

# EPITAPH

THE FRIENDS OF MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY VOL. 27 NO. 3 SUMMER 2007

## The Strong Family of Rochester, New York

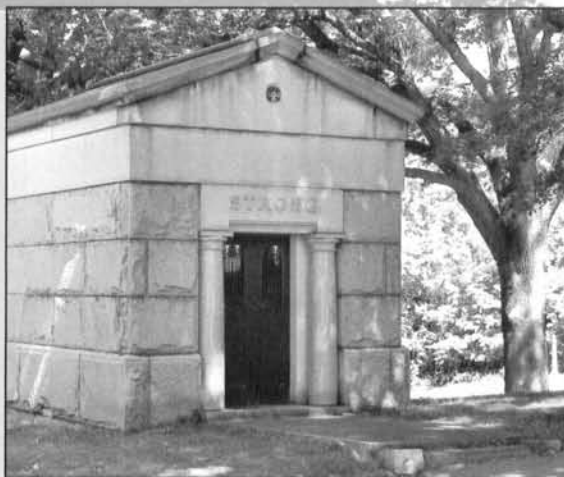
by Elizabeth Jeffries

(Editor's Note: The author is a student at the University of Rochester and prepared this essay as part of the course requirements for Religion 167, *Speaking Stones*, which is taught by Prof. Emil Homerin, who is also a trustee of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery.)

I chose to write about the Strong Mausoleum because I am a member of the Strong family. My grandmother is Ann Emerson Strong Garrett, the daughter of Pritchard Hopkins Strong. I knew very little about her parents because they died when she was very young, but through research I have learned a great deal about how they lived. I chose to write about Henry Alvah Strong and Augustus Hopkins Strong as well, because they were large contributors to both Rochester and other communities.

The Strong family first made their appearance in the United States in 1630 when Elder John Strong arrive from Taunton, England on the ship, *Mary and John*, and landed in Dorchester, Massachusetts. Six generations later, in 1821, the Strong family came to Rochester. Alvah Strong moved with his parents to Rochester, and he began to build the Strong reputation in the area. He became a printer once he had settled in Rochester. He also became a Mormon convert during a Charles Finney revival meeting in Rochester.

Nine years after Alvah's arrival in Rochester, he became the editor and publisher of the *Rochester Daily Democrat* for 30 years, which later became the *Democrat and Chronicle*. Alvah married Catherine Hopkins in 1834, and they had two sons, Henry Alvah and Augustus Hopkins, as well as two daughters, Kate and Belle Strong. Both sons are now interred in the Strong Mausoleum located in Lot 85-86, Section MM in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester, New York. This granite mausoleum was built around 1904 after the lot was purchased by Henry Alvah Strong on June 24.



*The Strong Family Mausoleum stands at the corner of First and Cedar avenues in Section MM.*

*Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

Also interred in  
the Strong Mausoleum are:

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1904: Helen P. Strong, Henry Alvah Strong's first wife

1914: Harriet Savage Strong,  
Augustus Hopkins Strong's first wife

1914: Millie Hoefler Strong, Henry Griffin Strong's wife

1919: Henry Griffin Strong, Henry Alvah Strong's son

1966: Alvah Griffin Strong, Henry Griffin Strong's son

1975: Marjorie Hall Strong, Alvah Griffin Strong's wife

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The following have ashes in  
urns located in the mausoleum:

1917: Maria Ann Corrin

1938: Margaretta Geraldine Strong,  
Augustus Hopkins Strong's second wife

\*1937: Pritchard Hopkins Strong,  
Henry Griffin Strong's son

\*1937: Margaret E.B. (Peggie)  
Strong, Pritchard Hopkins' wife

1939: Cora Strong, Augustus and  
Harriet Strong's daughter

1952: Hattie Lockwood Strong,  
Henry Alvah Strong's second wife

1955: Gertrude Strong Achilles,  
Henry Alvah and Helen P. Strong's  
daughter

\*Pritchard's and Peggie's ashes were in the Strong Mausoleum from November 1, 1937 until they were moved to Peggie's family plot, located at Lot 58, Range 3 on December 21, 1937.

Henry Alvah Strong had a very interesting past and made a very successful future for himself. He was the younger of Alvah Strong's two sons but he made a huge impact not only on Rochester but on the world. Henry was born in Rochester on August 30, 1838. He was educated at a prep school in Rochester and then at Wyoming Academy, where he graduated in 1858. Henry was married to Helen P. Griffin on August 30, 1859 with whom he had three children: Gertrude Achilles, Helen Carter, and Henry G. Strong. Following his wife Helen's death in 1894 from diabetes, he married a second time on June 14, 1905. His second wife was Hattie (Corrin) Lockwood, and he had a stepson from this marriage, Corrin Lockwood.

Following his education, Henry Alvah Strong worked at the American Exchange Bank in New York City and then joined the military in 1861, where he mysteriously attained the rank of colonel. When he returned to Rochester following the Civil War, he went into business with his uncle, Myron (and partner, John Woodbury), making buggy whips. In 1870, the Strong family became boarders of Maria Eastman. Her son, George Eastman, had a great interest in photography, and at the end of 1880 Henry invested \$1000 and became president of Eastman Dry Plate Company. He invested additional capital in 1881, and became the public face for Eastman's company. The name of the company changed eventually to Eastman Kodak Company, and Henry remained the president of the company until his death on July 26, 1919.

In 1920, Gertrude Strong Achilles and Helen Strong Carter made a donation in their parents' name to the teaching hospital at the University of Rochester medical school. Another donation was given by Hattie Strong to the University to have an auditorium erect-

ed in her husband's name. Hattie made considerable donations over her lifetime to various institutions, many of which were places of higher education. These donations include the president's house at Peiping University (China), a girls' home economics building at Hampton Institute, and she endowed beds at hospitals for children in Washington, D.C. and Seattle. She also established the "Hattie M. Strong Foundation" to lend money to worthy students interested in attending college.

Augustus Hopkins Strong, brother of Henry Alvah Strong and the older of Alvah Strong's two

sons, was famous in his own right. He was a very prominent Baptist theologian of his day as well as president of the Rochester Theological Seminary where he had earlier received his own seminary education. Augustus was born on August 3, 1836 in Rochester, New York and attended Yale University, where he received his undergraduate degree in 1857. He then attended Rochester Theological Seminary (now Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester) before traveling to Europe and the Middle East. He then accepted a position in Haverhill, Massachusetts where he was ordained in 1861. He moved on to Cleveland, Ohio for seven years where he gained a reputation as having "meticulously prepared sermons on the great themes of Christian faith". Having gained such a sound reputation, he received honorary degrees from several institutions including D.D. degrees from Brown, Yale, and Princeton universities, and Litt.D. from the University of Rochester. He was offered the position of president and teacher of the Rochester Theological Seminary in 1872 and stayed there for 40 years, as he watched the school thrive. During this time he

also served on the board of trustees at Vassar College.

Augustus married twice during his lifetime, first to Harriet Louise Savage. They were married on November 6, 1861, while he was



*Strong Auditorium on the University of Rochester campus was one of many gifts to the university from the Strong family.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

living in Massachusetts. She contracted cerebral meningitis in the 1880s, however, and died in 1914. He had four daughters and two sons with Harriet: Charles, Mary, John Henry, Cora, Kate, and Laura. Augustus married Marguerite Geraldine van Ingen on January 1, 1915. Augustus died a few years later in 1921 in Pasadena, California.

Pritchard Strong, born on July 2, 1906, was the son of Henry Griffin Strong and Millie Hoefler Strong. His wife, Margaret Emerson Bush Strong, born December 6, 1905, was the daughter of John Fellows Bush and Maude Emerson. Pritchard and Peggie both lived very full lives until their tragic deaths on August 27, 1937, Pritchard at the age of 30, and Peggie at 31. They were married on June 18, 1927 and their daughter, Ann Emerson Strong, was born a year later. Both had very active social lives, and Pritchard was involved in politics and an avid sportsman.

The Strongs lived very well, as Pritchard had inherited quite a fortune upon his father's death in 1919. The Strongs had a winter home in Miami where Pritchard enjoyed deep sea fishing, as well as a farm on Allens Creek where Pritchard kept a stable of polo ponies,

in addition to their home at 2700 East Avenue in Brighton, New York.

Pritchard was a member of numerous social and sporting clubs in Rochester, including the Country Club of Rochester, Rochester Gun Club, Rochester Polo Club, Automobile Club of Rochester, and the Rochester Yacht Club. He was also a member of the Yale Alumni Association of Rochester, having graduated from Yale in 1929. He was also the Brighton Police Commissioner in

1933 and was a former Brighton County Committeeman. In 1934, Pritchard won the election for assemblyman from the First Monroe District and continued to be re-elected until his death in 1937.

Thomas E. Broderick, a friend of Pritchard and Peggie, as well as the Republican

## EPITAPH

*Published quarterly by the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester, New York 14620, a nonprofit member organization founded in 1980.*

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County Leader, said, "Rochester has suffered an unfortunate loss in the death of Assemblyman Strong. It has been a terrible shock to me, as I know it must be to others. A promising young businessman of our community and an aggressive legislator, Mr. Strong's place will be hard to fill. He was a valuable asset to the Republican Party as he was to the city. In Albany he had made a record in the lower house of Legislature which advanced him to the front rank of the state's most progressive lawmakers. His worth as a forward thinking citizen was widely recognized. Our city and our state can ill afford to lose such valuable men."

This quote is a good example of the feelings regarding the loss of Assemblyman Strong as well as a description of his positive character. The fact that he was elected for three terms as a Republican during a time when Democrats were winning nationwide is very telling.

The deaths of Pritchard and Peggie Strong occurred when they were flying from Saratoga Springs to Albany on a foggy night. The plane crashed, killing all four passengers onboard. This was Peggie's first trip on the plane, and sadly, it was her last. The Strongs had flown in the assemblyman's private plane to Saratoga Springs to watch a horse race and decided to fly back to Albany around 12:30 a.m. on August 27, 1937. The weather was bad with heavy fog and rain. The pilot, Clarence Robinson, radioed the Albany airport asking to be informed when they were over the landing field. The plane ended up going down in a wooded area two miles south of Albany, with no survivors. Clarence Robinson, Charles Judson, and the Strongs were all killed in the crash.

This was not the first instance of Assemblyman Strong using poor judgment when deciding to fly. Earlier in the year, the *Democrat & Chronicle* ran an article entitled "Assemblyman Strong Safe After 2 Forced Landings". He decided to fly back from Albany to Rochester in sleet and snow. Clarence Robinson, his pilot, took the controls as he was the more experienced pilot of the two. The plane's carburetor froze during their trip back, and they had to make an emergency landing in a cornfield. They were able to thaw the carburetor, but when they attempted to fly back to Albany, the carburetor froze again. The plane was damaged in the

second landing six miles outside of Albany. Following this event, Strong said that he would continue to fly, and this led to his and his wife's tragic death.

Following the death of her parents, Ann Emerson Strong was placed in the middle of a custody battle between her maternal grandparents and her paternal uncle. Pritchard Strong had been a millionaire at the time of his death, and Ann, at nine years old, stood to inherit a good portion of the money when she turned twenty-one. There was also a portion of the fortune given to Peggie's mother, aunt, and brother. There were also large donations made to Rochester General Hospital and the Convalescent Home for Children. Pritchard had been on the Board of Trustees at both hospitals.

The custody battle was finally won by Alvah G. Strong, Pritchard's older brother and Ann's uncle, when Mr. and Mrs. John Bush dropped their suit. Ann then moved in with her uncle, aunt, and cousins: Sally (9), Nancy (12), and Betty (16), who she then considered to be her sisters. Ann Strong Garrett is still a resident of Rochester, living on the Allens Creek property. The polo pony stable has since been converted into a home where one of her sons lives.

The Strong family has a history in the city of Rochester as contributors and socialites. Each of the members of this family participated in Rochester's history in unique ways, and many Strong descendants are still in the area. Educational facilities especially have been impacted by charitable donations made by Strong relatives and also by members of the Strong family holding positions of high authority within educational institutions. The mausoleum located in Mt. Hope Cemetery is only one of the many places in Rochester where family members and friends of the Strongs can go to remember those who have died. Through research I have been able to learn a history of my family that is not often talked about and I was even able to find information that my family members did not previously know.

## ENGAGING NEW TOUR CELEBRATES JEWISH ROOTS IN ROCHESTER

by Jan Wyland

On a clear, sunny weekend in June more than 75 people experienced the new "Jewish Roots" tour of Mount Hope Cemetery, researched and designed by Friends member Susan Jaschik. The two-hour tour was given once each day on Saturday and Sunday, June 16-17.

The tour visited plots established by different congregations, beginning with the first Jewish communal burial plot (established in 1848), where restoration work is currently underway, and ending at the grave site of Joel Bloom (1963-1996), beloved cantorial assistant at Temple Sinai whose memorial stone is engraved with musical notes.

As the tour progressed, guide Neil Jaschik, Susan's husband, revealed the history of Rochester's Jewish community as reflected in the stories of individuals. For example:

- Myer Greentree (1818-1890) came seeking economic opportunity and became one of the founders of Rochester's clothing industry and the Jewish community here.
- Morris Seligman (1819-1890) was also a prominent clothing merchant. His granddaughters, Miriam and Julia Seligman, entered the University of Rochester with the first small group of women students in 1900. Their mother, Henriette Seligman, helped Susan B. Anthony raise the funds required by the university in order to admit women.
- Alfred Hart (1878-1936) opened a small, low-overhead, self-service grocery that he expanded to the Harts chain of 100 grocery stores by 1927. Among other philanthropic

projects, he founded an organization for Jewish youth that evolved into today's Jewish Community Center.

- Nathan Stein (1823-1908) was the founder, with partner Leo Bloch, of Stein-Bloch Clothes, an enormously successful clothing manufactory. He built the largest mausoleum in the cemetery; it sleeps 20.

- Lillian Wald (1867-1940) dedicated her life to social service, and founded the U.S. Visiting Nurse Service.

- Joel Howard Bloom (1963-1996) was, according to his tombstone epitaph, "Beloved Son, Brother, Uncle, Partner, Best Friend. Forever in Our Hearts." A musician in life, Bloom receives a single-word, exclamatory command on the opposite side of his gravestone: "BLOOM!"

Many other intriguing and inspiring stories were shared, offering all who attended a new appreciation of the rich history and important contributions of Rochester's Jewish community.



*Joel Bloom was a musician as can be noted on the face of his gravestone. Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*



*The first Jewish communal burial plot in Mount Hope Cemetery was established in 1848. It is in Section O. Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*



*The reverse face features an exclamatory command, "Bloom!" Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*



*Many of the fallen stones in the first Jewish plot are in the process of being restored with new foundations. Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

## PROMINENT UKRAINIANS BURIED IN MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

by Jonathan Mark Carpenter

I have four family members buried in Mount Hope Cemetery that have numerous stories that I would like to share with you.

My great grandfather, Svitozor Dragomanow was the son of Mikhail



*Svitozor Dragomanow, a Ukrainian immigrant, championed Ukraine's independence from USSR.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

Dragomanow, a professor of history and political science in the capital of the Ukraine, Kiev, and a staunch supporter of Ukrainian independence from Russia. Mikhail Dragomanow wrote numerous books and pamphlets that are in the Library of Congress (Washington, D.C.), the Ukrainian Institute of the United States (New York City), Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), and on the Internet. In addition, he was a close friend of George Bernard Shaw and the Fabian Movement.

Because of his political views about Ukrainian independence, his teachings, and his writings against the czar of Russia, Mikhail Dragomanow was declared "An Enemy of The Russian State", and he had to flee to Switzerland. Even though he was exiled from Ukraine, he continued his work and studies, which were published and distributed in Ukraine.

His son, my great grandfather Svitozor Dragomanow, was a professor of economics and continued his father's fight for Ukrainian independence. His books and pamphlets also were circulated in Ukraine. As with his father, the younger Dragomanow was also declared "An Enemy of The Russian State" by the czar and later by Stalin. Despite his exile, he persisted in his fight for the independence of Ukraine, which he continued until his death in 1958. So, my great grandfather followed in the footsteps of his father, Mikhail Dragomanow, to fight for Ukrainian independence in exile during both world wars and after he and my family came to America in 1952.

My great grandmother, Antonina Dragomanow (spelled Dragomanov on her tombstone), wife of Svitozor Dragomanow, was also active in the Ukrainian independence movement from the czar and USSR. She was highly respected in the Ukrainian community because of her active participation in so many ethnic groups. She was influential in establishing St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which is located on St. Paul Blvd. She was also an artist, especially in weaving, and her works are at the Harvard Ukrainian Institute and the U.S. Ukrainian Institute in New York City. She died in 1981 at the age of 94, and her memory is still in the hearts of the Ukrainian community.

My grandfather, Illya Demydenko, was a professor of chemistry and also a staunch supporter of Ukrainian independence, as was his family. Unfortunately, his family was brutally murdered by the czar of Russia because of their political views. The intention was to

murder my grandfather as well, but at the last moment, he escaped to Switzerland, where he later met his wife, my grandmother.

Just like his father-in-law, Illya Demydenko wrote pamphlets supporting Ukrainian independence and continued to do so from his exile in Switzerland. Under Stalin, he was again declared an enemy of the state because of his compelling publications. He produced his writings during both world wars and continued his work in America after he and his family immigrated in 1952. In the U.S., he helped to establish the Ukrainian institutes at both Harvard University and

New York City. Locally, he was one of the founders of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union. He also helped to establish St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which was initially on Hudson Avenue, but now is located on St. Paul Blvd. in West Irondequoit. My grandfather died in 1991 at the age of 89 years. He was highly respected in Rochester's Ukrainian community and throughout the United States and Ukraine.



*Antonina Dragomanow, Svitozor's wife, was a founder of St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church and an accomplished artist.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*



*Illya and Ludmyla Demydenko are buried in this grave marked by a modest wooden cross. They both had distinguished careers with significant contributions to society.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

My grandmother, Ludmyla Demydenko, was born in Switzerland, and that is where she met my grandfather, Illya. She was a professor of architecture, and after emigrating to the U.S., she worked as an architect for the Rochester City School District for several decades. One of the schools she designed is No. 12 School on South Avenue, across from Highland Hospital.

During World War II, she was invaluable to the Allied Forces. She spoke six languages and helped Jewish people both in Europe and the U.S. interpret the markings that had been put on the arms of Jews. In addition, when she lived in Switzerland, she was able to use her fluency in six languages to translate for the Allied forces information coming from the Nazis. In addition, she worked with her father and her husband Illya, for Ukrainian Independence. After World War II, Stalin listed her as an "Enemy of the State" because of her political beliefs and information she obtained for her father and husband.

In 1952, she immigrated to the United States with her husband and family and achieved high respect in the Ukrainian community in Rochester as she had in Ukraine. She also helped her husband establish the United States Ukrainian Institute in New York City. She enjoyed and created Ukrainian art, and there are books of her artwork in the Library of Congress and in New York City. She died in 1986 at the age of 71 years, and in the Ukrainian community, she left fond memories of her compassion and intelligence for her work in World War II and for Ukrainian independence, as well as for her published art.

## LETITIA MC KINNEY EULOGIZED AT FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING

by John Pearsall

*(Editor's Note: The following remarks were prepared by Friends trustee, John Pearsall, and delivered at the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery annual meeting, April 11, 2007.)*

Almost exactly a year ago at the 2006 annual meeting of the Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery, we honored Letitia McKinney by making her an honorary member of the board of trustees for her dedication and efforts for the organization. At the time, Tish could only respond by saying, "I don't deserve this." She said it so often that we finally had to agree with her and say, "Yes, you don't deserve it, but we have given it to you and you will just have to live with it." This was typical of Tish. She didn't want any recognition for all her many good deeds. Whenever she did any favors for anyone or gave anything to you, she would always add, "Now, don't thank me." Yet, on the other hand, she would thank anyone, even for the smallest favor. She was famous for her thank-you notes. When she was in the hospital last spring and later in rehab at St. John's, she kept track of everyone who sent her a card and she sent them a thank-you note. She was kept very busy sending cards daily. Tish contributed generously to the Friends and gave an annual donation to the fund set up in memory of her husband, Jack. The corresponding secretary would send Tish a thank you for her donation to which Tish would respond by sending a thank you back to her for the thank you. The corresponding secretary asked me what to do about this since she had never encountered a thank you for a thank you. I told her to leave it at that, because Tish always wanted to have the last thank you.

Tish's great love was gardening and she pursued it with fervor. As soon as she retired as a psychiatric social worker at Strong, she devoted herself to it entirely. She immediately volunteered at the Rochester Civic Garden Center, where she worked in the library and kept several garden beds on the premises for over 30 years. Her husband Jack loved the cemetery, which was just across the street from their home. Long before the Friends was even established, he would enjoy walking through the cemetery. I think he must have been familiar with every inch of the site. He didn't just stroll through the cemetery; he studied it. He kept track of every monument with a cherub on it, and he knew where many family plots were. People could question him about a plot and more often than not he could tell them where it was. Consequently, Jack was one of the founding members of the Friends. He involved Tish by asking her to see if she couldn't start restoring some of the flowerbeds in the cemetery, which hadn't been cared for in years. Tish claimed that she picked the smallest rock garden, but it wasn't long before she had taken on other plots and recruited many of her friends at the Garden Center to aid her. For years, Tish could be found at six in the morning caring for her gardens. She loved to go to the public market on Saturday and buy plants, so her gardens were always changing. I said she never met a plant she didn't like. What many people didn't realize, when they stopped to talk with her about her garden, was that the gardens in Mt. Hope were not the only ones she cared for. Besides at least four gardens that she established at the Garden Center she put in a long border of plants at the AAUW (American Association of University Women). You can see the thousand daffodils that she planted under a beech tree in the front lawn at their headquarters on East Avenue. She established a butterfly garden at the Burroughs-Audubon clubhouse. She had a large garden with an enormous number of rare and exotic plants in the backyard of her house and when she moved into an apartment she asked the management if she could make a garden at the front of the building beside the entrance. They were more than happy to have her do it. The border started on a small scale but it wasn't long before she had extended the garden the whole length of the building. She was at her happiest when she was outdoors working in her garden. In the winter, she was a hooker. Jack use to brag about this with a big hearty laugh. In case you didn't know, she hooked rugs. Jack, by the way, was a big joker.

He was famous for his puns and kept board meetings entertained with them. To that end, Tish had engraved on his tombstone, "Thanks for laughter."

Tish approached everything as an adventure. Even the most mundane activities she considered adventurous. And things that most of us would not look forward to doing, she went at as just another adventure. When she lost the use of her car, she learned to take the bus everywhere she needed to go. Even though her many friends offered to take her places, she preferred to take the bus so she could meet people. She learned the routes and went everywhere by bus, even to rather distant places. Although Tish had traveled extensively in foreign countries, she decided in the spirit of adventure to see the U.S. up close and personal. Four years ago she announced that she planned to go cross-country by train over the Christmas holidays. We weren't happy to hear this, but we were absolutely horrified to hear she was going round trip to Los Angeles and planned to sit up the entire distance in coach since that way she would be able to meet people. All of her friends got together and decided to talk her out of this crazy stunt. She would hear nothing of it. She would meet an old college classmate in LA and go to lunch with her and her family, immediately get back on the train and return the same day. She would not tell us when she was leaving for fear we would put up a blockade to keep her from going. She took a taxi to the station and was on her way. We all feared for the worst. We knew the day she was returning and decided we would meet the few trains coming from the West. She wasn't on the first one but she was on the second one. She was glowing when she got off the train and reported that she had had a wonderful adventure. She had a very small bag which we put in the trunk of the car. She immediately said she had to go back in the station. We thought she had left a bigger bag on the platform or worse yet on the train. As she was going into the station two ladies were coming out. You would have thought they were long lost relatives. They talked for some time. When she got back to the car, Tish said they were women she had met on the train and she

just wanted to say goodbye to them. We all breathed a sigh of relief when she was safely at home. The following year she let it be known that she was going to go cross-country on the train again, but this time to Portland, Oregon. Again, she was going to sit up the entire distance in coach. She would meet some relatives of Jack's whom she had never seen. She planned on taking them to dinner since it would be too late for lunch. Also, she would have to stay overnight in Portland. We were in



*John and Letitia McKinney, both significant contributors to the efforts of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery, are buried in Section L.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

no position to oppose this and gave her our blessing. She had gone to AAA to make a reservation in Portland for a hotel room. When she got into a taxi in Portland, she gave the driver the address of her hotel. He informed her that the hotel was over twenty miles away but that there was another hotel in the same chain much closer to the station. He took her to the closer hotel and even went into the hotel and helped her to cancel her first reservation and exchange it for the closer hotel. He even made arrangements to pick her up the next morning at the appointed time and take her back to the train. Tish always used the ploy of saying to younger men, "What would you advise me to do if I were your grandmother?" It seemed to work well no matter whether she was dealing with a car dealer, a mechanic, doctor, dentist, lawyer, or the ticket seller or taxi driver. She seemed to know how to get them working on her side.

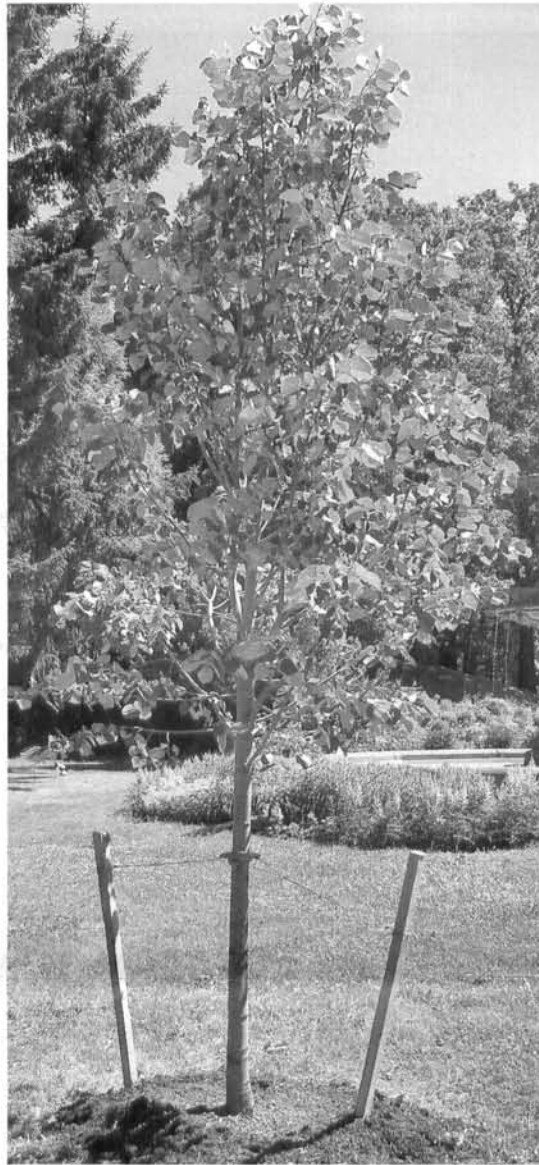
Now she had two cross-country trips under her belt. The next year, she decided to go south. This time she would take the train to Atlanta and meet her brother there. This seemed like a safe bet, since it was a shorter trip, so we all wished her well until we found that she would not make a connection with her train in New York and would be required to wait all night in Penn Station. In my recollection, Penn Station was not a place you wanted to be in in the middle of the night. It was filled, especially in winter, with the homeless, the panhandlers, and an assortment of folks whom you would not want to know what they were doing there. However, I had read that Mayor Giuliani had cleaned up the station by sending the homeless to shelters and scaring off the rest of the riff-raff. This happened to be the case when Tish was there seated in the middle of the night. However, the security guards took her for a homeless person and were about to hustle her off to a shelter until she assured them she was just waiting for a train the next morning. The security guards believed her and told her they would keep an

eye on her through the night so she was under police protection the whole time. When she got to her brother's, he would not hear of her returning by train and bundled her off on a plane to Rochester. She was amazed how short a trip it was but still regretted that she hadn't had an adventure coming back.

Tish was an amazing woman. We were certainly fortunate to have her working many years with the Friends of Mt. Hope. Her dedication and support were beyond what anyone could expect. She will be missed by all those who came in touch with her through the years.

## NEW TREE REPLACES FALLEN FERNLEAF BEECH

A great historic European fernleaf beech provided a green backdrop to the Florentine fountain in the north entrance area of Mount Hope Cemetery for 160 years. Several years ago, it acquired a fungus disease that finally required its removal. Its monumental presence was sorely missed, and the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery decided to replace it. Landscape architect and Friends trustee Ed Olinger selected a replacement tree, which was planted recently. It is a European silver linden (*Tilia tomentosa*). The silver linden is one of many species of European lindens that are valued as specimen trees because of their size and form. The tree, with erect branching and a regular outline that appears to have been clipped, will grow to a height of 60 feet. Its formal oval shape can be detected in the accompanying photograph of the newly planted young tree.



*A silver linden tree  
has been planted near the  
Florentine fountain to replace a fallen  
European fernleaf beech.  
Photo by Frank A. Gillespie.*

Besides being an especially handsome tree, the silver linden is very hardy and highly suited to urban locations. It is a somewhat slower-growing tree than American lindens, also called basswoods. But it can live for centuries.

The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery will dedicate this tree to the memory of John (Jack) McKinney (1921-1998) and Letitia (Tish) McKinney (1916-2007), longtime very active members of the Friends organization. In fact, Jack McKinney was one of the original founders of the organization back in 1980. A granite dedication monument will be placed at the base of the new silver linden.



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