The Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to honor Ruth Dillingham Cowan, class of 1951, with the Loyalty Award. Your contributions as an alumna volunteer have been exemplary. We are deeply grateful for all you do in support of the College and the Alumnae Association.

Dilly, you came to Mount Holyoke from the Northfield School for Girls and majored in religion. Your arrival on campus marked the continuation of a legacy: your mother, Mary Smith Dillingham was a member of the Class of 1916. During your four years, you pursued a range of activities, including hockey, basketball, and choir. You also were President of Fellowship of Faiths and Vice President of the Outing Club.

After graduation you earned a master’s degree in Union Theological Seminary, married your husband, Wayne, and raised a son. You later served as Associate Professor at Rockland Community College where you worked with returning adult students. Since retiring and moving from New York State to Western Massachusetts, you have been an active volunteer for the Class of 1951.

We know you as a capable Class Agent and Reunion Gift Caller. You also stepped up to assume the countless duties of Chair for your class’s 50th reunion. Since 2006, you have shared your time and talents as Co-President of the Class of 1951. In all your volunteer roles, you repeatedly go the extra mile for your classmates and your alma mater. Mount Holyoke is proud to call you one of its own.

You have embodied Mary Lyon’s expectation when she said, “Let one efficient lady, in almost any place, either alone or with one or two to aid her, commence the work with decision, and with perseverance carry it through, and it will be done!”

With sincere thanks for your extraordinary efforts and for your ongoing volunteer service, the Alumnae Association recognizes you with the Loyalty Award.

Cynthia L. Reed ’80
President
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Jane E. Zachary
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College