Rosemary Fahey (died Nov 20th, 2020)



Dear Friends,

It is with sadness that I report that I recently learned of the passing of our dear colleague, Rosemary Fahey, on November 20, 2020, from complications that developed following a routine surgery on November 9. Rosemary began her career at Chapman in the School of Education, now the Attallah College of Educational Studies, in 1987 and from what I can discern, she retired sometime after the 2002/2003 academic year. Rosemary held the degrees of Bachelor in Arts and Bachelor in Science from Ohio State University, a Master of Arts from Cal State University, Northridge and an Ed.D. from Pepperdine University.

At Chapman, Rosemary worked with the Reading Program, Program Coordination, Secondary Teacher Preparation and with single subject students.

I heard from many of her friends and colleagues in Educational Studies and from Kevin Ross, Interim Dean of the Leatherby Libraries who were all saddened to hear the news. To a person, the words used over and over to describe Rosemary were "kind", "welcoming", "encouraging", "respectful", "soft-spoken", "caring".

Remembrances of Rosemary Fahey in the words of her colleagues:

Professor Penny Bryan--"Rosemary was an elder in our group as much as any one of us, kind and caring. I can still hear her laugh. She was committed to her teaching and her students. She had a strong and gentle touch."

Longtime Educational Studies Dean, Don Cardinal-- "Rosemary was the one who brought me to Chapman. We taught together at Cal State Fullerton for many years before Chapman. After my Ph.D. she called and I kindly declined. She called again and again. Finally, she said then at least come to talk with Ken (Tye), he has some amazing ideas and you should at least hear them. I did and that was the start of it all. Nearly 34 years ago."

Anaida Colon Muniz-- "I always remember her fondly from my first years at Chapman when she coordinated the secondary ed program and I elementary. She was always gracious, kind and helpful."

Professor Dawn Hunter-- "Rosemary helped me "learn the ropes" about Program Coordination. She was always so kind and concerned about her single subject students. I will always cherish the giggles we shared."

Professor Judith Montgomery—"Rosemary welcomed me to the group and made me feel special" and "encouraged me to join committees, meet people in other areas of the campus, and she was right. She kept a tight schedule with her single subject students frequently, rarely kept them waiting."

Interim Dean Librarian Kevin Ross--Years ago, Kevin served as the liaison librarian to the School of Education. "The thing I remember most about Rosemary, is that she always treated me as an equal...She was gracious, kind, and humble in ways that I value and admire. To me she was a gem, and the world is worse off without her."

Professor Barbara Tye--"Rosemary was one of the first people Ken (Tye) hired when he became department chair...She was hired to work with the Reading Program, ...then "stepped into my role as coordinator of secondary teacher preparation."

Professor Suzanne SooHoo—"Rosemary was always very kind to me...She helped...me learn the ropes of the teacher education program in her gentle and sweet ways. Never patronizing, always encouraging. And her sense of humor gave me confidence."