

Susan Stimus Ellis
2 December 1931-21 October 2014

Susan Stimus Ellis joined our meeting in January 1971. During her earlier residence in Albuquerque, New Mexico, she had attended worship at the Girard Street Meeting but had not formally joined there. Living in Alexandria, Virginia, at the time of her application she requested dual FMW-Alexandria Monthly Meeting membership, something this meeting does not offer; she remained a full member of FMW for the rest of her life.

She was born in Camden, New Jersey and married Norman Leith Ellis in 1951 in Reno, Nevada. She had two daughters, Susan and Danielle, in 1957 and 1964 respectively. Both girls became members with their mother. Soon after joining this meeting Friend Susan moved back to Albuquerque to teach at the University of New Mexico; soon after she and her husband divorced. There she again attended the Girard Street Meeting. She returned to Friends Meeting of Washington in 1974 and served as a Board member at the William Penn House in 1977.

Susan worked as a writer and during her professional career, from the 1960s to 2002, she held positions with the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, KABC-TV in Hollywood, California, the AFL-CIO, Peace Corps, American Federation of Government Employees, and USIA (working on the African newsletter). She held long and enthusiastic concerns for animal welfare (her own pet cats and strays) and current affairs. Her other interests included cooking, gardening and reading.

Although we seldom saw Susan in the last many years her messages to our meeting, kept in her Personal File, always expressed a sincere affection for the Friends Meeting of Washington.

She died of a brain tumor in the home of her daughter Susan in Allentown, Pennsylvania, leaving a large and loving family.