

Lenore Hedla (1915 - 2006)



Lenore A. Hedla was born January 4, 1915, in Hazen, Arkansas, to Mattie Agnes Yentsch Amerman and Arba Beecher Amerman. She graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1938 and became an executive with Girl Scouts of America. On July 18, 1942, she enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, later the Women's Army Corps, and served more than three years on active duty, achieving the rank of captain and later major in the Army Reserve. After active military service, she returned to the Girl Scouts.

In 1953, Mrs. Hedla came to Alaska as the publicist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Station in Palmer. On May 26, 1956, she married George Hedla at Louise Kellogg's Spring Creek Farm.

In addition to being a wife and mother, Mrs. Hedla was considered a master gardener. She shared her talent by writing a newspaper column for nine years, contributing articles to national horticulture magazines, writing and publishing the fourth edition of *The Alaska Gardener's Handbook*, and writing stories for Sunday School publications. She also enjoyed traveling worldwide with her late husband to visit gardens. She loved to entertain and was a friend to many.

Mrs. Hedla passed away on October 16, 2006 in Anchorage, Alaska. She is survived by her daughter, Margaret Stanley; and granddaughter, Larissa Stanley of Whitehorse, Yukon; and grandson, Garrett Ennis of Anchorage. To honor her husband, Ms. Hedla left a generous bequest to the University of Alaska Anchorage. Upon her passing, UAA received \$1.5 million from her estate to create the Lenore and George Hedla Accounting Scholarship and the George M. Hedla Endowment to benefit the accounting program.