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NAACP

Mystic Valley Area NAACP Branch Honors the Life of Ann Mathes

Ann Mathes, a fearless fighter for justice, passed away on March 27th, 2024 a few weeks shy of her 82nd birthday. Ann was interred two days later, with a "green burial" at Mount Auburn Cemetery, attended by dozens of family and close friends. Ann was a proud, dedicated and active Life Time Member of the Mystic Valley Area Branch of the NAACP. One of her many activities for several years had been organizing the Branch's table at Arlington Town Day, each September. Additionally, Ann was a longtime member of Arlington's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee, helping plan the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration that took place in Arlington for 35 years. She also served for a time on the Town of Arlington's Vision 20/20 Diversity Committee. From its inception, Ann was a member of the Arlington Public Schools Superintendent's Diversity Advisory Committee, monitoring diversity in hiring, mission statements, and school-wide activities. She was a stalwart member of Arlington United for Justice with Peace, attending weekly vigils as recently as last Fall. She helped organize many local events and participated in rallies and marches in Boston as well. She was an active member of First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Arlington, leading many study groups and even the occasional summer service.

A celebration of Ann's life will be held Saturday, May 18th at 4:00 p.m at First Parish UU. Pleasant St. & Mass. Ave., Arlington. Let us continue her dedication to peace and justice and her spirit of perseverance. Find more information about the Celebration of Life here.