

## IN MEMORY OF MARJORIE T. CHAPIN | 1929 – 2011

by Virginia Barker

Marjorie Chapin, Institute member, died Thursday, March 3, 2011.  
She was 81.

Marjorie reminded me of a tiny whirlwind. She was about five feet tall, about 100 pounds, had straight white hair, and snapping eyes. She was never still.

Joan Bryant brought Marjorie to the Institute Book Club six years ago when Marjorie and her husband moved to Eustis from Key West. They were tired of the hurricanes.

At book club meetings, Marjorie would twist in her chair, rifle the pages of the book under discussion, or thumb through her copious notes. She had some difficulty hearing, so we had to speak up. She volunteered for so many organizations that she needed a detailed organizer to keep track of her obligations.

According to Joan Bryant, "Other peoples' opinions or current trends did not influence Marjorie Chapin. Her views were her own. This even showed in her style of dress.

She always wore khaki shorts and, in place of a belt, there was a colorful scarf around her waist. A T-shirt topped it off. Margie volunteered with a lot of groups and she owned at least one shirt for each of them. So, the shirt matched the occasion.

The ensemble was complete with a pair of bright white Keds. When we would take the Lake Eustis Sailing Club's committee boat out for the Laser races, she would be wearing her sneakers. When we beached the boat on the shore, we had to be where she could step off and not get her shoes wet or dirty!"

Marjorie wrote her own obituary days before she died. She was a New Yorker who attended the University of Rochester School of Nursing. She and Sam married and moved to Springfield, IL where Sam practiced as a pediatrician and Marjorie raised their two sons. Marjorie went back to school to earn a B.A. and M.A. in literature. She also continued working as a nurse. Marjorie and Sam retired in 1987 and moved to Key West. They moved to Eustis in 2005.

We will miss Marjorie Chapin.

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