of the meetinghouse and, grounds or by participating in suppers, fairs, or yard sales as well as helping to organize a "get acquainted with Friends Meeting" venue which introduced folks un-

familiar with Windham's Quaker meeting to its history and ways; he also assisted our treasurer so she could spend time with her family in Florida, and he was always a welcoming presence when guests came by. Ron and his beloved wife of 40 years, Sandy, were married at Windham Friends and have been an active part of the life fabric of this Meeting for decades.

Ron was called to his heavenly home on December 18, 2020, and he will be deeply missed here, welcomed there, and reunited with his fellow acquaintances in times to come. We can thank God for all His promises as well as His blessings, for we know as the Good Book says, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." (Ps. 115:15) And we know there will come the fulfillment of Christ's words in John 14:2,3 that we, as believers, can look forward to eternal life because Jesus promised it.

God has blessed Ron's family, his friends and neighbors, the Windham Community, and his faith community as well, for the privilege of knowing him, interacting with him, and seeing an example of goodness through him. For all that, we are thankful for the time we shared here. Thank you Ron!

WINDHAM MONTHLY MEETING
FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING

Margery Swett Walker
April 14, 1926 – June 12, 2019



Even as we are filled with echoes of her warmth and memories of her laughter, our hearts are broken at Margery Walker's passing. One Friend remembered Margery with an "acute mind, broad experience, warm smile, firm grounding. Margery gave the gift of affirmation for our ... journeys ..., the gust that blows wind in the sails and lends lightness to the foot."

One of nine children, Margery grew up in the Midwest surrounded by her extended family, and she carried that sense of family through her entire life. Whoever spent time with her felt that familial embrace. When she smiled, Margery made you feel you were the best possible version of yourself. She shone with grace and love, and grace and love would grow inside you, reflected in her presence.

Margery and with her beloved husband Alan were searchers; they found Friends together in the early 1950s and they made their spiritual home amongst us, active in the life of Friends' meetings wherever they were living: Anchorage, Alaska; Ann Arbor Michigan; Hanover, New Hampshire; Madison, Wisconsin; Richmond, Indiana; as well as Plainfield, Vermont. Writing of a hanging in our Plainfield meetinghouse, Margery reflected, "[I] was drawn to the Society of Friends, Quakers, by this compelling witness to the inherent Good at the heart of creation—the creative force itself residing in every part of creation, universal and personal It is clear that we shall have to work together to bring about the mantle of Light."

Margery lived a life of service both within and outside of the Religious Society of Friends. She was a founding member of Plainfield Monthly Meeting, shepherding it from its beginnings as a worship group under the care of Burlington Monthly Meeting, and then after her retirement helping the meeting build a home in Plainfield. In Lima, Peru, she and Alan worked side by side with young Peruvians in the *barriadas* (shantytowns) as part of an American Friends Service Committee project (1963–1965). She served as the regional director of the Community College of Vermont

(1973–1978) and the dean of rural education for the University of Alaska (1978–1986).

Margery was the director of Pendle Hill (1986–1991) and then on its board until 2000. Margery was deeply involved in the Religious Society of Friends. She sat on the board of the American Friends Service Committee, as well as on the boards of the Quaker United Nations Office, Friends United Meeting, and Friends Committee for National Legislation. In the broader community, her involvement included the Vermont Ecumenical Council, Planned Parenthood, Washington County United Way, and Washington County Mental Health. She was active with the Democratic Party and worked for restorative justice in central Vermont.

Margery lived a life of ministry through her words, her actions, and her counsel. Many thought of her quiet activism and servant leadership as a Quaker ideal. Her ministry during worship expanded and uplifted our understanding. She was active in all aspects of the life of Plainfield Monthly Meeting, Northwest Quarterly Meeting, and New England Yearly Meeting, including serving as recording clerk (1972–1975). She used these many gifts when she served as chair of the board at Kendal-at-Hanover. And, while her life was punctuated by many accomplishments and honors, she never spoke of them. Many of us didn't learn of them until her passing, when we read her autobiography, *The Treasures in One Another, a Memoir*.

Friends have fond memories of annual summer picnics at the Walker family home on Groton Pond. Lazy afternoons of potluck lunches, warm sunshine on uplifted faces, and cool water during dips in the pond. All covered with Margery's graciousness and Light.

Margery is survived by her five children, eleven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and all of us who find ourselves richer in Spirit for having walked with her.

... *Because they stand,
Talking, taking pleasure in others,
with their hands on the shoulders of strangers and the shoulders of
each other.
Because you don't have to tell them to walk toward the light...****

Margery nurtured. She held us steady when the way forward was rocky and celebrated as we walked God's path. We were challenged and shielded by her. We are so blessed.

PLAINFIELD MONTHLY MEETING
NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

***"Ode to the Joyful Ones" by Thomas Lux from *To the Left of Time*.
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016.

Meredith (Marty) Walton
June 30, 1936 – June 11, 2020



Marty (Meredith) Walton died June 11, 2020, surrounded by her family and her life partner of 31 years, Linda Lyman. Marty died just a few days short of her 84th birthday (June 30). She was a lifelong Quaker, served on numerous committees, attended many gatherings, and developed countless deep friendships with Quaker connections. Marty's combination of business experience and her volunteer work with committees of Friends General Conference led to her position with FGC as general secretary (1986–1992). During that time, Marty improved FGC's organizational structure and widened its communication focus.

Marty graduated from Earlham College with a BA in geology in 1958. She retained her fascination for geology and nature throughout her life and shared that fascination with friends and family. In college, she met Wayne Vinson and they married the year of her graduation. They had four children together, before a friendly divorce in 1976. In addition to Linda Lyman, Marty is survived by her four children and their spouses, and seven grandchildren.

Marty came from a family with strong Quaker roots. Her mother was one of five Walton sisters who lived on the George School campus with their parents, where their father, George, was head of school in addition to being very active with the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

One of Marty and Linda's projects was to document the Walton sisters' history through taped interviews with the two remaining sisters and all of the living children. Linda did the interviewing and Marty did the transcribing. Marty didn't get the next steps of editing and book publishing fully accomplished before her death, but the many Zoom family conferences her last several months around the family history were a source of strength to the extended family and to Marty.

Marty was a founding member of the Association of Personal Historians (APH), and went on to become its treasurer and its operations manager.

And APH has sponsored a memorial bench to be placed in Marty's memory at the Laudholm Farm in Wells, Maine.

Throughout her life, Marty was active in social justice issues, both within a Quaker framework and beyond. She volunteered for various political campaigns for candidates with similar convictions. And after moving to Springvale, she found more avenues for service and another comfortable spiritual home in the Sanford UU church.

On a personal note, Marty is fondly remembered for her warm, welcoming smile, which she shared even as her health challenges increased. She always had a way of listening to you that made you feel like you were the only other person in the room. She listened non-judgmentally and saw the good in others. Marty maintained a life-long connection with the natural world which she shared with others. Indeed, the world of nature outside her window sustained her during the final part of her journey. No matter her challenges, she was always appreciative of others and of the simple joys of life. Our memories of her are cherished, and she is missed.

SOUTHERN MAINE FRIENDS MEETING

FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING

Theodora (Dody) Elkinton Waring
March 7, 1927 – August 23, 2020



Dody (Theodora) Elkinton Waring died peacefully on August 23, 2020, aged 93, at the home of her daughter in Brunswick, Maine. A member of Putney Friends Meeting in Vermont since 2015, she was a longtime and beloved member of Wellesley Friends Meeting, going back to its very beginning.

Dody and her husband Tom were among the Friends who began worshipping at Tenacre School in 1957 and then became members of the newly formed monthly meeting when it was founded in 1958.

Over the decades, Dody contributed to Wellesley Meeting in numerous ways. She served many times on Ministry and Counsel, was on Hospitality, Nominating, and Religious Education Committees, and also was our recording clerk. She rarely failed to attend meeting for business, expressing her ideas with passion and thoughtful attention to Quaker testimonies. Dody was among the first to give a warm welcome to newcomers and her ministry was heartfelt and memorable, often containing quotes from the Bible.

Already in her eighties when she moved to Brattleboro, Dody quickly became integral to the life of Putney Meeting. She served on the Fellowship Committee and the Adult Religious Education Committee, as well as on a few clearness committees.

Dody spoke often in meeting, and her simple messages touched many members and attenders. Her vocal ministry touched on both thanksgiving and supplication.

She spoke of Friends here and abroad. As part of her ministry she shared both the hardships and joys in her life.

Dody was active in New England Yearly Meeting, attending Sessions as long as she was able, and serving on Yearly Meeting Ministry and Counsel, Moses Brown School Board, and Correspondence Committees. In addition, she gave workshops and was a worship-sharing leader several times.

After moving to Brattleboro, Vermont, in 2012, she transferred her membership to Putney Friends Meeting, where she quickly became a treasured Friend.

Dody was born Theodora Elkinton to an old Quaker family in Germantown, Pennsylvania, a community in north Philadelphia. With the exception of one year, she attended Germantown Friends School, as her mother and grandmother had before her. In 1938 her parents were doing Quaker work in Berlin, so Dody and her older brother spent her seventh-grade year in the Netherlands at a school specifically for German-Jewish children who had been unable to attend school at home during those years due to Nazi anti-Semitic regulations. This experience left an indelible mark on her and the rest of her family. Dody spent summers during her teen years at Quaker work camps.

Dody attended Smith College for two years, and in 1946 she married Tom Waring, who was also from a Quaker family in Germantown. In their first summer together, the newlyweds joined a work crew and boarded a ship to Finland, where they built houses and distributed relief supplies to Finnish families who had been displaced by the Russian invasion during the war.

Back in the United States, Dody focused on raising their five children, serving meals daily for seven (or more, with frequent guests!) with aplomb.

After living in Denver and Doylestown, Pennsylvania, they settled in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Tom became the Headmaster of the newly founded Cambridge Friends School. Dody created and ran the library at Cambridge Friends School, where her love of children's books and gift for reading aloud shone. During this time she finished college, graduating from Simmons with a BA in 1971, and then an MEd from Lesley in 1972.

Dody and Tom bought land next to Barvel Pond in New Hampshire (near Squam Lake) and spent many weekends and summers building cabins and enjoying rustic wilderness life. Dody continued to go there into her eighties. She delighted in the natural world throughout her life.

Dody described herself as not a particularly devout child, taking her Quakerism for granted. But when visiting her daughter at Earlham College in 1972, she had a profound spiritual experience, what she called a "baptism of the Holy Spirit." She felt that she now had a personal relationship with God. This influenced her to go to divinity school, though she knew she could never leave Quakerism, nor did she want to have a church of her own. She says she changed from nominal to serious Quakerism. She received a Master of Divinity degree at Harvard Divinity School, and a Doctorate in ministry at Boston University.

After getting divorced in 1979, and once her children were grown, the next part of Dody's adult life was full of accomplishments. She worked, traveled, and found ways to serve, as her parents had done before her.

Later she moved to Newton, Massachusetts. She worked as a hospital chaplain at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston for 15 years, until her retirement in 1993.

During this time, she served for three consecutive terms as the first woman elected president of the National Association of Hospital Chaplains. After her retirement she continued to conduct marriages, funerals, and baptisms, allowing her to offer guidance and love for many people with no religious connections. Dody had a warm and outgoing nature, loved to laugh, and with older family members or Friends she continued to use the plain language (“thee” and “thy”).

Dody was a life-long learner and traveled widely after her retirement, usually combining travel with service. Examples of her trips were a Biblical Archeological Dig in Israel, Habitat for Humanity building projects in Georgia and Alaska, and a medical mission to Ecuador, which gave her a chance to visit Machu Picchu, Peru, a life-long dream. For many years, Dody was also a faithful participant in Boston’s “Walk for Hunger,” raising money and walking miles in support of impoverished people. She was high-spirited and energetic, befriended people, and told her stories wherever she went. She valued her friendships and maintained connections through letters and visits.

At age 76 she wrote her memoir, *A Sacred Trust*, chronicling the long history of Quaker service and faith in her family since 1816. In her eighties, as an active and involved mother and grandmother, she was a terrific role model and beloved in her family. She is survived by her children, Christopher, Kitty, Nat, Abigail, and Lydia, 17 grandchildren, and 42 great-grandchildren.

Her favorite quotation was from the Bible, Psalm 91:1-2: “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, ‘My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust’.”

PUTNEY MONTHLY MEETING

NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

Phyllis May Curtis White Wetherell

May 11, 1936 – April 25, 2020



Phyllis Wetherell was born in 1936 in Portland, Maine, the first child of John and Mary Curtis. She grew up in Durham Friends Meeting and remained a member here all her life—one of our many beloved members of the family Curtis. With many friends in both communities, she oscillated between Durham, Maine, and Richmond, Indiana all her life.

After her first husband, Ira Donald White, and her daughter, Lisa, passed away, she married David Wetherell, the pastor of Durham Friends. They moved to Richmond, Indiana so that David could attend the Earlham School of Religion. After David graduated, they moved to Bar Harbor, where Phyllis and David helped start Acadia Friends Meeting. About a decade later they moved back to Richmond, Indiana.

Phyllis became receptionist/secretary at the Earlham School of Religion, a position she held for 15 years, from 1985 to 2000. Hers was the first face that prospective students, faculty, and staff encountered. She welcomed them and treated them graciously and with a kindness that came from her heart. Phyllis always believed she had “the best seat in the house” at the front desk at ESR. She wrote:

“What an education to listen to people wrestling out loud about their beliefs or lack of beliefs, to see the profound impact a feisty professor has on someone who finally sees and feels the Light, to watch as a programmed Quaker meets head-on an unprogrammed Quaker, when neither one knows anything of the other’s practices. Do you know how exciting it is to listen to folk trying to sort out their beliefs and try and figure out where those beliefs will lead them?”

David passed away in 1990. When Phyllis retired from ESR she came again to live among us in Maine, and then returned to Friends Fellowship in Richmond, Indiana, in 2013 for the last seven years of her life. We were always glad to see her when she came back to Durham Friends.

A bright presence in all places and seasons, Phyllis will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her children Susan, Linda, and David John; her sister Charlotte Ann, brother Johnny, and stepdaughter Lynne. Her grandchildren that will carry on all she taught them: Hickory, Ryder, Rossy, Marjorie, Korey, Brandon, Ashton, Nate and Genesee. So, too, her great-grandchildren: Jack, Mason, Max, Samuel, Lumen, and (due in July), Sawyer. Those already passed on include her parents John and Mary Curtis, brother David, daughter Lisa, and the two loves of her life, husbands Donny and David.

Phyllis passed from this life in Richmond on April 25, 2020. Celebrations of her life will be in Richmond, Indiana, and Durham, Maine, later in the year.

DURHAM FRIENDS MEETING

FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING

Edith Mary Whitehead
May 22, 1923 – April 18, 2020



Edie Whitehead died from natural causes, Saturday, April 18, 2020, at Horizons Living and Rehab Center, Brunswick, Maine, just a month before her 97th birthday.

Edie Mary Lamb was born on May 22, 1923, in Dublin, Ireland, the youngest of three children. After training as a physical therapist, she came to the United States to care for a cousin. She met Macy Whitehead in Phippsburg through a mutual friend, Albert Bailey, and they were married on April 22, 1952, in the manner of Friends at the Quaker meeting in Westtown, in West Chester, Pennsylvania. They shared a commitment to each other, family, and community for 60 wonderful years, raising four children and numerous dogs, cat, and horses. Throughout their lives, they stayed rooted to the simple things.

Her husband's various positions as an ordained minister took them to South Portland (1955–60); Eagle Butte, South Dakota (1960–73); and Kent, Connecticut (1973-78). From Connecticut, they moved to New York while Macy earned a pastoral counseling degree, and Edie supported her family by working in a hospital. In 1982 they moved to Bath, Maine.

She and Macy started attending Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends after they moved to Maine, and after several years among us became a member in 2000. She was active in USFW and in the Durham Friends Woman's Society. We at Durham knew her as an active member who was knowledgeable about Quaker history and the Bible. She had an infectious smile, a wry sense of humor (sometimes irreverent), loved to engage in conversation, and was not afraid to challenge people.

Edie took hostessing very seriously, and put on a spread of food that was delicious, and also beautifully presented, with every detail attended to carefully. Her dishes, the doilies, the little knife for spreading, and of course flowers, were all perfectly arranged. She delighted in doing it and wanted people to remember her for it. Edie was an avid quilter and mem-

ber of Kaleidoscope Quilt Guild in West Bath for many years. She loved to quilt and shared this gift of hers with the women at Durham Meeting.

She and Macy shared a family camp in Brightwater, which is a summer colony in Phippsburg, and they would hold worship time with family and friends in their summer community which included many hymn sings. Edie is survived by her family: Deirdre, Harris, Heather (Philip), and Tom; Camilla and Carla; five grandchildren, Celia, Kai, Sam, Bevan, and Lionel; and a large extended Irish family.

Edie was a gracious, welcoming and loving person. She was fun to be around—always full of good ideas and projects needing doing. She had a beautiful singing voice and was a creative, talented fabric artist. Her working years involved helping people in need or in creating something beautiful. Her twinkling eyes and capable hands will be sorely missed.

DURHAM FRIENDS MEETING

FALMOUTH QUARTERLY MEETING



**NEW ENGLAND
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