

Carolyn Murray Weddell Kulka Mallison died peacefully from congestive heart failure on Sunday, August 1st, 2010. She was 86 and living in Cayuga Ridge Nursing Home, Ithaca, NY.

Born in Montclair, New Jersey, on March 9th, 1924, Carolyn moved with her family (father Justin, mother Corrine, and sister Margaret) to Sussex, England, when she was six. She loved to tell stories of her days spent wandering the moors with her beloved pony, Tibby, and her best friend, Hukan, a Norwegian Elkhound. Carolyn cultivated a deep and life-long respect for nature and the creatures around her during her many adventures out-of-doors. An early photograph of Carolyn shows her holding her pet lizard while her mother looks on, slightly disconcerted!

World War II forced the family to return to America. At 16, Carolyn attended Westtown Friends School, in Pennsylvania, where she learned of Quakers, and became a member of the Religious Society of Friends before she graduated in 1942. Carolyn delved into her love of different religions at Mount Holyoke College for Women. After a brief marriage to Peter Kulka (of Boston, MA), she attended the Earlham School of Religion, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy, and met Glenn S. Mallison (of Cortland, NY). Carolyn and Glenn married in 1949 under the care of Westtown Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). After many moves and adventures (such as a five-month bicycle tour of northern Europe), they settled in Watertown, NY, with their three daughters.

After Carolyn and Glenn divorced in 1975, she bought a home in Sackets Harbor, NY, and worked for many years in the library at Jefferson Community College. While she filled her home with many fascinating items, Carolyn was best known for her vast collection of books, numbering over five thousand, each one a treasured friend. Carolyn downsized somewhat when she moved in 1995 to be closer to family living in Ithaca, NY.

Carolyn's passion for reading was paralleled by a love of writing. She published a short story at age 14, and went on to write stories, hundreds of poems, and decades worth of diaries. She published some of her poems and presented many at public readings. A life-long student of enlightenment, Carolyn delved deeply into Kabbalah, Servants of the Light (SOL), Native American life and ritual, Pagan beliefs and practices, and Hinduism and Egyptian mystery, all the while maintaining a vigorous Quaker life. She loved a good debate.

Carolyn's open heart and open mind, her passion for Rock-n-Roll and the Earth, and her continuous studies of philosophy and just about everything else, meant she had many friends and admirers. From her daughters' schoolmates, to Friends, Rabbis and Wiccans, scores of people were drawn to Carolyn's warmth, vast knowledge, attentive ear, and trusted advice. Even as she grew old, entering Cayuga Ridge when her body began to manifest the symptoms of congestive heart failure, folks from different ideologies and communities came to visit her and bask in her love of life, laughter, and a little "chit-chat," with lots of interesting books to browse through.

Recognizing Carolyn as a unique and wise woman, men and women alike appreciated learning about the feminine aspects of God through Carolyn's popular teachings of the Goddess. She was revered as an inspired poet by her Goddess Circle, and was especially respected for a series of epic poems related to the seasons, as well as the guided meditations she crafted. She shared her love of nature with her daughters, teaching them the proper way to catch a snake, how to raise a baby bird, and the delights of

riding horses and climbing trees. She valued friendship in all sizes, shapes and forms, and continued making new friends right up to the very end. And, she will be truly missed.

Predeceased by Glenn (2005), Carolyn is survived by nephews, Michael and Christopher Peters, daughters, Carol Mallison, Robin Mallison Alpern and Melanie-Claire Mallison, grandchildren, Nathan, Lincoln, Julian, Guinevere, and Emrigael, and a host of relatives, friends and Friends. As she wished, Carolyn's body was donated to medical science. Friends are encouraged to make a donation to our local SPCA, in Carolyn's name (Tompkins County SPCA, 1640 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca, NY).

Blessed be, Mom.