

IN MEMORIAM LOIS M. TETREAULT

Lois May Tetreault was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on May 20, 1944, where her parents did missionary work. The family also lived for some time in Martinique before returning to Canada where Lois attended high school in the Gaspé.

In 1964 she obtained her teaching diploma at Macdonald College where she had been studying for two years. After four years (1964-1968) of teaching grades 1 and 2 in the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, she moved to Winnipeg; there she taught grade 1 for three years (1968-1971). While still teaching she began her training in special education. Returning to Montreal she took work as a consultant in special education for the Baldwin-Cartier School Commission in the early '70s. Since her employment was only part-time, it allowed her to attend McGill University where she obtained a B.A. in child psychology with "Great Distinction" (1974) and an M.A. in educational psychology (1976). She later completed the major part of her doctoral program in educational psychology at McGill before her studies were interrupted by illness.

Her background in special education and educational measurement was such that even as she was studying for her advanced degrees, she was asked to teach in the Special Education and Counselling programs, first as sessional lecturer and eventually as assistant professor. She was as much at ease with young children and university-level students as she was with experienced teachers. Her colleagues at McGill as well as those who were associated with her professionally held her in high esteem. In her teaching she directed the content of her courses not simply to the intellect of the student but to the whole person. She was concerned not only with curriculum but with the entire interactive teaching process that is characteristic of good teachers.

She shared her expertise far and wide by teaching in the Eastern Townships, and remote areas of the Province of Quebec, and in the Northwest Territories. In addition to teaching in those areas, Lois also organized workshops on special education topics, such as the implications of mainstreaming and working with the

slow learner and assessing learning strategies. Her lifelong interest in special education was especially evident in her work with the Council for Exceptional Children. She was active in the Quebec chapter of the Council and was its president from 1983 to the time of her death. She was also the Quebec representative on the Canadian Board of Directors of this Council for the same period.

She died of cancer on October 31, 1987, at the age of 43, in the Palliative Care Unit of the Royal Victoria Hospital attended by her husband. She will be missed not only by her husband, Steven Gobby, but also by her two step-children of whom she was very fond; her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Tetreault, of Fitch Bay, Quebec; one brother Philip, and by her many friends.

A memorial service held at Memorial Park in Saint-Laurent demonstrated the extraordinary affection which those friends felt for her.