

In Memoriam: Warren Edward Groomes

By William C. Miller III—Bethesda, Maryland



Warren Groomes, educator, avid gardener, and ASA founding member.
Photo Source: Groomes family.

It is with sadness that I report the passing of Warren Groomes on October 8, 2021, at the age of 81. Born in Washington, DC, Warren grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland, where he spent the majority of his life. He is survived by Judy, his wife of 55 years. Warren graduated from the University of Maryland and taught math and coached cross country at White Oak Intermediate School, Springbrook High School, and Stoneridge Academy.

Avid gardeners, Warren and Judy were founding and life members of the ASA and the Brookside Gardens Chapter. In the beginning, at the national level, Warren chaired the education committee and Judy was a founding governor and chairman of the membership committee. At the Brookside Gardens Chapter, Warren was vice president in 1986, and for several years served as chairman of the chapter's plant sale committee. He was responsible for making the plant sale for the 1988 ASA National Meeting a success.

In 2004, Warren and Judy retired to Florida and became residents of the Groves Golf & Country Club in Land O'Lakes, where he helped start a garden club and a travel club for the residents. Warren and Judy found their new gardening environment to be quite different from what they had been accustomed to in Silver Spring, Maryland. They were quite familiar with the problems created by the deer, but the armadillos, bobcats, sandhill cranes, snakes, raccoons, opossums, alligators, and otters were something new altogether. The Florida heat and humidity, lacebugs, and sandy soil proved to be manageable challenges.

Both Warren and Judy were contributors to the ASA's discussion list although you had to look closely to see who posted the message since they shared his email address.



Brookside Gardens Vice President Warren Groomes presents 1986 F. P. Lee Commendation to the late Debby Emory at the Brookside Gardens chapter Annual Meeting on December 8, 1986. Photo by William C. Miller III.