

In Memory of Graham Dunstan Boose

By Yvonne Peiffer

Graham Boose was a remarkable woman: elegant, feminine, gracious, quiet, modest about her own accomplishments, and very private -- the picture of a true southern, gentle woman. She also was a strong role model for other women - a hard worker, an organizer with a capital "O", and a planner with strong attention to detail and great persistence until each task was complete. Graham was especially remarkable because her aim was to make those around her comfortable and to give/teach them the knowledge they would need to accomplish wonderful things themselves.



Graham Boose 1941- 2013

Examples given are too numerous to mention. However, I will cite a few. Graham could have become a doctor, but she chose math so she could have a family as well as a profession. (Yes, this was a sign of the times in which she grew up.) The day of her wedding, Graham wanted her guests to enjoy themselves, so she took a bus-load of guests for a tour of Alexandria, VA (including the Masonic Temple) before her evening wedding. If someone had a special talent, like making special note cards, Graham would ask the woman to make some for her. Then she would not only pay for the cards but also send a special "Thank You" note with, perhaps, a William Penn prayer enclosed. If someone bought Graham and Barry a gift, Graham would give something in return-- a cookbook, a special tomato knife, place mats, homemade soup....

Graham loved to entertain, and Barry actively supported her. She also loved rabbits: she had a collection of rabbits and held Easter Egg Hunts at her and Barry's home for family and friends. Family and friends were very important to her. Many of you in AAUW knew Graham through the book groups, Food

Chronology

Born: May 8, 1941 (oldest of two girls)

Died: September 27, 2013

Married: February 1964

Husband: Barry Boose

Children: Stuart and Alexandra

Grandchildren: Katie, Amelia, Zoe, and Conrad (to them she was known as "Mimi")

Education: BA, MS, MBA

Profession: Retired Engineering Manager, Aerospace/Defense Industry

Volunteer Activities:

AAUW:

AAUW West Chester-Chester County
President Elect, President, and
Co-President;

AAUW State Convention Organizer in
Chester County

Interest Group (FIG), Travel Interest Group (TIG), Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT), PETT, and her extensive LRM activities. Graham's gifts included the ability to write grants to fund LRM and PETT activities so that not only our local AAUW branch members would benefit, but others as well. She truly believed in AAUW's Mission Statement: "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research." Graham spoke up, asked questions, and gave suggestions to the local, state and national leaders of AAUW.

Graham was inquisitive throughout her life and wanted to explore and experience new frontiers. She and Barry traveled in the United States and abroad and then shared their experiences with others through scrapbooks and conversations after meals at their home. Graham - along with all her list making and spreadsheet organizing- had a good sense of humor, enjoyed most of the activities in which she chose to be involved, and loved being part of her grandchildren's lives. She and the grandchildren cooked together, read together, and played together. They went kayaking, ice skating, and rock climbing together. Yes, she also sorted the jellybeans to get the right colors for the Easter baskets they made, and she put labels on all the light switches for those visiting their shore home. That was Graham--a unique and interesting woman.

We have come full circle back to Graham wanting to make things easier for others. She was the consummate hostess, and she and Barry were a team. In sum, Graham was an individual, a woman, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and a high level employee in a male dominated profession. The world is a better place for having had Graham in it. She accomplished much, and we will miss her.

Other:

PA State College University Chair
Junior League

Woman's Community Club of
Uwchlan (avid gardener, entered
Philadelphia Flower Show)

Girl Scouts during the 1980's;

Grove Church: Trustee, implemented
computer upgrades and more

Philadelphia Art Museum Docent

AAUW Honors:

Gift Honoree

Outstanding Woman Award

Peg Anderson Award

Received grants from:

Let's Read Math (LRM)

Spreading LRM

Parents/Educators Exploring
Tomorrow's Technology
(PETT)

