

Eleanor Davenport Hart



Eleanor Davenport Hart had an active part in Norwalk sports for many years as a basketball player, a girls physical education instructor, NHS girls basketball coach, and taught water sports as well as horseback riding before being appointed to the Recreation Commission by the late Mayor Robert Oliver, serving as the secretary for 10 years. She also participated in tennis, skiing, boating, and swimming.

Mrs. Hart was born in East Norwalk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Deodate S. Davenport, and lived in Rowayton for many years. She was a 1924 graduate of Norwalk High where she played on the girls basketball team during the 1922–1924 seasons. Then on to Arnold College in New Haven, now a branch of the University of Bridgeport. She was in the same graduating class of 1927 with Joseph F. Andrews, who came to Norwalk as a physical education instructor and later became director

of the Recreation Commission.

Eleanor was a physical education instructor at Summit, NJ, and at Stamford High from 1927–1932. She served as a leader and camp counselor at Girl Scout camps teaching swimming, boating, and horseback riding from 1928 through 1938. She coached the NHS girls basketball team from 1933 through 1936.

She is married to Fred C. Hart and they celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary last August. They live at 10 Basking Ridge Road, Wilton, moving there 15 years ago.

Mr. Davenport, Eleanor's father, was a well known businessman as the owner of a seed and garden supply store. He served as a member of the Norwalk Common Council and also on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Her husband was a well known Norwalk baseball athlete in high school and later with local nines. He also was a great skier and served as the skiing editor of *The Hour* for many years.

Mrs. Hart has traveled extensively, visiting in all but six of the United States. Her trips included Alaska and Hawaii. She has also been in Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Greece, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Scotland, Wales, Bermuda, and many of the Caribbean Islands.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart have three sons: Fred, Jr., lives in Middlefield and is a test engineer with Northeast Utilities; Richard, who has a home in Glastonbury, is also with Northeast Utilities; and Douglas owns and operates an eating place in Lake Placid.