



Maria Luisa Crawford "Weecha"

July 18, 1939 - November 4, 2023

María Luisa Crawford, known to students, family, friends, and colleagues as Weecha, died Sat., Nov. 4 in her home in Haverford. Born on July 18, 1939, in Beverly, Mass., she was a professor of environmental science and geology at Bryn Mawr College for 41 years. She was a pioneer in electron beam microanalysis and established herself as a leading authority in the field of metamorphic petrology.

Weecha spent most of her childhood in Guatemala, Guatemala living with her mother Barbara Kidder Aldana and her step-father Dr. Fernando Aldana. It was in Guatemala where she became fascinated by volcanic eruptions. She was a precocious student graduating from her high school, Concord Academy, at 15.

As an undergraduate student at Bryn Mawr, she picked an introductory geology class to fulfill a science option. She would one day lead the department and was named William R. Kenan Jr. Eminent Professor of Geology from 1985 until 1992. It was as a doctoral student in Geology at the University of California, Berkely that she met her husband-to-be and fellow geologist Bill Crawford. They married in 1963.

A Fulbright Fellowship took her to the University of Oslo and fieldwork in Norway in 1960 and 1961, while her work mapping folds in rocks due to

continental collision took her to the Canadian Rockies and Southeast Alaska. She served on committees for the National Science Foundation, the Geological Society of America, the Mineralogical Society of America, and the National Academy of Sciences. She was named a MacArthur Fellow in 1993.

She is predeceased by husband, Bill, and a brother, Rudy Busé. She is survived by sister Patsy Aldana of Toronto and brother Mario Aldana, of Boulder Co., as well as ten nieces and nephews.

Services are scheduled to be held on May 18, 2024, 11 AM at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ardmore.

In lieu of flowers, kindly give to the Weecha Crawford Field Camp Scholarship managed by the Association for Women Geoscientists. Weecha Crawford Field Camp Scholarship Fund, Association for Women Geoscientists, 1333 West 120th Ave., Suite 211, Westminster, CO 80234

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Ardmore
36 Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Tribute Wall



“ Edward Grew and I extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Weecha Crawford, Bryn Mawr Class of 1960. As a freshman, I sat behind her while she knitted in our Physics class in fall 1958, and later we were office mates 1962-1964 at the University of California-Berkeley where she got her PhD in 1965. I was always in total awe of her brilliance and her effortless ability in science and languages. She was an inspiration to generations of geology students.

Priscilla Grew - July 11, 2024 at 03:27 PM

AD

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I was very fortunate to get to know Weecha in her fun-loving badminton days.

Ann Dixon - November 13, 2023 at 10:38 AM