

JANET JUNGEL

born 2/14/39--died 12/5/00



Jungel, Janet

MADISON - Janet Jungel, age 61, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning, December 5, 2000, at Meriter Hospital, after bravely suffering long illness. Janet was born in Chicago on Valentine's Day in 1939, of Walter and Bea Jungel, now deceased. She earned a BA in Sociology from Alverno College, an MA in History from Chicago State, and a paralegal degree from Roosevelt University. For 20 years she was an innovative teacher, most notably of Native American children in the Southwest, creating challenging, first-hand experiences for them as the source of their learning and personal growth. She moved to Madison 10 years ago and worked as an asset property manager until kidney failure and diabetes ended her career. Her great talents were writing, teaching, and management. Her wide interests ranged from Native American culture to Sunday football. Janet loved all dogs, but mostly her spaniel, Baxter. She was exceptionally devoted to her friends, who gratefully received her affectionate letters and unusual gifts. She leaves behind loving cousins of the Robert Mischke family and many loyal friends, notably in Chicago, Joan Halper, Jo Kovacs, Irene Kochnuk, and Tom Scapillato; in Detroit, Jo Breen, her generous support throughout her long illness; at the Meriter Dialysis Unit, Dr. Ed Arens, Pat Wafer, Claire Schuetz, and Sarah Nordberg, who gave her both precious care and friendship; in Madison, Glen Rosine, her selfless friend and guiding light, and Roberta Meyer, her right arm and unfailingly loyal best friend of forty years. A Memorial Mass in Chicago is planned. Janet was a raconteur, a maverick, an iconoclast. Her early loss is a tragedy for all who loved her, but she suffered long enough. Rest in peace, dearest friend.



Although we heard only a day or so before her memorial was to take place, several people and parents from our class were able to rally and make it to Miss Jungel's memorial service at Mary, Seat of Wisdom in January, 2001.

Those there included Ed Lannon, Tim Bopp, Kelly Lawson, Mrs. Ann Scheller, Mrs. Nancy Lannon, Mrs. Rassenfoss, as well as St. Paul teachers Mrs. McCarthy (after us), Mrs. Birch and others.

When I sent out a mailing to you, our class, telling of her deteriorating physical condition, many of you responded by sending Miss Jungel warm notes of appreciation and encouragement. I wanted to tell you what her best friend from college Roberta wrote me after her death:

"You were so good to contact other old students... and they did write Janet. She LOVED hearing from you (all) because you made her life meaningful after all. She had become an invalid. Her diabetes became so debilitating... will you pass one of these announcements around if the occasion arises."

Dearest classmates, thank you for appreciating this wonderful teacher and for giving her comfort and joy in her last days.

Maureen O'Grady Morelli



Clockwise: obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 12/10/00; Janet on her 59th birthday at TGIFriday's, her favorite spot in Madison, 2/14/98; Alverno 40th Reunion (1960), l. to r., Rose Bock Hubli, college friend; Janet; Sr. Joel, President, Alverno College, June, 2000.