

CHRISTINE MARION L. WALLACE FORRESTER

1/6/14 - 2/12/89

Friend Marion L. Wallace Forrester was born in New York City, January 6, 1914 and died February 12, 1989 in Washington D.C. of congestive heart failure. She was welcomed into Friends Meeting of Washington July 10, 1978, having transferred from Fifteenth Street Meeting in New York City. Marion frequently and faithfully helped in the Senior Center and acted as advocate to assure its continuance. Her tenure on the Social Order Committee was marked by her clear thinking, her calm waiting for direction and her ability to move past the obvious to the deeper level of concerns that were brought to the committee, whether the concerns were global or personal. Her increasingly fragile health gradually lessened her attendance, although committee members visited her to avail themselves of her counsel.

Her life work manifests a zeal to achieve and to serve all people. Marion Forrester graduated from New York University with a major in Sociology in 1945, then served as Director of the Urban League in Englewood, New Jersey from 1945 to 1953. In 1951 she received her MA from Oxford University, England. Thereafter, she lived in Kenya, East Africa, for three years, conducting basic research for her Ph. D dissertation which she defended successfully at Bryn Mawr College, receiving the degree in economics in 1961. Subsequently, she taught economics at Howard University beginning in 1962, then transferred to the federal government where she was an economist with the Department of State, the Department of Labor and the Department of Transportation, from which she retired in 1979.

Marion is survived by her son, Martin, his wife Eva, five grandchildren, a sister Helen Hackshaw and several nieces and nephews.

The memorial service for Marion Forrester on February 17, 1989 brought together members of the Meeting, friends from her apartment building, friends and colleagues from her varied professional life and numerous members of her family. Among the many tributes lovingly expressed was that of a young nephew who spoke of Marion's steadfast guidance throughout his tender years which provided him with strength to conduct his life productively. His tribute evoked many affirmative nods from those gathered who also had sought and received Marion Forrester's personal support.