ELIZABETH (LYNN) WEYERHAEUSER DAY (1932–1999)

On August 18, 1999, the Forest History Society lost a special friend, Lynn Weyerhaeuser Day. She died at her Grosse Pointe home surrounded by family, after a six-month battle with cancer. She was 67. The daughter of Frederick King and Vivian O’Gara Weyerhaeuser, Mrs. Day was deeply committed to forest conservation, environmental issues, human welfare, and international development throughout her life.

Raised in St. Paul, Minnesota, Lynn Day was a graduate of Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, CT, and Vassar College. She came to the Detroit area in 1956 after marrying Stanley R. Day, a longtime Michigan resident. Together they raised a family of four children.

Following in the footsteps of her father, F. K. Weyerhaeuser, who led family efforts to establish the Forest History Society in 1946, Lynn first served on the FHS Board from 1977–1983. She was active in the Society’s first long-range planning efforts, served on the Development Committee, and was instrumental in ensuring the success of the Society’s first endowment efforts. For over two decades Lynn provided important counsel to the Society leadership. Her efforts did not wane over the years as she served another two terms as Board member from 1990–1996. She was elected Fellow, the Society’s highest honor, in 1984. This past year Lynn was appointed as Senior Fellow and Director, an honor that was previously held only by her friend and colleague Alvin J. Huss. This honor was to be conferred on Lynn at the October 1999 Board meeting.

Lynn had wide interests. Locally, she was an active Board member of the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan, and the Henry Ford Health System. Lynn was a founding Commissioner of the Greening of Detroit and a member of the Garden Club of Michigan. She was also involved with the Michigan Forest Association and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

One of the passions shared by Mr. and Mrs. Day was operating a Tree Farm utilizing environmental and conservation techniques in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In addition, Lynn took on several leadership positions in her extended family, including serving on the Boards of Rock Island Company and the Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation.

For the Forest History Society, there are few words to describe how important she was to our success. The FHS would not be where it is today without Lynn. She was one of a kind, always thoughtful, and always turned to for wise counsel. She will be missed as mentor, colleague, sage, and friend.

She is survived by her husband Stanley; a daughter, Vivian W. Day; sons, Stanley Jr., F. K., and Lincoln; and two grandchildren, Christopher and Elizabeth Day Stroh.