
In Memoriam

Helen Trueblood

April 25, 1918 - May 30, 2017

I first met Helen Trueblood in the late 1980s when I attended a Daylily/Iris/Daffodil Sale. There in the sale tent were four women polishing daffodil bulbs using terrycloth toweling. They were Helen Link, Libby Frey, Dolores Moore and Helen Trueblood, who immediately greeted me. Helen never knew a stranger and always took the opportunity to meet and greet fellow lovers of plants. After my visit with these bastions of the Indiana Daffodil Society, I joined their group. That warm reception and education from Helen's contagious enthusiasm for daffodils gave me "Yellow Fever" and from there I was brought into the fold of ADS.

Helen would be upset with my writing this as she did not want an obituary. She instructed her family that there was not to be one, and if anything needed to be said, "Tell them SHE CAME AND WENT."

Helen was dedicated to preaching the gospel of daffodils. Her unrestricted giving of herself and her knowledge touched all who came in contact with her. She was the recipient of the ADS Silver Medal in 1996, served as Intermediate Chair, Regional Vice-President, Judges' School Instructor, Chair of the 2001 ADS Convention in Louisville, and was active in many other garden clubs and her beloved church, Bethel Baptist Church of Leota. She conducted her rural Leota Barn Show for 25 years as a celebration of her birthday. It was a show not to be missed, a party of the highest order, and exhibitors came from as far as Virginia (Bill Pannill) for her Celebration of the Narcissus.



Helen Trueblood and Dottie Sable.

She was insistent that life was to be lived with purpose and intent. She had her own ideas and thoughts and was comfortable in expressing herself, serving as an iconic example to the IDS women of what is meant by living every moment.

We miss Helen and there are memories, experiences and laughter to be shared. I like to think she is gardening in Heaven, gone from this life but never forgotten.

–Joe Hamm