



## Mrs. Nina Houghton

November 13, 1937 - March 15, 2020

Nina Rodale Houghton was born and raised in Allentown, PA. Her sons like to say that she lived four lives. The first chapter was her unusual upbringing as the daughter of J.I. Rodale, who was ahead of his time, bringing awareness to the science and benefits of Organic Gardening.

Chapter two was her work for the Sea Mammal Motivational Institute (SEAMAMM) studying and training seals and sea lions aboard a research vessel with her family for four years.

Chapter three began when she married Arthur A Houghton, Jr., who brought her and her four children, two dogs and 2 Harbor Seals, and one Sea Lion to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 1972. Once settled, she was appointed as Trustee of Wye Institute in 1973. This was the beginning of her life-long commitment to education from the 1990s well into the 2000s. She was a Trustee of Goucher College, a board member of the Columbus Center in Baltimore, an advisory group member to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, a member of the Board of Visitors to Johns Hopkins Medicine, member of the Board of Visitors of University of Maryland College Park. In 1999 she co-chaired an effort sponsored by the University of Maryland called Agriculture and Natural Resources Research: Seeking Common Ground, which was the beginning of the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology. She was a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland. She was also on the board and otherwise involved in the Aspen Institute for a decade.

On to chapter four, she then spent much of her time in Chestertown. She served on the Board of Visitors and Governors at Washington College with a passion. Nina loved the community and could not resist being an advocate for anyone she felt she could help. There are many people whose lives she has touched in a significant way, and she will leave a big hole for those who knew her.

She is survived by her four children, Robert, Jeffrey, Hale and Andrew Horstman, seven

grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and two stepchildren. All services are private and the family thanks everyone for their support and condolences.

# Comments

---



“ Loving memories are found here on this island where Mrs. Houghton lived and shared her generous heart. Boca Grande will always cherish her and the family. Her spirit sparkles in the Community Center and walking down Whidden’s Dock. Also in my daughters eyes tho that is a personal shared treasure she gave our family. Sending love, peace and respect, Jimbo, Joy and Mila Rae Wyman  
Extra hug to Andrew

Joy Wyman - April 03 at 11:15 AM

---



“ Nina was my favorite story teller, wisest friend, strongest and kindest leader, and passionate philanthropist. I will miss her more than words can express. She mentored me throughout my years at Washington College and in the following years after graduating from WC. Her legacy will continue on with everyone she knew. Nina inspired me in college and she continued to inspire me every time we connected over email, calls or lunches. I will cherish our memories forever. My sincerest condolences and her inspiring passion will be with me forever.

Love,  
Lily



Lily Britt - March 27 at 07:51 AM

---



“ Lily Britt purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Nina Houghton.



Lily Britt - March 26 at 02:06 PM

---



“ Nina was such a smart and compassionate person. She was a friend, advisor and supporter for me when I came to Maryland 30 years ago to head the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, particularly when she became a member of the Board of Regents. She demonstrated her courageous compassion when she took in the family of the Cuban boy Elian Gonzales and made a difference in protecting our beloved Chesapeake Bay. I will remember her fondly always.

Don Boesch

Donald Boesch - March 24 at 01:46 PM

---



“ Doug Pierson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nina Houghton



Doug Pierson - March 23 at 02:04 PM

---



“ My sister and I would like to express how sorry we are for your loss . We can't say enough about much we appreciated her kind spirit , her generosity and her passion to not just participate in life but her commitment to being a game changer .We are so grateful that Codi had an opportunity to witness his grandmothers zest for life and love . Mrs Houghton was truly an inspiration to not just him but our family as well...  
Peace

Jennifer and Betsy Drambour



Elizabeth drambour - March 21 at 12:27 PM

---



“ I am ever so grateful to Mrs. Nina Houghton for kindness. She donated to two organizations to which I belong. For the past several years she gave to The Dr. M.L.King Book Scholarship for graduating seniors from QAC. Also, she donated to Rebuilding Together of QAC. Lastly, My Brother Arthur Houghton Wright(who was named after The Late Mr. Arthur Houghton) and I participated in The Wye Aspen Institute Project. We are saddened by your loss. May she rest in PEACE.

IN SYMPATHY,  
BARBARA W. HAYES

Dr. BARBARA W. HAYES - March 20 at 04:50 PM

---



“ Mrs Houghton was a lovely exciting lady! I always enjoyed our chats in the dental office or on the occasions we ran into each other in Chestertown. I loved to hear of her adventures and all about her family. I will never forget the story of her having a cigar with Fidel Castro! I will miss her.  
Debbie Boege

Deborah Boege - March 20 at 04:47 PM

---



“ Suzanne Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nina Houghton



Suzanne Jackson - March 20 at 10:59 AM

---



“ Gene And Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nina Houghton



Gene and Lynda Palmatary - March 19 at 10:12 PM



“ What a wonderful lady of the community that has left us. Nina was one of a kind and was a person you had to love. I can remember the great Queen Anne's Days that she and Mr. Houghton hosted and it was the best ever. My prayers and blessings are with the family at this time. She will never be forgotten and was a true friend. You will be missed Nina. God Bless, Lynda H. Palmatary, Centreville.

**Gene and Lynda Palmatary** - March 19 at 10:14 PM

---



“ Condolences from the family of Marion (Pete) Councill.

**R Allen Councill** - March 19 at 05:51 PM