

## **Marian E. LeFevre**

Marian Ellison (Willis) LeFevre died January 14, 2020 at Lasell House in Newton, Mass. She was 96.

Marian was born January 21, 1923 to Benjamin Sutton Willis and Harriet (Bozarth) Willis. The family lived in Ames, Iowa, where Benjamin taught at Iowa State University. Marian attended local schools and Iowa State, majoring in Zoology. She then studied Physiology at the University of Pennsylvania, receiving a Master's degree in 1947.

While on a research project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Marian met her future husband, Paul Green LeFevre. After their marriage, Marian moved to Vermont, where Paul was on the faculty at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Paul and Marian had four children, Bradley Paul, Louise Victoria, Vanessa Fay, and Ralph Sebastian. During this time, Paul worked at BNL, then joined the faculty of the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Marian spent about 15 years as a housewife, but resumed her studies of physiology, completing her PhD at U of Louisville in 1968. The family then moved to Long Island. Marian worked at BNL, investigating ion transport and barrier functions of membranes. Her many publications included analyses of the interactions of particulate pollutants, such as coal dust and latex particles, with membranes and organs. Paul was on the faculty of SUNY at Stony Brook.

Upon their retirement, Paul and Marian moved to Woods Hole. Paul died in 1998 at age 78. In 2000, Marian relocated to Lasell Village in Newton. She moved to Lasell House, the skilled nursing unit, after a stroke in 2013.

Marian is survived by her children Vicki LeFevre and husband Gerald Fine, Vanessa LeFevre, and Ralph LeFevre and wife Christine Esprabens; her granddaughters Hannah Leonard and Leah Fine; and her great-granddaughter Morgan Leonard. She was predeceased by her son Bradley LeFevre, sister Alice Willis, and brother John Willis. A memorial service took place Sunday, February 2 at Burke and Blackington, West Newton, Mass.