

Memorial Minute for Wendell Cotton
(April 13, 1925—October 28, 2014)

Wendell Cotton was an energetic and gregarious member of Broadmead Friends Meeting. He and his wife, Marie, started a worship group at the Dorothy Love Retirement Community in Sidney, Ohio, when they moved there in 1993. Sidney was a small gathering, mostly made up of people who lived in the retirement community. The worship group became part of Broadmead Monthly Meeting.

Wendell was a veteran of WW II and served again in Korea. He became part of the Quaker community in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, sometime in 1959-1960. He and Marie moved to the Oberlin, OH area about 1961 and lived there, raising four children and attending Oberlin Meeting for over 30 years. He and Marie stood in a peace vigil at the White House in 1965 and participated in peace vigils against the Iraq war from 2005-2011. He was a member of Veterans for Peace.

Wendell built a successful business selling industrial machinery. He was known for his hard work, honesty, and integrity. One son shared how Wendell's example was a model for his own life. Wendell also was an adventurer and shared his love of flying and doing acrobatics in his decathlon plane with his children and their friends.

He loved people and, when he engaged someone in conversation, he would focus all his attention on that individual. In his last years he drove the transport bus for the Dorothy Love Retirement Community, and his banter and love of people were well known.

He and Marie were a devoted couple, and he often referred to her as "The best thing that ever happened to me." He died on the same day as Marie after 64 years of marriage.