In Memoriam
Douglas Henderson (1914-July 14, 2010)

When I was researching my book on Weston, I spent many Wednesday mornings at Weston Historical Society, where Doug Henderson was often hard at work organizing the archives. Because he had grown up in Weston and because of his work at the society, Doug was an invaluable resource.

His contribution to Land’s Sake is related more fully in the previous article. He passed away on the 30th anniversary of the organization he helped to establish and which he guided with a steady hand. Land’s Sake co-founder Brian Donahue recalls how Doug, then in his late 60s, was willing to take on any job, including the tilling of member gardens to help the young organization earn cash.

All this was accomplished in Doug’s retirement years, when he returned to his boyhood home on Chestnut Street after a successful 33-year career in the Foreign Service. The son of a carpenter-builder, he attended Boston University and won a scholarship to the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, where he earned a masters degree in 1941. As a diplomat, he served in Mexico, Chile, Peru, and Bolivia, working his way up to the position of Ambassador to Bolivia from 1963 to 1968. His biggest challenge was the tumult surrounding the guerilla uprising and death of revolutionary Ernesto “Che” Guevara in Bolivia in 1967. Doug retired from the Foreign Service in 1975 as the U.S. Representative to the Inter-American Committee of the Alliance for Progress.

by Pamela W. Fox