James Madison Miller, a member of the Friends Meeting of Washington, was born in the early 1900s in North Carolina where he also grew to adulthood. It was in that state that he received his education and prepared for a career in school teaching.

After a few years of teaching in North Carolina, Madison moved to Washington, DC, where he taught in the local public school system. In the mid-1950s he accepted a position in Warrenton, VA, and was principal of the elementary school there until his retirement a few years ago. He continued to live in Warrenton, where he also operated an antique shop.

As a birthright Friend, Madison remained faithful to his affiliation with the Society of Friends throughout his life. He was active in the Irving Street Meeting in Washington until it was laid down, after which his membership was transferred to this Meeting on Florida Avenue. Madison attended Meeting for Worship here when there was opportunity to do so after his change in residence and as long as his health permitted. In recent years, a leg amputation made this impossible.

Madison Miller found joy in simple things in life. He was recognized as a man of integrity, of gentle humor and of warmth toward others. He was dedicated to the things in which he believed and endeared himself to his students, professional colleagues and to others who knew him. Although in declining health during the latter years of his life, Madison retained his spirit of good cheer and cordiality toward those about him.

This Meeting has already taken note of his death earlier this year. Thus has departed a man who made his mark on the lives of those whose paths crossed his and who was an influence for good in the world about him.