

Memorial Resolution
Lucinda Cousins
(1948-2018)

Lucinda Gant Cousins, 70, passed away Thursday, April 5, 2018 at the IU Health Hospice House in Bloomington, Indiana. She was born on March 1, 1948 in Bloomington, Indiana, the daughter of Virgil Evan and Kathryn Elizabeth (Gant) Schooler. She was an instructor and advisor at Indiana University in the Department of Kinesiology for over 40 years before retiring in 2014. Lucinda was forever a Hoosier in every sense of the word. Lucinda's love of Indiana University began as a child as she was born and raised in Bloomington. Lucinda earned her undergraduate degree in physical education from Indiana University where she was a proud member of the first ever women's golf team in 1967. She went on to earn her master's degree in physical education from Northern Illinois University and returned to serve on the faculty of the Department of Physical Education for Women in 1974. Over the years, the department name evolved from the Department of Physical Education to the current Department of Kinesiology. Through it all, Lucinda was a key figure in the department's teaching and service missions.

One of her first assignments was to serve as the director of the university's synchronized swim team, the Oceanides. She also co-produced the IU Homecoming Water show, a tradition of homecoming week at that time. As one might guess, Lucinda's area of academic expertise was aquatics and aquatic training. She always carried a heavy teaching load for the department and for a number of years was the instructor for all classes that involved Red Cross certification. Due to certification requirements, she worked closely with the local Red Cross and won numerous local and state-level teaching awards from that organization. Lucinda served on the state board of the Red Cross and helped author a pool management book that was adopted by the Red Cross for use across the state of Indiana. She also went on to develop a departmental academic minor in aquatics.

Lucinda was an excellent teacher as evidenced by very high scores on both the student certification exam and student evaluations. She created a number of innovative additions to the mandated Red Cross curriculum to increase student learning and enjoyment. Her service contributions were many and varied. Many in the local community will know her as the IU Outdoor Pool coordinator, a role she held for seventeen years. She served on too many committees to mention and always did so with professionalism and a positive spirit. At the university level, she was a long time contributor to the Indiana University Athletic Department where she served as a student advisor for many student athletes. In particular, she treasured her friendships with former men's basketball coach Bob Knight, former football coach Bill Mallory and former diving coach Hobie Billingsley.

Current and retired faculty members were asked for their suggestions as to how Lucinda was best remembered. Every single person commented similarly: "She cared so much about the students." Her true legacy will not be all the classes taught or committee work completed, as important as those have been to the success of the department, but the lives that she changed. The official university title for her service is "academic advisor," but what Lucinda actually did was serve as life advisor who also helped students select and schedule classes. She literally changed lives for the better as she worked to help students achieve their dreams. Her caring attitude inspired many students to keep in touch with Lucinda long after her retirement from Indiana University. One such letter in Lucinda's personnel file had this to say from a former student, "I have never written a letter like

this, but I guess no one ever impressed me as much as she did." The letter goes on to detail how the student was considering dropping out of school for a variety of reasons that seemed insurmountable and Lucinda helped him sort out the issues, renew his commitment to completing his degree...and he did. That same letter could have been written by many, many students over the years and exemplifies the positive influence that Lucinda had on many students. Lucinda was an equal opportunity helper: she cared for all of her students.

Lucinda is survived by her husband, Gary F. Cousins of Bloomington; one son, Jereme Evan; and one granddaughter, Lauren Fox. Students and faculty alike will miss Lucinda's kind spirit. It is in her memory that we will try to emulate Lucinda's kindness and generosity of spirit, or perhaps more appropriately, emulate what it means to be a Hoosier!

This resolution will be presented in and become a part of the minutes of the Bloomington Faculty Council.