

**Memorial Minute for Ralph Peabody**  
**(Jan 30, 1928 – May 27, 2016)**

Ralph Peabody, a member of Pittsburgh Friends Meeting, was born January 30, 1928, in Birmingham, Michigan, and died at Sherwood Oaks retirement community, Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania, May 27, 2016.

Ralph and his wife Delores M. Stevenson started the first pre-school exclusively for blind children in a public school in River Rouge, Michigan. In 1963 they moved to Pittsburgh, where he initiated and coordinated the program for the professional preparation of teachers of the visually handicapped at the University of Pittsburgh. He served with this program for 25 years. An innovative teacher, he received many honors for his work.

Ralph and Del were active Methodists until her death. After she passed away, he realized that many of the Sherwood Oaks residents who had supported him during Del's last months were Quakers and that he was drawn to their beliefs and practices. He spoke of his experience attending Meeting for Worship for the first time and feeling instantly at home. He continued coming to Meeting regularly and participating in committee work as long as he was able.

As the contact person between Pittsburgh Friends Meeting and the Sherwood Oaks Worship Group, he regularly read the Queries at the end of meeting for worship.

A Memorial Service in the manner of Friends was held for Ralph at Sherwood Oaks on June 11, 2016.