

Obituaries

youth birding; creating a spirit of cooperation among birders; and always acting as a gentleman. He will be sorely missed by the birding community. His life will be remembered equally for his contributions to ornithology as a science, and to birding as enjoyment. Dave leaves behind his two sons and a daughter, three brothers and a sister, and his good friend Kieren.

Chris Walters
324 Hathaway Lane
Wynnewood, PA 19096

Andy Ednie
59 Lawson Avenue
Claymont, DE 19703

Helen C. McWilliams **1923-2005**

Helen McWilliams passed away peacefully at her Swarthmore home on Aug. 30, 2005. An avid birder, naturalist, competitive gardener and flower arranger, she was one of the first women to join DVOG in 1983.

In Delaware County, Helen mentored birders young and old, organizing local field trips and always including new birders. She shared the traditional hot spots and her special birding places. Surprisingly, few birders can remember where they met Helen, and each one feels they always knew her and birded with her. She encountered many of her fellow-birders at Tyler Arboretum, Lima, PA, now part of the Upper Ridley/Crum Important Bird Area (IBA), where she and her late husband Jack played a major role in its support. Helen taught nature education courses at Tyler and at local grade schools. She led bird walks

and gave bird programs for a variety of organizations. In 1973 she discovered a Red-breasted Nuthatch nest in Swarthmore for a first Delaware County breeding record. Helen participated in the Glenolden Christmas Bird Count for decades. Her home was the lunch stop for the Swarthmore team and even when she was no longer able to bird, the Swarthmore team always joined her for lunch. She also “block-busted” in Wayne Co. for the 1st Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas.

Helen is survived by her daughter Mimi (Mary Margaret) of Swarthmore and sons John and Will and their families.

Doris McGovern
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