

4/18/86

Memorial Minute for Lamartine Hood

Lamartine Hood came to Newtown Meeting from one of the strongest traditional rural Meetings in Chester County, and brought with him the sense of balance that marks the lives of many of the birthright Friends from that area. The Society of Friends was not a refuge from other religions to him. Work, play, and love were there in fairly equal proportions.

As for the work, for many years he served as Farm Manager at George School. His loyalty to that institution survived the many changes George School has undergone in the course of his lifetime, although he was aware that it was based on "the way things were".

Lam was a care-giver. His wife, Marian, developed rheumatoid arthritis when their children, Kay and Lamartine, Jr. were quite young. He lived with that illness for fifty years and fully appreciated Marian's handling of it.

When he first came to the Friend's Home as a handy-man, he organized the able-bodied residents in fall leaf-rakes. Beyond the time he moved into the main house at Friend's Home he maintained a garden - just a few tomato plants near the end.

As for his emphasis on play, no one could criticize the Nittany Lions to him and no one wanted to. Early on, his enthusiasm for the Philadelphia Phillies took the form of joining other George School faculty in attending games. His loyalty to Penn State football and his joy that Lamartine, Jr. had recently returned to Penn State as Dean of the School of Agriculture was expressed to all who knew his family.

We at the Friend's Home miss his loving presence.

Ella A. Fraser