Elizabeth W. Hendricks Memorial Minute

Elizabeth Whittelsey Hendricks died on October 30, 2016, at Pennswood Village, Newtown, Pennsylvania. She was born on September 23, 1916, to Theodore and Winifred Marsh Whittelsey, and grew up in Ringoes, NJ. She earned her B.A. from the University of London and her M.A. from Teachers College, Columbia University. She taught Latin at Brooklyn Friends School from 1938-1944 where she met fellow teacher, George Hendricks. From 1945-47, she was Program Director for the American Friends Service Committee in New York City, helping refugees and displaced persons from World War II settle in America. After she married George in 1947, she moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he taught at Georgia Tech. In 1950, they purchased a farm in Cobb County, Georgia, and she lived there for the next 49 years, appreciating it both as a business and a place to teach young people sound values. Hendricks Elementary School is now located on part of the original farm. She and George were among the founders of Atlanta Friends Meeting and Quaker House in Atlanta where they were involved with the Civil Rights Movement and many other activities. She taught at Powder Springs School (1963-64) and Milford Elementary School (1964-1982). Elizabeth was named Teacher of the Year for Cobb County and Georgia State Semifinalist in 1981.

In 1999, she moved to the Pennswood Village retirement community where she served as the Clerk of the Fellowship Fund Committee and on the Board of the Pennswood Village Residents Association. She transferred her membership to Newtown Friends Meeting where she served on the Peace and Service committee, participated in Friendly Eights, and attended Meeting for Worship regularly for as long as she was able. Elizabeth was instrumental in planting Peace Poles at both Atlanta and Newtown Meetings. She was a Pennswood Pal in Janet Braker’s classroom at Newtown Friends School and enjoyed connecting with Newtown Friends School students at Pennswood for many years.

She is survived by her 3 children, Lisa Ogletree (Martin), Charles (Heather) and James (Beth); 5 grandsons, Joseph (Leyra), Roy, Grant, Drew, and Geordie; and 2 great-grandsons, Miles and Will. They celebrated her 100th birthday with her in September on a wonderful day when she was extraordinarily communicative, able to reminisce, and in her usual kind and cheerful mood. Her memorial service was held at Pennswood Village on Saturday, December 3, under the care of Newtown Friends Meeting. A service will also be held at Atlanta Friends Meeting on Saturday, February 11. Interment will be in the Hendricks family plot at Upper Lotts Creek Cemetery near Metter, GA.