

PAULINE C. OLIVA

Class of 1944

Inducted 2001

Pauline C. Oliva, Class of 1944, retiring this year after eight years of service on the White Plains Common Council, has contributed her energy and leadership to numerous White Plains civic and community organizations over the past 50 years.

Mrs. Oliva is a lifelong resident of White Plains and lives today in her childhood home on Battle Hill. Following graduation from WPHS with a College Prep Degree, she kept house for her family while working fulltime.

She married Patrick Oliva in Saint John's Church in 1946. After her three children, Patricia Lynn, Edmund and Thomas were in school Mrs. Oliva returned to the work. She held a variety of positions with the New York State Division of Labor between 1962 and 1978, and then spent 14 years as a program director of the Section 8 Housing Programs with the Housing and Community Development Division of the Westchester County Planning Department.

Mrs. Oliva took college courses in the evening when she started working and received an Associate Degree in Humanities from Pace University in Pleasantville in 1973, 29 years after high school graduation. She later earned a degree in Labor Studies from Empire State College.

A longtime editor of the White Plains Beautification Foundation newsletter, Mrs. Oliva is a past president and board member of the Battle Hill Neighborhood Association and is currently chairperson of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Parish Council. She has also held leadership posts with the League of Women Voters, the Woman's Club of White Plains and the Battle Hill PTA.

Elected to the Common Council in 1993, and again in 1997, Mrs. Oliva serves as chairperson of the Youth Board, as liaison to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee. She has received the White Plains Human Rights Award Rotary's Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

She and Patrick have three grandchildren, two of whom currently attend the White Plains Public Schools.