

Deborah Adams McKean '60 of Cushing, ME and Claremont, CA died April 23, 2022. After graduation from Mount Holyoke with a degree in literature and religious studies, she completed her Master of Library Science in 1971 at University of Rhode Island. Deborah with her husband Philip McKean lived in Indonesia for two years (1962-1964), developing an interest in international students and supported student groups in Indonesia and Haiti. She was employed at the International Student Office at UMassAmherst.

Deborah's gift for working with people and organizations and her passion for supporting educational institutions led to her career in Development. She was Director of Development at Dana Hall School, Director of Major Gifts for UMass Amherst, and Centennial Campaign Director of the Worcester (MA) Art Museum. After serving as Director of Alumni and Parent Programs at Northfield School for Girls (1981-1986), she became Major Gifts Officer in the Mount Holyoke College Advancement Staff (1986-91 ). During the Sesquicentennial Campaign, she was instrumental in raising funds for a public dining facility on campus that included a ritually pure Kosher and Halal kitchen and meal site. Deborah received the Alumnae Medal of Honor in 2000.

On June 23, 2007 Deborah was ordained as an Episcopal Vocational Deacon in the Diocese of Maine where she and Phil lived. After she and Phil retired to Pilgrim Place in Claremont, CA in 2011, Deborah continued her Diaconal ministry in Claremont and Pasadena as well as in Thomaston, ME. In 2015 Deborah was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. By participating in a clinical trial and organizing support groups for Alzheimer's patients, she continued her life-long care and concern for others.