



Friends' Memorials (continued) ←

God and to understand God's will. It is a time not only for a sharing of loss, but also a time of thankfulness for the life of the person for whom the memorial service is held. We reflect on the value of that life as it relates to the lives of all of us.

All present share equally in this service. We sit quietly; at times, an individual may be moved to speak, to offer prayer or a message that has come out of the silence.

All are welcome to do this. The meeting is closed with handshakes.

The responsibility for the spiritual depth of the meeting rests with each attender. Those who keep silence, as well as those who give a vocal message, do their part when they yield their minds and hearts to the guidance of the spirit.

Friends hope that in the Meeting for Worship a consciousness of the Divine Presence will come to every attender, to be a source of direction and of strength after leaving the meeting.

From Wooster (Ohio) Monthly Meeting

Friends Meeting of San Antonio (Quakers)

About Us

FMSA was founded in the late 1960s as a small Quaker presence in South Texas. We built this meetinghouse in stages, beginning in 2000. It is a quiet, welcoming sanctuary where we invite people to experience the spiritual depths that surround us all.

Quakers have no pastors or paid clergy. Every member or attender brings Light to us all.

All persons are always welcome here.

Contact Us

Phone: (210) 945-8456

Email: clerk@saquakers.org

Web: www.sanantonioquakers.org

About Friends' Memorials

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) holds, as the basis of its faith, the belief that God endows every human being with a measure of the Divine Spirit.

Our manner of worship is an outgrowth of this belief. We gather in quiet assemblies, mindful of the words: "Be still, and know that I am God"

A Friends memorial service is similar in many ways to a Meeting for Worship. We come together in reverent silence, with the desire to draw nearer to
← continued



MARIAN CARTER

***February 22, 1930 –
August 22, 2023***

***Memorial Service
Friends Meetinghouse
October 21, 2023
10am***

Remembering Marian

Marian Hedleston Carter was born on a cattle and sheep ranch in Coleman County, Texas, southwest of Dallas. One of her childhood memories was of a Shetland pony named “Tony”, which her uncle Jim taught her to ride. She would ride out with the workers tending the ranch sheep, and when the sheep got under the brush, she would go in on Tony and holler them out. She said, “It was very important work that only I could do.”

In the mid-1950’s Marian and her mother moved to Indianapolis, where she met and married Elmer “Rusty” Carter in 1956. He came from a Quaker family. She recalled, “My family was conservative in religious matters. They did not know enough about Quakers to be for or against. They asked if it was a Christian faith. I said, ‘Yes, definitely.’ There were no follow up questions, so it was okay.” Marian and Rusty soon moved to Houston, where they adopted their children John and Susan as infants. After a teaching stint in Europe, they moved to San Antonio in 1962, where Rusty taught at Trinity University. Marian became a Special Education teacher, a career that she followed for 30 years.

About a year after they arrived in San Antonio, the small Quaker worship group in San Antonio was laid down. Marian and Rusty then began a worship group that met in their home. It grew slowly, meeting for a while at the Esperanza Center, then at the Methodist Student Center at San Antonio College. It was thriving by the time Rusty died in 1994 of early onset Alzheimer’s. Marian cared for him at home through his illness; after he was no longer able to attend, Friends met with the couple at their home.

Marian was active in the Meeting’s wish to build its own Meetinghouse. After the Meeting purchased our current property on North Vandiver, she became very involved with the Property Committee and was especially concerned with the landscaping of the site. Among other things, she often arranged care of our trees and worked hard on the wildflower field that we love to see come into bloom in the spring.

Marian seldom spoke in Meeting, but more than once spoke of how much she loved it and the members. She cultivated long-term, caring

relationships with several members and was especially good at drawing out shy or withdrawn people with her interest in them and their lives.

After a fall in 2020, she was in and out of the hospital, then went to a memory unit at the Village at Incarnate Word University and eventually to assisted living at Brookdale/Malzberger where she had a small apartment. Toward the end of her life, she often spoke about being ready to move on, but “the Lord was not ready” for her yet. Very near the end, she said to visiting Friends that she wanted to join the other women “upstairs”; the assisted living center was single story.

Among her last wishes, Marian said, “I want everyone to mention my failures and errors as well as my virtues.”



