

MARY (MOLLY) SUTTON WARD
4/16/28 - 10/17/92

The Alexandria Monthly Meeting and the Friends Meeting of Washington share with Leonard Ward and family the loss of Mary (Molly) Sutton Ward, who passed away on October 17, 1992, at Friends Nursing Home in Sandy Spring. Molly was a member of both Meetings. In addition to her husband Leonard, Molly is survived by two children, Kevin William Ward and Nancylynn Ward, a brother, Robert F. Sutton, and a sister, Jean E. Winder.

Molly was born in Washington, District of Columbia, the daughter of Don and Harriet Sutton. Molly attended Western High School in Washington and graduated in 1947 from Olney Friends School in Barnesville, Ohio. She later attended Abbott Art School in Washington. Molly raised her family in Bethesda.

Molly was one of the charter members of the Friends Meeting of Washington at Florida Avenue. She had attended the Eye Street Meeting in Washington, and she participated with her family in the historic walk from the old Eye Street Meeting to the Florida Avenue Meeting. She, and later her children, attended Friends Meeting of Washington for many years.

Molly was very active at Alexandria Meeting over the years. She served as a trustee, was on the Ministry & Oversight Committee, engaged in Bible study, and is remembered for her interest in youth and camping activities. Molly served for several years as Alexandria's representative at Baltimore Yearly Meeting Representatives Meeting. She supported Baltimore Yearly Meeting in many ways, working at the annual sessions and serving on the Nominating and Supervisory Committees. Molly also was on the Central Committee of the Friends General Conference. With her family, she attended or visited many area Meetings, including Adelphi, Bethesda, Langley Hill and Friendship Worship Group.

Over the years, few did more than Molly to keep the Alexandria Meeting in touch with its center and roots. She was a mainstay of business meetings and committees such as Ministry & Oversight, where her sense of stability and purpose and her ability to listen and provide counsel were invaluable to the proper order of the Meeting. Molly learned American Sign Language, to the great benefit of her daughter and family and many others. She was a talented artist and did a great deal of sketching. Her pen and ink drawing of the Woodlawn Meetinghouse has been used on Alexandria Meeting notepaper for years.

Molly created topographic maps and edited computer-produced maps for the U.S. Geological Survey, from which she retired in 1990 after more than 20 years. She also worked at the Defense Mapping Agency and in private firms.

To her family and many friends within the Alexandria Meeting, the Friends Meeting of Washington, and elsewhere, Molly is remembered as one who lived a simple life in devotion to those around her. She addressed our concerns forthrightly, reflecting her genuine love for the Religious Society of Friends. Molly is deeply missed but will remain part of our Meetings and of the lives of all whom she touched.