

PAUL HERBERT STICKNEY
October 14, 1925 - November 11, 1993

Paul Herbert Stickney, son of Irving and Edna May Stickney, was born on October 14, 1925 and grew up in the Bronx, New York City; he attended the Bronx High School of Science. Friends became acquainted with Paul in Washington in the 1940's when he was active in All Souls Church and the International Student House on R Street, as well as a supporter of social justice concerns. Paul joined Friends Meeting of Washington in 1969 and resigned in 1973. In 1976 he joined Adelphi Monthly meeting and in 1985 transferred his membership back once again to Friends Meeting of Washington.

All his life Paul expressed his passionate desire for justice by giving his time and talents to groups such as his Monthly Meeting, to Baltimore Yearly Meeting as well as to other organizations involved in peace and social justice. He was a member of the Congress of Racial Equality and went South to register Black voters in Louisiana in the 1940s. Later he became acquainted with many leaders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and took part in demonstrations. Many Friends remember standing with him in 1963 to hear Martin Luther King proclaim, "I have a dream . . ." Dogged in his position to the Vietnam War, he marched, stood in vigils at the Capitol week after week, and was arrested on more than one occasion. Friends who knew Paul remember him speaking out time after time for something he felt was right. His willingness to witness, which sometimes made him temporarily a nuisance, was good for all of us. He was filled with love.

An avid reader and to some degree self-taught, Paul at various times studied at Catholic University and George Washington University. He searched for spiritual enlightenment among all faiths and sometimes could be found worshipping in a classic lotus position while wearing a pectoral cross and yarmulke. As a youth, he had studied the violin and his life long love of classical music, good food, and good friends led to many wonderful evenings at the Library of Congress or the Kennedy Center, preceded by dinner, of course. Friends will recall him whistling The Lark or other classical music for pure enjoyment. In the early years of Friends Meeting of Washington's Senior Center, Paul regularly prepared full course dinners for the senior guests. He was also an amateur poet and story teller par excellence.

Paul's energy and infectious sense of humor delighted children. He was a Big Brother to several boys, served as a Boy Scout leader to ghetto youth, and was a friend to young people in the Monthly Meeting and the Yearly Meeting. In jobs at the Children's Receiving Home and the Youth Group Home Shelter House, he tried to counsel and help the youth, often going further than the job required.

Paul turned to meditation to hold ill friends or troubling problems in the Light. After his first heart by-pass surgery, he brought this healing ministry to his work with other by-pass patients through the organization "Mended Hearts." At Yearly Meeting Paul convened a regular meditation group as part of the worship sharing program. On several occasions he gathered a group of Friends to hold a meeting for worship with a person who was ill.

Friends rejoiced with Paul when in 1987 he married Cladis Mata-Prospertt, an elementary school

teacher and native of Venezuela. Cladis and Paul had six very happy years together.

For some years Paul contended with a bad heart and underwent several by-pass surgeries, which restored him to active life. Unfortunately the last operation was not successful and he died on November 11, 1993. We miss our good friend Paul.