

**MEMORIAL MEETING for
JOSEPH RUTLEDGE
November 12, 2016**

We gather to share our loss and gratitude for the life of Joseph Rutledge. We all share equally in this Meeting.

As is our custom in the manner of Friends, we will sit quietly. Everyone is welcome to speak out of the silence about a memory, story, funny incident, or prayer that celebrates the life of Joseph. If you wish to speak, please stand and the clerk will hand you the microphone. Friends find that allowing some silence to follow others' spoken words deepens our worship. Those who keep to silence, as well as those who give a vocal message participate in the worship.

Prior to the rise of Meeting for Worship we will sing:

I can see you with my eyes.
I can touch you with my hands.
I can feel you in my heart.
I can hold you in my heart.
When I can't see you anymore,
When I can't touch you anymore,
I will feel you in my heart.
I will keep you in my heart.

All are invited to a reception downstairs.

**JOSEPH RUTLEDGE
8/9/1928-10/3/2016**

Joseph Dela Rutledge was born on August 9th, 1928 in Selma, Alabama to Clara Hard Rutledge (a social worker and civil rights activist) and Irwin Brooks Rutledge (a civil engineer). Joe grew up in Montgomery and Lillian, Alabama. He attended Swarthmore College and graduated in 1949. At college he was introduced to Quakerism and met his future wife, Barbara Bruce. After Swarthmore, he worked on tuberculosis research in Philadelphia as a conscientious objector during the Korean War, before heading up to Ithaca with Barbara to get a PhD in Mathematical Logic at Cornell University. Doctorate in hand, he moved to Mahopac, NY and took a job as a research mathematician at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Laboratory. He was at IBM from 1958 – 2003, working on everything from early computer architecture, to theory, to the development of the TRAC Point II, an alternative to a 'mouse' that sits in laptop keyboards around the world. He did two sabbaticals during his career to teach math at the

college level, one in 1967-68 in Grenoble, France and in 1974-75 at Spellman College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Joe had a life full of adventure, service and family. He was constantly climbing; technical climbing in the 'Gunks', mountaineering in the United States, the Alps and South America, even the walls at IBM (literally). He also backpacked extensively, took long canoe trips and ran 5 miles most days. After retirement, he took up paragliding. Joe was deeply involved with Friends, and was a member of Chappaqua Meeting where he served as Treasurer, among other committee positions, for many years. He also served as Treasurer for Purchase Quarter and New York Yearly Meeting. He served on committees and boards for Powell House and Oakwood School. He had 4 children, Wendy, Ellen, Claire and Andrew. All of whom were brought along on camping trips, taught to ice skate out on Lake Mahopac, hiked up mountains, taken to peace marches and brought to Meeting and Powell House. Joe also played violin in the Putnam Symphony Orchestra, loved to square dance and sang in several vocal groups. Joe was a quiet man, with deep convictions, strong opinions and a great passion for life. A paragliding accident in the French Alps at the age of 78 left him with compromised mobility. But his perseverance had him walking until the end, and he bore with the great changes in his life with remarkable equanimity and cheerfulness. He died on October 3, 2016 of complications from Parkinson's Disease.