

MEMORIES OF DICK JONES, FROM FATHER HERB SKELLY+

Dear Sue,

What a flood of memories were resurrected by the photos of the garden slate! Dick Jones, in whose memory that garden was established (in that precise location by the way), was for many years a member of the CHS vestry and Property Chairman. He and his second wife, Helen (Gould) Jones lived on Uncle Vic's Way here in Orleans. I think the garden was established by his widow, Helen, who ran a real estate agency in East Orleans.

I had known Dick for many years before I came here as Associate Rector. He and his first wife were parishioners at St. Francis' Church in Holden where I spent many Sundays as Supply Priest at the behest of another old friend, Bishop Alexander Stewart of the Western MA diocese. I was bi-vocational at the time and did the rounds of parishes needing a Sunday priest because of illness, etc. I never knew his first wife. She died before I came on the scene, but it was there that I first met Dick.

Time moved on and I continued teaching psychology at Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton, and Dick moved to the Cape. He and his first wife were friends of Helen Gould and her husband. She also became widowed. Dick and Helen were married and both became active members of CHS.

I remained on in education but took on a new and emerging type of ministry known as Interim Rector which I carried out after school and on weekends. I served a long Interim at Church of the Good Shepherd in Clinton where G. David White once had been rector. Consequently, I found on my desk one day a copy of "Together" wherein it was announced that the parish was looking for a new Associate. Peg and I had been considering a return to full time ministry. What CHS was looking for as a priest seemed a good fit and I responded. David White took my response to the Vestry, and who should be on the Vestry but an old friend of mine... Richard Jones who announced when he heard my name, "Get him."

What happened next was my resignation from nearly twenty years as an educator and bi-vocational priest, Peg's resignation from her position as an educator at Faye School in Southborough, my becoming Associate Rector at CHS, and the re-establishment of an old and enduring friendship with Dick.

Sincerely in faith,
Father Herb Skelly+