The Feminine Mystique

It changed the world. Did it change your life, too?

Betty Friedan said some of her happiest memories were of the women who approached her after she published *The Feminine Mystique* and said, “You changed my life.” Did her book and the women’s movement change your life? Did it cause you to aspire to a career or public office that might otherwise have seemed an impossible dream? Did it change how you raised your children, partnered in your marriage? Then we want to learn from your history… and we want to pass it on to a generation that never knew a time when opportunities were very much limited for women, a generation that may never have heard of this extraordinary Peorian, Betty Friedan.

Please take a few minutes to reminisce about your life and what the women’s movement made possible for you. The Peoria Historical Society will collect and archive our memories, which will also be posted on the Betty Friedan Hometown Tribute website (bettyfriedantribute.org). Drop your comments into the basket on the table before you leave. If you need more time to reflect, then take this home, and mail your response to It Changed My Life, Peoria Historical Society, 611 W. Washington St., Peoria, IL 61602. Or e-mail your memories to PHS at bettyfriedan@peoriahistoricalsociety.org.

Have more to say?

Then visit the oral history room (just off the street) at the Peoria Riverfront Museum, and record your memories there sometime during the next few weeks. Be sure to begin by saying “Betty Friedan.” The Peoria Historical Society is also interested in creating a video record entitled “It Changed My Life.” To be a part of that, phone PHS at 674-1921.

Thank you.