

Elna E.¹ Riker Broffman

1929-29 May 2018

Our Meeting's records relating to Friend Elna Broffman are slight, but fortunately the Friend wrote a brief account of her life in our Religious Society in response to a membership Committee inquiry in 2014 which allows us to capture some information.

Elna Riker was born in Brooklyn, New York, descended from the Vail family of New Jersey Quakers. She attended Brooklyn Friends School and married Morton Broffman under care of the Plainfield, New Jersey, Friends Meeting. The couple moved to Arlington, Virginia, and renewed their marriage vows on their thirtieth anniversary at Friends Meeting of Washington. There is no evidence that her husband applied for membership. Of her four children only Neal became a full member, in 1964 -- the year after his birth and as a birthright Friend, an unusual procedure at our Meeting.

After Morton's death Elma moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where she died on 29 May 2018. In her last years she was unable to attend worship there but continued her devotion to Quaker traditions and faith; her 2014 letter to the Committee closes with a wish for "Peace, Love, Light and Hope" for all.

¹ Elma A. G. in some documents; this form in the signature of her 2014 letter.