

Evans, Louise Crawford, "My Life"

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on October 10, 2022.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum

783 Main Street

P.O. Box 131

South Windsor, CT 06074

Business Number: 860-289-1783

archives@woodmemoriallibrary.org

URL: <https://woodmemoriallibrary.org/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	5
Administrative Information	5

Summary Information

Repository:	Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum
Creator:	Evans, Louise C.
Title:	Louise Crawford Evans, "My Life"
ID:	2012.35
Date:	2007
Date:	2011
Physical Description:	.1 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	224 page spiral-bound memoir by Louise Maude Crawford Evans, titled My Life: Louise Maude Crawford Evans, Volume One, December 18-1927 - late December 1962. Contains photographs.

Preferred Citation

Louise Crawford Evans, My Life (2012.35), Wood Memorial Library and Museum, South Windsor, CT.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Louise Maude Crawford Evnas was born on a farm in Marilla, NY about twenty miles from Buffalo, the oldest of three children of James Alfred Crawford and Virginia Gibson Crawford, on December 18, 1927. After attending a one-room school house the family moved to Buffalo, NY when she was part way through sixth grade. She graduated in 1949 from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY where she majored in zoology and minored in chemistry. Upon graduation she moved to Brooklyn, NY where she worked at New York Hospital (now Cornell-Weil Hospital), and met her husband-to-be, David Longfellow Evans. After their marriage in June 1950 they moved to Syracuse, NY where her husband earned his masters degree in library science, and their first child was born.

Until the summer of 1956 the family lived in Blacksburg, VA where Louise's husband was engineering librarian at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the next three of their children were born. At that point the family moved to Vernon, CT where their fifth child was born, and David worked at what was then known as Hartford Graduate Center in South Windsor, now RPI of Connecticut.

In 1963-64 the family moved to South Windsor and renovated a vacant 1860 farmhouse on Main Street. In March, 1964 Louise joined a newly-formed League of Women Voters where, among other things, she became active in a local study item on zoning. A year later she was appointed to the new Conservation Commission and later became its chair. In 1967 she was the first woman elected to the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) where she served South Windsor for over forty years, serving as chairman for five years in the 1980's and either secretary or vice-chairman many other years. During her time on P&Z she served for several years on the Capital Region Council of Government Regional Planning Commission, one year as its vice-president. She was representative from P&Z to the Open Space Task Force, and later as a residential representative and vice-chairman, a position she continued until shortly before her death. On her retirement from P&Z she was appointed as an alternate to the Historic District Commission.

In 1968 she was offered a grade four teaching position at Eli Terry School. She enrolled in the master's degree program at the University of Hartford and earned her teaching degree as she taught. That year she served on a committee appointed by the superintendent, Dr. Goldman, with the idea of forming a special class for academically talented children. The class was started the next year, and Louise was one of two teachers (Edith Doherty being the other) who worked with identified students from all the elementary schools, grades 4 through 6. Ten years later when the sixth grade was moved to Timothy Edwards she was asked to move there and develop curriculum for the older students, grades 6-8.

Louise retired from teaching in 1989 and devoted full time to writing the curriculum she and Edith Doherty had developed at the elementary school. They started a small publishing company, Synergetics, and attended conferences and sold curriculum materials and other books by mail for schools and teachers throughout the United States, as well as in Australia, Canada, and elsewhere. She was named Teacher of the Year in South Windsor and was a finalist at the state level. She also wrote extensively for the Capital Region Education Commission and presented at many teacher workshops in Connecticut. She was honored with a Celebration of Excellence award at the state level. The Connecticut Association for the Gifted presented her with the William G. Vassar Award for Distinguished Service to Gifted Children in June of 1992.

She received her Master Gardener Certificate and was active in the South Windsor Garden Club. The gardens at her house were open to the public in 2012. She worked for several years on the Varney Farm raising food for Foodshare. She joined the South Windsor Historical Society shortly after moving to South Windsor serving as vice-president for many years and co-program person for the Society. She was a communicant of St. Peter's Episcopal Church from 1964 to her death where she served in many capacities through the years, most recently both as a lector and church librarian. She has also volunteered at both Wood Library and the SW Public Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

224 page spiral-bound memoir by Louise Maude Crawford Evans, titled My Life: Louise Maude Crawford Evans, Volume One, December 18-1927 - late December 1962. Contains photographs.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum

783 Main Street

P.O. Box 131

South Windsor, CT 06074

Business Number: 860-289-1783

archives@woodmemoriallibrary.org

URL: <https://woodmemoriallibrary.org/>

Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions on access to the collection for research use. Particularly fragile items may be restricted for preservation purposes.

Conditions Governing Use

Requests for permission to publish should be directed to the Wood Memorial Library archives staff. It is the responsibility of the researcher to identify and satisfy the holders of all copyrights.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)