

## In Celebration of the Life of Lucile Schuck Longview



Photo: Cheryl Robinson

Lucile Schuck Longview, 99, died peacefully on April 20, 2010 in Bellingham, WA, surrounded by the love of her family and friends. A pioneer in many ways, she was born Blanche Lucile Kitson, the only child of Harry E and Macie B (Miller) Kitson, on March 28, 1911 on a farm near Columbia City, IN. She was one of the first women from her community to attend college and graduated from Indiana University with honors in the middle of the Great Depression.

While teaching high school and coaching women's sports in Elkhart, IN, Lucile met O Hugo Schuck, an engineer from Philadelphia, and on August 12, 1939, they were married at her family's farm. In 1941 the war effort called the couple to Boston, MA, where Stephen (1942) and Susan (1943) were born.

After the war the family moved to Minneapolis, MN, where Linda (1947) was born and Lucile became an active leader in the League of Women Voters, the Universalist Church and many community organizations. With their children grown, the couple spent a year at Stanford University, where Lucile studied and became active in the peace movement. They then moved to Lexington, MA, in 1967. Within two months at the end of 1972, Hugo died suddenly and Lucile's mother died after a long illness.

Lucile committed the remainder of her long, active life to addressing injustices in society's treatment of women, the elderly and the environment, and along the way changed her name to Lucile Longview. She was an early member of the Grey Panthers and active in the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, contributing to the well-known book "Our Bodies, Ourselves". Challenged to make a difference throughout the Unitarian Universalist denomination, she initiated successful resolutions on "Women and Religion" (1977), "Battered Women" (1979) and "Patriarchy" (1980). As a result of her initiative, the denomination added to its Principles to *"covenant to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part."*

Lucile, who considered herself a liberation feminist, futurist and change agent, wrote, spoke and traveled widely and her ideas have been incorporated into books, courses, songs and sacred rituals. She earned many awards including recognition at the National Woman's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, NY. In 2005 she donated her papers to the Schlesinger Library at Harvard University and moved to Bellingham, WA, to be closer to her children.

Throughout her life Lucile advocated tolerance, justice, environmental protection, and more civility in the resolution of world problems. She was an avid outdoorswoman and loved nature, wilderness and birds. Lucile will be missed by her children, Stephen Schuck, Bellingham, WA, Susan Hirst, Bellingham, WA, and Linda Schuck, Portola Valley, CA, three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and many friends. In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made in her name to the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 208 South Great Road, Lincoln, MA, 01773.

Go well, Lucile.

**Lucile Schuck Longview, 1911 – 2010**