

In Memory of George Mansfield



We are sad to report the passing of George Mansfield on Tuesday, December 5, at the age of 81. With his long-term interest in open space, George was an advisor to the Newton Conservators in the 1990s and 2000s. After leaving elected office in 2010, he joined the Conservators' board and then served as our vice president for six years from 2011 through 2016 and continued as a board member to the present day. He served the City of Newton for 26 years (1984–2010) as Newton's Ward 6 Alderman and, among his other roles, was a chair of the Land Use Committee.

George graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester and received his master's degree from Cornell University. George placed a high value on conserving open space, habitat, and recreational opportunities, crucial to a healthy community, whether in a large city like Newton or in a rural town like Carlisle, MA, where he worked as the town planner for much of his career. There, he helped preserve protected open space (now totaling more than one-third of that town's land area). Living in Newton since 1970, his earliest involvement in local affairs was as a founding member and President of the Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council. He also served on the Newton Highlands Community Development Corp, which preserved Hyde Center and Brigham House as community facilities. He also worked in partnership with the mayor and other members of the Board of Aldermen to acquire additional land for public use at Crystal Lake.

George is survived by his wife, Meg, and his daughter, Julia. A Memorial Mass was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the Burke & Blackington Funeral Home, 1479 Washington Street, West Newton, followed by an inurnment in the Columbarium at Newton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Julia C. Mansfield Supplemental Needs Trust, 2409 Highpoint View Ct. #402, Frederick, MD 21702. George's obituary can be found at <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/bostonglobe/name/george-mansfield-obituary?id=53778737>.

Former alderman Ken Parker, who served with George for 16 years, remembered him in a recent email: "George was a smart and effective alderman and a good friend. He was instrumental in protecting the quality of life in our neighborhoods, applying his expertise as a city planner to his work as a Newton alderman. He continued his civic involvement after concluding his service as an alderman through his work with the Newton Conservators. We all owe a debt of gratitude to George for his work, kindness, and generosity to our community."

We will miss George and his wisdom greatly and are grateful for his many years of service to the Newton Conservators!

🌿 Ted Kuklinski

In Remembrance of Bart Hague



We are sad to report the passing of A. Bartlett (Bart) Hague (1923–2023) last December. Bart was Newton Conservators' president from 1982 through 1984, a board member before and after that period, and an advisor since leaving the Boston area.

Bart's tenure as president was an active period in land conservation in Newton. The Conservators worked closely with Newton Parks and Recreation Department and Combined Jewish Philanthropies in developing what was once known as Novitiate Park into our treasured Nahanton Park. He worked closely with the Kennard Family in expanding Kennard Park. Bart also encouraged working with neighboring communities to create open-space connections across borders. He was instrumental with others in preserving open space and public access to the city-acquired Newton Commonwealth Golf Course. As an active hiker, he worked on developing Newton's trail system and open-space plan for wider distribution of our early trail and open-space map.

A Mainer at heart and graduate of Yale and the University of Michigan, he was an active environmentalist wherever he lived. We are fortunate that he chose Newton as home when he arrived in the Boston area in 1967 to work at the new regional office of the EPA where he worked on improvements in wastewater treatment and investment in the Deer Island treatment plant. Over his four decades of public service, he also worked on the Clean Water Act and the National Trails System.

Following his retirement from the EPA in 1996, Bart devoted himself to environmental issues in Maine and helped form the Maine Lakes (lakes.me) organization, a consortium of smaller lake associations, where he served as president. His family also placed 475 acres in a conservation easement in protection of the headwaters of Sebago Lake. Married for 61 years, he is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Connor Hague, son Art, daughters Beth and Mary, and three grandchildren. Bart had a life well lived in service to the environment, and we are grateful for his time with the Newton Conservators.

Bart's obituary can be found at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/bostonglobe/name/a-hague-obituary?id=54034539>

🌿 Ted Kuklinski