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Poem for Marguerite Evans

In Memoriam For Marguerite Evans

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The Guilford Gazette was established in 1995 and is published by students at Guilford Central School, with support from the Town of Guilford. We publish three issues per year: November, March, and May.

374 School Road, Guilford, Vermont, USA
Phone: 802-254-2271

E-Mail: gazette@guilfordschool.org

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1.

Amid spring fancywork, fiddlehead and trillium,
we pause to celebrate Marguerite Evans,

down-to-earth mother, grand, great-grand, great-great;
Town Clerk, historian, armchair-wanderer,
wielder of needle, hook and trowel...

Who kept the books with equanimity, counting
brides and babies, hippies and town fathers, citizens;

Who welcomed cardinal and swallowtail,
hummingbird and monarch to her fragrant realm;

Who fashioned gardens lovely as crocheted lap robes,
and snipped cutwork daisies from the pasture;

Who knitted wildlife into sweaters and mittens
for the children of children, strangers, gladly as her own.

Who folded her hands
the last square stitched in unchained air.

2.

Marguerite, late in the twentieth century,
you stood among the Blanchard stones and told
youngsters and flatlanders old Guilford lore.
Broad Brook seconded the stories.

Now you've crossed over
from the loved homestead,
up this winding road,
not hard to find.

Hear Broad Brook sing in bed
as it always did, for you, in yours.

Rest below the trees you tapped,
sweet wind in the leafing maples.

Verandah Porche
May 10, 2006



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