

August 27, 2016 - Ning (Joan) Rich, was a dedicated land preservationist. She served on the Board of the Lyme Land Trust from 1993 to 2003, and was Vice President from 1997 to 2003. She was a longtime resident of Grassy Hill Road, Lyme with her husband Norman. More recently their daughter Ann came to live with them and lend a hand.

Ning was instrumental in the permanent protection of the fields adjacent to the old Grassy Hill Church, which is now known as the Lyme Land Trust's Grassy Hill Preserve. As a member of the Friends of Grassy Hill she worked closely with others in her neighborhood and the Lyme Land Trust to raise funds to acquire the property.

Ning contributed in many ways to the fulfillment of the Lyme Land Trust's missions. Tony Irving, board member of the Lyme Land Trust remembers her fondly in the following statement:

"I had been on the board for a year in 1995 when Hiram Maxim stepped down as president. Ning (Joan) Rich, who was the vice president, called me up to ask if I would step in. I told her that I did not feel qualified as I was so new to the trust, but she assured me that the two of us along with Bob Barney who was treasurer would do fine. For the next eight years the three of us worked happily together. I concentrated on land protection, Bob handled finance and membership while Ning focused on the newsletter and outreach. Ning also had a background in planning which added to our ability for education around the values of land protection and its relation to the cultural and historic preservation of the town's character. The Lyme Land Trust has over the years attracted dedicated board members with a knack for knowing what's important and getting it done. Joan Rich was one of those, and the town and our open spaces are better off because of her."

The Lyme Land Trust expresses our condolences to the Rich Family. She will be greatly missed. We express our gratitude for suggesting people make a donation in Ning's honor to the Lyme Land Trust.

If you wish to make a donation in Ning's memory, go to <https://lymelandtrust.webconnex.com/Dedications>