

# In Memoriam

Notices of deaths received before March 9, 2009

## Alumnae

**Phyllis Howard Thompson '32**, August 29, 2008, in New Orleans, Louisiana. She worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Hawaii, Washington DC, and New Orleans, where she was a member of numerous civic and social organizations. Survivors include two children and five grandchildren.

**Frances Bingham Bigler, MA '34**, February 6, in Lexington, Massachusetts. She is survived by two children and four grandchildren.

**Jean Currin Jenkins '35**, October 10, in Portland, Oregon. Survivors include four grandchildren.

**Marian Wickline '35**, January 27, in Placerville, California. She worked supervising the chemical information department at Dow Chemical in Walnut Creek, was appointed to the Danville Planning Commission in 1982, and was a member of the American Chemical Society.

**Elizabeth Ross Danz '36**, February 20, in Seattle, Washington. She was an active volunteer for many local organizations, including Seattle Repertory Theatre and Seattle Children's Hospital. She is survived by two

daughters, four grandchildren, and her cousin, M.B. Redd '60.

**Katherine Whitla Read '37**, August 20, 2008, in Alamo, California. She taught at the Annie Wright Seminary in Tacoma, Washington; was active in Junior League; and was skilled in ikebana flower arranging. She is survived by two children and three grandchildren.

**Jean Talbott Penn '39**, March 11, 2008, in Arlington Heights, Illinois. She served overseas with the American Red Cross and is survived by a son, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

**Barbara Guard Sheehan '39**, December 27, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Survivors include six children, twelve grandchildren, and her sister-in-law, Phyllis Moritz Guard '45.

**Pauline Trabucco '39**, January 9, in Fresno, California. An award-winning artist, avid traveler, and talented photographer, she taught art and kindergarten in Yosemite National Park, where she lived for 26 years. She is survived by two siblings and a large extended family.

**Janet Costar Bentley '42**, February 8, 2008, in Chico, California.

**Sue Roberts Klett '43**, April 30, 2007, in Lakewood, Washington. Survivors include four children.

**Catherine Stephens Lainhart '46**, September 18, in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Ruth Sherrill Webb '48**, February 6, in Wichita Falls, Texas. Survivors include her husband, Robert; four daughters, including Mimi Webb Miller '71; and four grandchildren.

**Louise Thompson Ditto '49**, January 1, in Mendocino, California. She earned a master's degree in special education and taught developmentally disabled children in the Bay Area for more than 25 years. In retirement, she moved to Mendocino and began a second career as an artist and gallery owner. Survivors include two children, three grandchildren, and her sister Sharley-Lou Gore '51.

**Marilyn Guild McKown '49**, October 15, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She spent most of her adult life in San Diego. She is survived by her sister Janice Trigg '57 and a niece.

**Elaine Amerine Witt '49**, February 19, in Modesto, California. She completed her secondary teaching credential at Stanford. She is survived by her husband, Louis; three children; and a granddaughter.

**Barbara King Jackson '50**, March 9, 2007, in Rancho Santa Fe, California. Survivors include her husband, a daughter, and her sister Kathryn King Dabbs '53.

**Evelyn Crampton Franke, MA '56**, December 29, in Oakland. Survivors include her husband, Paul.

**Conchita Yap Sajonas '58**, April 11, 2008, in Hayward, California. A native of the Philippines, she emigrated to the United States in the 1940s and earned a master's degree in education from San Francisco State University.

## Shirley Weishaar

Former dean of students and director of the Career Center Shirley Weishaar passed away Sunday, March 15, at her home in Alameda, California. Shirley made a wonderful impact on all who knew her or had the pleasure of working with her during her 22 years at Mills, from 1983 to 2005. She was deeply loved and a good friend to many Mills alumnae, staff, and faculty.

Shirley began at Mills as assistant director of the Career Center; after a succession of promotions, she became assistant dean and director of the Career Center and, subsequently, dean of students.

Since 2005, the Shirley Weishaar Award has been presented to a graduating senior who has worked closely with Division of Student Life staff to serve the students of Mills College and who exemplifies Shirley's qualities of leadership, dedication, compassion, and integrity.



J. MASON (1984)

# Gifts in Memory of

Received December 1, 2008–February 28, 2009

**Sara “Sally” Conley ’60**, December 1, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. After a career as a literary agent, she moved to Puerto Vallarta, where she built the Biblioteca de la Higuera (house of the fig tree), a children’s library with books in both English and Spanish.

**Gay St. Clair Blackford ’63**, October 8, in Bozeman, Montana. She developed multiple sclerosis in nursing school, but completed her degree and worked as a psychiatric nurse and as a teacher at UC San Francisco. She became very active in disability rights and accessibility issues, and served as an advisor to several California politicians. Survivors include a sister, two stepsiblings, and a nephew.

**Annabelle Smith, MA ’66**, in Toronto, Canada. An artist, art historian, and co-author of *Getting into Art History*, her “experiential” approach to teaching art history made her a popular lecturer at museums and conferences.

**Barbara Wells Johnson ’70**, January 3, in Burnsville, North Carolina. A gifted craftsperson, she attended Penland School of Crafts and was a member of the Southern Highlands Handicraft Guild and the Carolina Designer Craftsmen. She is survived by her husband, Robert; two children; two stepchildren; nine grandchildren; and her aunt Barbara Slater Villard ’41.

**Nancy Berchtold Haobsh ’75**, December 14, in Houston, Texas. She is survived by her husband, Fred, and two children.

## Spouses and Family

**Peter Sparks**, husband of Vickie Lee Sparks ’74, October 30, in Dinuba, California.

**Mark Teppola**, husband of Melody Clarke Teppola ’64 (deceased), February 4, in Portland, Oregon.

**Clinton L. Warne**, husband of Katharine Mulky Warne ’45, January 25, in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Glenn Allen** by *Katherine and Glenn Allen III*, P ’04

**Mary Helen Barrett** by *Karen Coates* ’69

**Marilyn Frye Bettendorf, P ’75**, by *Marilyn Ennis Barrett* ’75

**Linda Nelson Branson ’77** by *James Branson*

**Class of 1968**, “Our classmates who are no longer with us,” by *Marilyn Cole Arrington* ’68, *Susan Stern Fineman* ’68, *Francisca de Larios Hansen* ’68, *Mabel Barnett Walters* ’68 and *Stephen Walters*, P ’99, *Kim Giles Weinstein* ’68, *Sarah Young Moser* ’68

**M. Doris Coates, P ’69**, by *Karen Coates* ’69

**Mary Lou Stueck Cunningham ’51** by *Robert Cunningham*

**Marisu “Buzzy” Mathew Dall ’54** by *Elizabeth “Liz” Wills* ’54

**Kerry Datel ’73** by *Emily Blanck* ’73, P ’08

**Evelyn “Peg” Deane ’41** by *Margaret Deane*

**Nancy Roberts Durning ’42** by *Alice Gonnerman Mueller* ’42

**Clifford Evans, P ’63**, by *Barbara L. Hunter* ’57

**Joy Waltke Fisher ’55** by *Diane Smith Janusch* ’55

**Barbara “Bobby” Coleman Frey ’68** by *Patricia Abelov Demoff* ’68

**Felecia “Flea” Anhalt Graham ’49** by *Donald Graham*

**Elaine Johnson Gutleben ’44** by *Chester Gutleben*

**Donna Stockbridge Haire ’55** by *Diane Smith Janusch* ’55

**Tomiye Hamada** by *Virginia Ong Gee* ’51

**George and Helen Hedley** by *Mura Kievman* ’64

**Edward LeFevre** by *Elizabeth Terhune* ’90

**Carolyn Kuster Jackman ’46** by *Marian Hays Patton* ’46

**Elizabeth Kent ’23 and Edward Kent** by *Ann Eddy Smith* ’59, P ’82

**C. Rodgers Kines** by *Diane Smith Janusch* ’55

**Catherine Stephens Lainhart ’46** by *Helen Haigh Mills* ’46

**Mary E. Lanigar ’38** by *Jane Newhall* ’36

**Charles Larsen** by *Elizabeth Terhune* ’90

**Johnson Lau**, husband of Jennie Yee Lau ’46, by *Robert and Betty Chu Wo* ’46

**Carol Lennox ’61** by *Lina Au* ’77

**Elaine Walker Lis ’45** by *Mary Jean Rosenberry Ferris* ’45, P ’74

**Margaret Lyon ’35** by *Mary Sammel Bulwinkle*, MFA ’80

**Boitumelo “Tumi” McCallum ’09** by *Hilda and Tiisetso Moja*, *Margaret Moja*, *Teboho Moja*, P ’09

**Emiteria Reyes Manese, P ’72**, by *“Cora” Manese Tellez* ’72

**Georgiana Michael ’45** by *Mary Jean Rosenberry Ferris* ’45, P ’74

**Betty Legge Middleton ’48** by *Jacqueline Burnham Feiger* ’48

**Miriam Miller Middleton ’47** by *Jacqueline Burnham Feiger* ’48

**Edith Ottenheimer Miller ’25** by *Ann Brevig Dudley* ’85

**Marcia Miller ’63** by *Susan Marks Craven* ’63, *Grace Dote* ’63, *Margaret Goldsmith Fawcett* ’63, P ’91, *Susan Miles Gulbransen* ’63, P ’94, *Miller Stein Incorporated*, *Caren Harvey Prothro* ’63, P ’91, *Leslie Stein Selcow* ’63, *Bette Krause Spagel* ’63, *Judith Salzer Warner* ’63, *Connie Young Yu* ’63

**Robbyn Panitch ’79** by *Betsey Shack Goodwin* ’76

**Helen Pillans** by *Barbara Berendsen Capron* ’65

**Nate Rosenberg**, husband of Deborah “Debbie” Beck Rosenberg ’57, by *Barbara Hunter* ’57

**Dorothy Rost** by *Elizabeth Rosenberg*, MFA ’00

**Eleanor Marshall Schaefer ’29** by *Nicole Bartow*

**Irene Wood Schulte ’39** by *Roger Schulte*

**Paul Schumacher, P ’74**, my father, by *Dorothy Schumacher-Jennings* ’74

**Barbara Guard Sheehan ’39** by *Robert and Betty Chu Wo* ’46

**Anne Sherrill** by *Elizabeth Terhune* ’90

**Elizabeth Loudon Steele ’38** by *Julie Case*

**Susan Magoffin Stoker ’49** by *Pauline Royal Langsley* ’49, P ’78, P ’83

**Harriet Bradley Tegart ’42, P ’75**, by *Anne Wagner Price*, MA ’42

**Melody Clarke Teppola ’64** by *Colta Feller Ives* ’64

**Phyllis Howard Thompson ’32** by *W. Howard Thompson and Page Nelson*

**Hugh Wass** by *Warren and Honor Wass*

**Arloine Naplin Webber ’43** by *Margaret Jepsen Bowles*, MA ’65

**Helen and Joe Weber**, parents of Peggy Weber ’65, by *Peggy Weber* ’65 and *Robert Whitlock*, P ’02

**Marian E. Wickline ’35** by *Alice Gonnerman Mueller* ’42

**Christina Wolfe, P ’96**, by *Shannon G. Wolfe* ’96

P=parent

For information about making a tribute gift, contact 510.430.2097 or donors@mills.edu.

# The brighter side of doom and gloom

A personal perspective by Stephanie Mills '69

**W**E'RE ABOUT TO GO THROUGH the refiner's fire. Global industrial civilization, centuries in the making, is on the verge of collapse. Economic globalization and explosive growth have ravaged the planet. The exhaustion of resources and habitats, and the derangement of climate have undermined the physical basis of all our enterprises. Mother Nature, no sentimentalist, may be heaving a sigh of relief.

Soon, starting with oil, the production of fossil fuels will dwindle. The era of cheap energy will be at an end. Far-flung, petroleum-intensive food production and transport systems are certainly doomed. Fantasies that North American modes of living can be extended by grandiose technologies or military adventures will only cost us the time and substance needed to negotiate our descent to living within the bounds of a much-altered biosphere.

Come back to Mills to hear Stephanie Mills present the keynote address at Convocation on October 2.



Stephanie Mills made national headlines with her valedictory address to the Mills Class of 1969: "The future is a cruel hoax" she stated, pointing to the growing threat of over-

population, environmental degradation, and humans' insatiable consumption of resources. Since then, she has been a leading voice in the environmental movement, writing eloquent books and essays, teaching workshops and courses throughout the country. Mills is featured in *Earth Days*, a documentary on the origins of modern environmental activism in this country, which opened at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. She now lives in Maple City, Michigan.

We confront epochal change. Where will we stand? How will we act? What will we hold sacred?

If we are to move through this vast trial with a measure of humanity we must divest and share, demilitarize, and decentralize. Following Thoreau and Gandhi, we must simplify, simplify. We must distinguish between wants and needs. Water, food, shelter, and clothing: dignity, conviviality, and the presence of nature are needs. The rest is consumerism and its day is done.

There is no separate survival, no sustenance without wild nature and resilient ecosystems. As much as it demands drastically curtailing consumption, waste, and pollution, sustenance will entail restoring soils, woodlands, wetlands, uplands and lowlands, prairies and plains.

The crisis calls us back to the beloved community, the community of all beings. Action begins where we are, with a radical rededication to the land. Look around your watershed: What can be done to replenish the land, raise some food, support others, and develop local self-reliance?

**L**et's conceive a different kind of life, one in which we each, as individuals, family members, and neighbors, find ways and means to provide the necessities. Imagine the emergence of myriad diverse, cooperative communities where everyone has much to learn, much to offer, and much work to do. Boundless opportunities to devolve and adapt systems of production, exchange, and governance, confront us. We are all servant-leaders now. Rather than resort to command and control, dominance and hierarchy, we can practice nonviolence and mutual aid.

Civilization may crumble, but wisdom will grow up in the cracks with the green things. A vision beckons: We will evolve cultures that prize balance, not mastery. City, country, and suburban people will create comely dwellings and right-sized settlements that include habitat for native creatures, will cultivate edibles on balconies, rooftops, and former lawns. In budding sacred groves there will be encounters with the wild. Tree planters will renew the water cycle. Torrents and freshets will reappear. Over the centuries, the beauty of the earth will be renewed through the lives of its creatures.

Humility and skillful means will forge a finer humanity. Working with nature, we will come back to our selves and to our senses. The dross will be burned away.

# ALUMNAE TRAVEL

## Go online for news about AAMC travel programs

In an effort to minimize printing costs and reduce waste of natural resources, alumnae travel program operators will increasingly use electronic communications to inform you of upcoming tours. Brochures for Alumnae Association of Mills College (AAMC) tours are now available as PDFs online at <http://www.mills.edu/alumnae/activities/travel.php>. You can also request brochures by calling the AAMC at 510.430.2110 or sending email to [aamc@mills.edu](mailto:aamc@mills.edu).

Here are a few reasons why you learn more—and enjoy more—on AAMC tours with Mills alumnae and friends:

- You share an affinity and history with your fellow travelers.
- You experience highly selective itineraries that focus on educational and cultural enrichment.
- You attend specially planned events with alumnae living abroad.
- You benefit from the efficiency and ease of group travel: superior hotels and restaurants are included in the cost.
- Expert local guides offer knowledge and personal assistance at your point of entry and transfers.
- Tour costs are often all-inclusive of fees, taxes, and tips.

The AAMC Travel Committee is committed to offering tours of the highest value for the best price. We look forward to welcoming you!



### Galapagos and Machu Picchu

Begin the adventure in Lima, Peru, with a walking tour of the city. Next fly to Cuzco to visit the sights from the Inca Empire. A train takes you through the Urubamba Valley to arrive at Machu Picchu, “The Lost City of the Incas.” Return to Cuzco for a guided visit of the city, then fly to Quito for an excursion to Cotopaxi National Park. Fly to Baltra Island to board a yacht for four days of cruising among the Galapagos Islands. Return with a full day at leisure before flying home.  
*August 5–19, 15 days, \$5,099 plus air*

### Post-Reunion trip to the Wine Country

This trip is open to all alumnae and friends who want a short get-away with activities and excursions to interest everyone. Includes a private tour of the Hess Collection and Winery, receptions and dinners, a gourmet luncheon with ideas on coordinating wine and food, and a docent-led tour of the Sonoma Art Guild and private art studios. The trip ends with a cruise up the Napa River for a totally different view of Napa.

*October 4–6, 3 days, \$555*

### Sicily and Southern Italy

Few places in Europe combine history and beauty like this part of Italy. See Rome, the magical Isle of Capri, Sorrento, and Pompeii. An overnight ferry takes you from Naples to the historic island of Sicily. Return to Rome via a drive through Calabria with its unique *trulli* houses. Enjoy an overnight in Rome before flying home.

*October 18–31, 14 days, \$2,899 plus air*

### Israel

This trip will explore three very important regions: the cosmopolitan city of Tel Aviv, the sea and the Golan Heights of Galilee, and Israel’s capital of Jerusalem, including the Western Wall, Temple of the Mount, and Yad Yaseem memorial museum. Also see Masada and the Dead Sea, the lowest dry-land point on earth. Experience a night’s lodging in a Kibbutz Hotel to learn about community life.

*November 21–30, 10 days, \$2,420 plus air*

The best way to learn about new AAMC travel opportunities is to sign up for our monthly @mills email newsletter. Every issue lists new tours. To receive @mills, send your email address to [alumnae-relations@mills.edu](mailto:alumnae-relations@mills.edu) along with your full name, any previous name, and class year (if applicable). Write “@mills” in the subject line of your message.



# Mills Quarterly

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## Mills College wants you back

for a weekend of rediscovery: of reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, revisiting historic spaces and exploring innovative architecture, rejoicing in our environment and learning about efforts to preserve it, reviving traditions and celebrating creativity. This Reunion honors, in particular, the Golden Girls of 1959 and alumnae from class years ending in 4 and 9. Highlights include:

- Convocation on October 2 with speaker **Stephanie Mills '69**, ecological activist and author
- Darius Milhaud Concert
- AAMC Awards Ceremony and Class Luncheon
- Dinners for each Reunioning class, organized by class secretaries
- Class of 1959 dinner at the St. Francis Yacht Club
- Reception and dinner for all Golden Girls
- State of the College presentation by Mills College President Janet L. Holmgren
- Tours of the renovated Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Concert Hall and new campus architecture

## Rediscovering Mills Reunion '09

October 1 through 4, 2009



For more information, visit [www.mills.edu/reunion](http://www.mills.edu/reunion), call 510.430.2123, or email [alumnae-relations@mills.edu](mailto:alumnae-relations@mills.edu). Brochures with full schedules and registration information will be mailed to all alumnae from class years ending in 4 and 9 as well as alumnae in the Bay Area; they will be available to other alumnae by request.