

## 2023 SCYM Memorial Minutes



**Live Oak Friends Meeting, Houston Texas**

**Memorial Minute for Carl Roe “Beau” Alexander**

**May 29, 1938 – April 10, 2022**

Carl Roe Alexander was known by his friends by a variety of nicknames: “Ca-ro-kay”, “Mister C.”, or that by which he was known at Live Oak Friends Meeting, “Beau”. Beau passed away on April 10, 2022, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 83.

Carl and his wife Michele found Live Oak Friends Meeting while searching for a shared faith, he being raised a Baptist and Michele in the Jewish faith. Michele introduced Carl to the idea of visiting Live Oak, having known about it through her brother’ interest in the Skyspace. This visit to Live Oak was enough to have them return and try Meeting for Worship. They rapidly grew to value Quaker worship and enjoy socializing over coffee or lunch with Friends. Beau and Michele spent several years in Arizona where she worked, but their home was in Houston. Both she and/or Beau often attended Live Oak when one or both was in town.

Beau spent his formative years in West Columbia and Austin, and was a long-time resident of Houston. His father, Carl Burditt Alexander, was a Baptist minister and as a boy, Beau frequently accompanied his father on pastoral visits to families and churches in East Texas.

Beau warmed to anyone he met, and his specialty was telling entertaining stories and pulling pranks on close friends. Once when living in the country, he found a dead Pileated Woodpecker on his property. This was near the time there was much excitement about sightings of Ivory-billed woodpeckers – a bird apparently extinct at least since 1944. Pileated and Ivory-billed woodpeckers are both large and, upon casual inspection, of similar size and shape. Beau took his find to a bird-loving friend, dropped it on the porch when the friend opened the door, and informed the friend that he had just shot that Ivory-bill. It probably took a few anxious seconds for the friend to realize Beau was pulling his leg.

Beau worked throughout the U.S. and worldwide as a petroleum engineer and had the opportunity to travel extensively for adventures that provided him with a wealth of good stories. He participated in many outdoor activities, such as parachuting, camping, hiking, kayaking, and long cycling trips; he was a founding member of the Bayou City Outdoors (BCO) club. In his retirement, as an avid reader he enjoyed the extra time to read, especially Texas history. Other interests at which he excelled were gardening and cooking.

Beau is survived by his wife, Michele Zacks; his sister, Mary Jo Henderson; a daughter, Leslie Alexander; one grandson Bryan Wallace (with two great grandchildren Lily and Gavin); and another grandson, Graham Keeney. Additionally, Beau had many cousins and close friends whom he included in his extended family.

Although in recent years Beau and Michele were intermittent visitors to our Worship Meeting, Live Oak Friends thoroughly enjoyed having Beau in our community. He was good company and a loyal Friend.



Fayetteville Friends Meeting, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Memorial Minute for Frances Ruth Pearson, M.D.

July 23, 1939 – May 1, 2022

Frances Ruth Pearson was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1939. She was taken to a Quaker Meeting at the age of 4 in Moorestown, New Jersey. She graduated from the University of Kansas in 1965, one of five women accepted by the College for her medical degree. After graduation she did two Residencies in Internal Medicine, one at Kansas University, and the other at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City.

In 1970, Fran took a position with the University of Texas at San Antonio, traveling to clinics in small Texas towns to fill in for vacationing doctors. One of the towns was Comfort, Texas, where she spent several years practicing medicine and raising two daughters: Cynthia Lee Pearson (1960) and Lara Margaret Pearson (1970).

Dan Griffin moved to Comfort, Texas in 1984 and met Fran. They were married on Valentine's Day, 1987 at the Hill Country Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quaker) in Kerrville, Texas. Later, they retired to Fayetteville, Arkansas, where Fran kept a small medical practice and volunteered at the Fayetteville Free Clinic for many years.

During the last few years of her life Fran had trouble breathing. She died of congestive heart failure on Sunday, May 1, 2022 as a Hospice patient at Butterfield Trail Village. She was a valued member of Fayetteville Friends Meeting.



## Fort Worth Monthly Meeting

Memorial Minute for Gerald Jimmy Jr.

February 17, 1965 – July 12, 2022

Born to parents who came to Dallas following the Indian Relocation Act of 1956, Gerald was raised in the fold of the Indian United Methodist Church (of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference), realizing his Quaker path in his late 30s. The first Meeting he attended was with Live Oak Friends while accompanying his 'Sweetie' (a term he coined while introducing himself there) Danielle on a Ministry & Care gathering in Houston, where he felt immediately at home. An active participant in South Central Yearly Meeting (especially as Mni Wiconi presenter and aspiring Clerk, flying hand-made kites on sunny days at camp) and Dallas Friends Meeting beginning in 2002 (where he served on the Library Committee for many years and put the meeting house back together after tornadoes blew through East Dallas), he gained membership in the Society which was transferred to Fort Worth Friends Meeting in August of 2020.

A South Garland High School graduate, he served four years in the USAF at Nellis AFB watching over Area 51 as a Radar Technician. Exceptional skills playing soccer as a teen led him to coach later in life. A ballplayer known as a heavy home-run hitter, he loved Baseball (Eastfield College recalls his strengths in Fast Pitch Softball).

Gerald held a B.A. in Biological Science earned at the University of North Texas, Denton. Participation in the Indians into Medicine (INMED) program at UTMB Health - University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston led to work as Presbyterian Hospital Scribe (Dallas), then as an ER Technician at Baylor University Medical Center (Dallas). He developed a career as a Professional Science Educator, with a special love for Chemistry, teaching in the Dallas Independent School District. Devoted this last decade to his position in the Physical Science Lab Tutorial, Tarrant County College South Campus, he took pride in helping his students and enjoyed his colleagues (who, in fun, well embraced his sense of humor, often being pranked).

Following collaborative work in 2016, he was able to present at the American Indian Science & Engineering Society's National Conference. The University of Texas at Arlington's Native American Student Association, their annual Pow-Wow and outreach, has been of keen focus over the years.

Gerald often gave of himself, served as a volunteer (especially at AIDS House Dallas in Oak Cliff), and participated in AFSC Work Camps on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and post-Katrina Bayous of La Fourche and Terrebonne Parishes in Louisiana.

He loved animals and all of creation, attending annual Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee Meetings at Pendle Hill, PA and Dumas Bay Centre, WA. When representatives still existed for Friends Committee on Indian Affairs, Gerald was sent as SCYM envoy to attend an Oklahoma meeting - certainly the very first Native American Indian ever to do so.

Self-taught, he picked up the guitar whenever he found a chance.

Friends recall the tenacity with which he got himself from vehicle to chair, joining in outside worship during the Covid-19 pandemic, disallowing his condition to keep him from it. He was a man with whom Friends often sat together privately, quietly enveloped in his calm strength.

*Nicole Whittington-Evans, Mat-Su Friends Meeting, Alaska* writes "He had a strong, comforting and steady presence, was a man of few words . . . always saw the positive in situations. He was like a mountain - a solid and constant force who withstood so much with unwavering grace. I loved to hear him laugh, which he did often . . . even in the face of adversity. It is a tragedy that he left us at such a young age."

He held his family close to heart. Preceded in death by his mother Doris (Choctaw/Cherokee of Halito, Oklahoma), Gerald was an enrolled Te-Moak Tribe Western Shoshone. In Fallon, Nevada he leaves behind his father Gerald, his sister Dora Faye, his Aunt Katherine, his Uncle Basil with spouse Valerie, and many loving cousins. In Elko, Nevada, his Aunt Carolyn. In Tennessee, Ohio, Minnesota, Idaho, Florida, Arizona and Alaska, family and extended family as well. In Grand Prairie, TX his Sweetie Danielle and their four furbabies, weather the storm of his loss.

*Fort Worth Friends Meeting / dle*



**Live Oak Friends Meeting, Houston Texas**  
**Memorial Minute for Joseph LoCicero, jr.**

**November 29, 1938 – May 3, 2022**

We have been truly lucky to have Joe's presence in Live Oak Friends' Meeting. He was a hard and reliable worker behind the scenes on both Property and Hospitality committees.

Joe enjoyed food preparation and creative cooking as a hobby. His maternal grandfather introduced him to cooking at an early age and he liked helping his mother in the kitchen. By age 11, and through keen observation and experimentation, he was able to replicate many of his mother's recipes. In college, he had a hard time with "institutional food," and opted to cook for himself "as best as I could on a hot plate in my room." He continued to develop his culinary skills after he was married and did a lot of entertaining of family and friends. At LOFM he made the hard work of coordinating and preparing refreshments after meeting, and for potluck and of clean-up afterwards look easy. The last event he participated in was the potluck in early March for the Arthur Morgan School students, where he brought a huge, wonderful salad and insisted the leftovers go home with others.

Joe was a valuable mainstay of property committee. He was a doer in a community of thinkers. He was handy, helpful, and could fix most mechanical or electrical things. He would bring his chainsaw and chop up any big tree that fell in the yard, stack it, and sometimes haul it home for firewood. Joe was also unique in that he was the only one at meeting with the immunity or skill to pull poison ivy vines and not get sick from contact with its oil, and willing to pull it from the fence line around the property.

Joe had a gift for seeing what needed to be done and showing up with the right tools or connections to get it done. When LOFM was planning their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, after several months of talking, Joe took it upon himself to get moving on the food arrangements including bringing a salad for 120 people.

As a freshman in high school, Joe discovered Quakers at Moorestown Friends Meeting in New Jersey, thanks to a former member of LOFM, Alison (Bordon) Libshitz who grew up in that meeting. When Joe discovered LOFM and began to attend in 2004, the first person he saw was Alison.

Joe attended Haverford College until he was drafted into the army in 1958 where he served as a medic for two years, including a tour of duty in Korea. He graduated from Albright College in Reading PA in 1963 with a degree in biochemistry. As a biochemist, he first worked for Merck in research and later moved into areas of quality control, quality assurance and regulatory affairs in the manufacturing sector of the pharmaceutical industry.

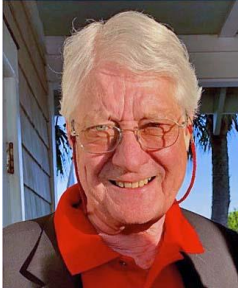
In 1989, he started his own consulting business, then moved to Houston in 1993 where he took on the position of Director of Quality Assurance for a small company here. He joined Italy In America, a club of the Italian Culture and Community Center of Houston and was a very valuable member for many years. Always the first to help with any new projects, he shared his time, wisdom and talents generously.

Joe, whose religious background has both Catholic and Unitarian elements, was attracted to Quakerism because of the simplicity of and approach to worship and their advocacy for peace.

Born New Jersey November 29, 1938 Joseph C. LoCicero, Jr.

Died May 3<sup>rd</sup>, survived by son Joe LoCicero III. and daughter Melissa.

Additional concepts? Woodworker, cheerful, always dapper and “put together”



## **Live Oak Friends Meeting, Houston Texas**

### **Memorial Minute for D. Scott Ingersoll**

**June 9, 1950 – June 9, 2022,**

D. Scott Ingersoll was an only child born in New Brunswick, New Jersey on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1950, to H. Scott, and Florence Maye Heslin Ingersoll and passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the age of 72, in Houston, Texas. He is survived by his wife Maryann Patterson Ingersoll, daughter Elizabeth Ingersoll Guinn and her husband Steve Guinn and their two children, Stephen and Reagan of Houston, his son Christopher of Los Angeles, and the family dog Scout.

Scotty attended Boston College for a Bachelors in geology and a Masters in geophysics. He met his wife Maryann in the Boston College pool where they found chemistry underwater teaching a scuba class. He had a 34 year career with Exxon Mobil, working all over the US, discovering oil in Mobile Bay and spending time in the UK and the Middle East. An adventurous skier and scuba diver, he built a log cabin on Powder Mountain, Utah and loved the marina/beach front home on Bald Head Island, NC.

As a child, he was an avid boy scout, and traveled extensively with his adventurous folks from New Jersey to Maine, Chicago, and Seattle, London and then New York City and Florida. He attended Catholic schools, graduating from Tampa Jesuit in Florida. Between school sessions various further adventures were had all over the world.

In spite of his Catholic background, Scott honored Maryann's Quaker background as they created a nontraditional wedding patterned after a Quaker wedding in which they spoke their own vows, marrying themselves in the presence of family and friends in the Chapel Hill Meetinghouse on December 20, 1975. In an effort to please both families, they also asked a priest to bless the rings and held the ceremony 'under the roof' of a church (the meetinghouse.) It was a lovely evening with a fire in the meeting house fireplace, their Jewish pianist playing Grieg, half Jewish/Methodist maid of honor and Chinese American best man. Scott and Maryann celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary last December. Scott could still repeat his Friendly vows way better than Maryann could remember hers.

While they raised their family in St. Martha's Catholic Church in Kingwood, Maryann and the children would sometimes attend LOFM. After Scott retired in 2010, he and Maryann trained as Skyspace docents, but travel and other activities interfered with participating more fully in the life of the Meeting.

As husband, dad, coach, and granddad, Scott was babysitter during mom's grad school finals, ran soccer practice, caught gymnastics, cheer, and dance routines, chased runaway ski poles and lost mittens, while introducing important cultural touchstones such as Bond movies, grilling the perfect filet and anything else Maryann brought home, and the importance of a good hotel room. Not too close to the elevator please.

Celebrations of Scotty's life will be in Houston at the Hotel ZaZa, 5701 Main, Houston, TX from 12-2 on Saturday, November 19, 2022; Bald Head Island Conservancy, Bald Head Island, North Carolina on Friday, November 25, 2022; and on Powder Mt. Ski Area, Eden, Utah on March 16, 2023.





**Georgetown Friends Meeting, Georgetown Texas**

**Memorial Minute for Walter M. (Walt) Potter**

**December 20, 1946 – February 17, 2022**

From the first time Walt Potter attended Georgetown Friends Meeting, he felt at home and felt the warmth of being held in the Light. He said this often until the time of his death February 17.

Walt's retirement was filled with health problems as well as personal changes and challenges. He had not been able to attend Meeting in person for sometime and Zoomed with us some. We kept up through email often. Finally, he was no longer able to do this even. He did continue to feel a part of the meeting and to know he was cared about.

Walt was a retired math professor from Southwestern University. He earned his BA from the University of Washington and his MA and PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He was the holder of the Lord Chair in computer science at Southwestern. He leaves behind his wife Julie and four children. A moving memorial service was held for him at the Southwestern chapel. Many friends and colleagues spoke of Walt's warmth and humor. He was well liked and well respected.