

OBITUARY

MARIE A. LAWRENCE: 1924–1992



Marie A. Lawrence

Marie Lawrence was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, 20 October 1924. She received a B.A. from Vassar College in 1945, an M.S.S. from Smith College for Social Work in 1952, and an M.A. from New York University in 1992. Starting her professional career in Social Work her interests shifted to anthropology and eventually through archaeology (including zooarchaeology) to mammalogy.

Her association with the American Museum of Natural History began in 1969, first as a researcher, learning about mammals, and from 1972 until her death as a Scientific Assistant in the Department of Mammalogy. One of her major duties was in compiling the published lists of "Recent Literature" for the *Journal of Mammalogy* until this was discontinued in 1985. In this connection, she served as Chairperson of the Bibliography Committee and as a member of the Editorial Board of the American Society of Mammalogists. For several years she was also an elected member of the Board of Directors. She received the Jackson Award in 1989.

Her proficiency in several foreign languages, including Russian, together with her work on the "Recent Literature in Mammalogy" made her a greatly valued resource for locating obscure references and she undoubtedly knew the intricacies of the American Museum library better than anyone else in the Department. Somehow, she managed to find time to write several significant papers including studies of New Guinea *Syconycteris* (Chiroptera: Pteropodidae), Chinese *Microtis*, and fossil *Myospalax* (Rodentia: Muridae). She also compiled a catalog of type specimens of mammals in the mammal department of the American Museum of Natural History. This monumental work was published posthumously.

Virtually all who knew her greatly miss her both as a person and as a well-informed source of information. Her death came as a real shock to many people.

—KARL F. KOOPMAN, *Department of Mammalogy, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024-5192.*