Honoring their Legacy:



The Framingham Heart Study's Original Cohort

It is with a grateful heart that the Framingham Heart Study (FHS) shares the passing of the last member of its original research cohort.

In 1948, in the then Town of Framingham Massachusetts, an awe-inspiring group of 5,209 Framingham citizens volunteered to address the cardiovascular disease epidemic. Seventy-five years later, their collective contribution to health research is without equal.

This remarkable group of individuals dedicated much of their lives to advancing the health of others. They propelled us forward in the battle against heart disease and contributed to a knowledge base that has led to life-saving treatments and preventive measures. They inspired future generations of researchers and study participants to continue to advance this one-of-a-kind endeavor. They set the groundwork for FHS to uncover insights for the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, dementia, lung diseases, and much more.

As we mark the passing of a generation, we celebrate their enduring legacy. It serves as an undying gift to humanity and an inspiration to us all. It lives through the countless lives they improved and hearts they touched. It lives in the inspiration they provided to future generations of their children and grandchildren, as well as participants in the FHS Omni cohorts, who now follow in their footsteps as FHS participants.

To our first-generation trailblazers we say farewell and thank you. Thank you for courageously participating in countless research exams, interviews, and tests, all in hope of creating a better world. Thank you for your charity, your kindness, and your dedication. Thank you for the gift of your life, so much of which was given without personal reward. You have left an indelible mark and will forever be treasured by the FHS community.

In Loving Memory.

The Framingham Heart Study