Elga Wasserman graduated from Smith College and earned a PhD in chemistry from Radcliffe/Harvard. She worked in various capacities as a chemist in industry and academia while raising three young children. She began working at Yale as assistant dean of the Graduate School in 1962. In November 1968, President Kingman Brewster asked her (together with Sam Chauncy) to oversee the admission of women undergraduates who would arrive at Yale College in the fall of 1969. She worked as Brewster’s Special Assistant and as Chair of the Coeducation Committee until 1973, when she entered Yale Law School as a member of the class of 1976.

After graduation from law school and one year clerking on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, Elga parcticed law in New Haven. She spent the next five years writing a book based on interviews with the small number of women who had been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. *The Door in the Dream: Conversations with Eminent Women in Science,* was published in 2000 by the Joseph Henry Press, a division of the National Academy Press.

Over the past forty years, Elga Wasserman has lectured widely on women, science, equal opportunity and the lack thereof until 2006, when she retired and moved to a retirement community in Lexington, MA, near Cambridge with her husband.

Image courtesy of Elga Wasserman