

Necrology



Katherine Rozendaal Life # 116
Schenectady, New York

Dorothy Willard Johnson
Lexington, Massachusetts

Sarah Kellogg Willard Taylor
Pasadena, California

Phyllis May Willard Harter
Auburn, Indiana

Elizabeth Beach Brown
Rockport, Massachusetts

Phyllis Willard Moran Hargreaves
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Rex E. Willard Life # 101
Wellsboro, Pennsylvania

Betty P. Willard
New Hartford, New York

Carol A. Mero
Erving, Massachusetts

Ralph Francis Hendy
Sandwich, Massachusetts

Donna Ruth Moser
Phoenix, Arizona

Robert Clinton Willard
Stockton, California

Pearl V. Walden
Hallowell, Maine

Brig. Gen. Alvin Joseph Moser, Jr.
Phoenix, Arizona

Elizabeth Vaughn Merrill Life
#411 Reading, Massachusetts

Ruth Hallenbeck Willard Life #276
Wethersfield, Connecticut

RUTH WILLARD DIES, (Continued from page 1)

Ruth began her association with the WFA when her late husband Ed Willard became President. When the previous Historian had to resign Ruth stepped right in with almost no notice and assured management of the WFA Archives and member's genealogical needs continued. Ruth was a real professional when it came to helping people find their Willard roots.

She attended every family reunion she could and was actively sought out by attendee's seeking help with their Willard genealogy. She edited the new Henry 2 book without being asked. Ruth volunteered her time willingly. Her contributions to the WFA are just too numerous to list.

Ruth leaves two sons, a daughter, 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. This wonderful and Christian lady will be surely missed by all. BW

FROM THE FILES OF THE HISTORIAN



We continue to get many requests for help in tracing one's family roots. Our web page has made our existence well known to many. To maximize our ability to help you, please review the following information.

One of the biggest problems any genealogist runs into is the amount of information the person searching their family roots provides. *"My great grandmother was Else Willard. I need to know who her parents were."* There were and probably and still are many Else Willard's. In order to properly help we need as much information as possible. The best way to provide the information needed is to begin with you and work backwards. (See our web page for helpful forms) List both of your parents including their **date** and **place of birth, marriage** and if applicable **death**; include the **occupation** for one or both. Then do the same for both sets of grandparents and continue in reverse as far back as you can. It is just as important to provide the location for the dates you provide as the dates themselves. Next to each entry, list the source for this information such as a birth certificate, property deed, family bible, newspaper, family tradition or other source. Once you Have gathered as much information

as you can gather, send it to our Historian by e-mail at willard.library@snet.net or by US mail to *"Historian, The Willard Family Association of America, PO Box 340, South Windham, CT 06266-0340."* Be sure to include the specific information you are looking for and how we can get back to you. Please do not rely on the return address on your envelope.

There are many sources for family information that are often missed by a researcher. If a person had a job, then personnel information was generated. If they paid taxes chances are that their name appears on a dated tax list. Social Security records are a good source and anything before 1930 is now considered public information. A property deed can be full of information including where they lived, when they lived there, if they had a mortgage (a mortgage has to be filed and recorded) and more.

It is important to remember that most requests will take a lot of time to answer. When a request comes in the first thing we do is check the WFA archives. If we can find a match, chances are that it will not take long to find the information you seek. If the information is not in the files, then we have to start searching in the WFA library and this could mean looking in indexes of many books. We may have to search the files of other organizations which adds to the amount of time it will take. We have access to a large collection of family genealogies and we can often find the answer to your question through tracing a maiden name or a spouse's family history.

There is a caution flag that needs to be raised in doing any genealogical research. Just because something appears in print does not make it so. 200 years ago people went to great extremes to hide information that is openly talked about today. The more information you provide the better the chance we can help you.