

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
Anabel Powell Newman
1930 – 2017

Anabel Powell Newman was born March 9, 1930 on a small farm in eastern Washington and passed away peacefully at her home in Bloomington, Indiana on November 13, 2017. Retrospectively, Anabel viewed her life as an adventure and was ever grateful for the people and experiences along the way that shaped her life of service and joy.

Anabel received her undergraduate degree at Principia College in Elmhurst, IL in 1951. Her subsequent deep dedication to service dates from her time at Principia, where heavy emphasis was placed on service – to God, country, and fellow man. After working for a few years at Principia, she moved to Iowa City, IA where she earned a master's degree in Education and a Teaching Certificate in 1962 from the University of Iowa. She continued her education at SUNY, Buffalo, earning her EdD in 1971.

Having acquired considerable experience coordinating research projects, developing programs and teaching in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Buffalo, New York, Anabel joined the faculty of the Language Education Department at Indiana University, Bloomington, in 1971.

Anabel's services to Indiana University were many and varied, as she readily accepted new challenges that came her way. In the School of Education, Anabel will be remembered primarily for her role as the Director of the Reading Practicum Center at IU for over 20 years, supervising the development of teachers of emerging new readers at all levels, and developing new courses in Elementary and Reading Education. She also fulfilled a number of administrative roles, including Assistant Dean of the School of Education, and served on a variety of committees, including the Policy Council, the Student Affairs Committee, the Affirmative Action Committee, and the Recruitment and Admissions Committee, and the Institute for Child Study, Interdisciplinary Clinic, among others. The University is fortunate to have a Children's Daycare Center, providing quality care for the children of faculty and staff; Anabel served as a consultant during development of this center.

Throughout her university career, Anabel pursued her interest in research relating to successful methodologies for working with troubled readers and to preparing teachers to be successful in the reading classroom. Over the years she participated in the development and publication of research papers, monographs, journal articles and books on these topics. Notable among her publications are *Adult Basic Education: Reading*, which was translated into Japanese in 2003, *Contexts and Challenges* (co-written with Caroline Beverstock), and the LIT-TV videos and manuals published in collaboration with Michael Parer.

Running as a continuous thread through her work at Indiana University is the theme of adult literacy, which Anabel supported at the local, state, national and international levels. It was this service that seemed closest to her heart.

At the local level, Anabel worked with Michael Parer to develop LIT-TV, a training program to prepare volunteers to work with adult non-readers, which later became the VITAL Program at the Monroe County Public Library, now recognized as one of the premier adult literacy programs in the state. Many directors and tutors in local literacy programs in the state of Indiana over the years received inspiration, guidance or instruction from Anabel, either through her courses at IU or through association with state literacy organizations in which she was active.

At the state level, Anabel chaired the Indiana Coalition for Literacy during the 1980s, served both on the board and as a consultant with the Indiana Literacy Foundation, founded by Susan Bayh in 1990, and later served on the board of the Indiana Literacy Association. Nationally, Anabel represented the International

Reading Association (IRA) of the National Coalition for Literacy, an organization representing 27 major literacy organizations around the country and chairing that organization for two years. In her role as chair, she represented the organization at the International IRA Convention in Australia in 1988 and also the IRA at a meeting of NGOs at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Also representing the IRA, Anabel made two significant presentations in support of adult new readers, one to the United Nations in New York and a second to a Congressional Committee in Washington, D.C.

Anabel's dedicated service led to wide recognition, and over the years, she received numerous awards: Carolyn Barclay Memorial Award (1948); Principia College Home Department Award (1951); Pi Lambda Theta, Ella Victoria Dobbs Award (1972); Pi Lambda Theta, Iota Chapter, Distinguished Service Award (1981-82); State of Indiana Literacy Leadership Award, (1987); Indianapolis Private Industry Council, Job Training Partner of the Year (1988); State University of New York at Buffalo Outstanding Alumni Award (1989); Beta Phi Mu, Chi Chapter; Scholarship and Service to the Library Community (1991); Literacy Volunteers of America Leadership Award (1991); Indiana Humanities Council Lifetime Achievement Award (1992); Indiana Association for Adult and Continuing Education Award for Leadership and Service to Adult Education (1994); and finally, the Principia Outstanding Alumni Award (2000).

After retirement, Anabel continued her commitment to the field of adult literacy, producing an additional book, *M2IP3: The Role of Model, Motivation, Interest, Perseverance and Positive Pressure in Teaching Reading to Challenged Readers*, and developing a website, *littleabe.net*, to make broadly and freely available a series of stories specifically developed to assist in enhancing fluency among adult new readers.

Anabel was preceded in death by her loving husband of 38 years, Philip Newman, and by both of her brothers, Chester and Gene Powell. She is survived by her nephews Hector (and Janis) Powell, and Gregory (and Francene) Powell, and by her nieces Joan Powell and Rindy Powell.

Service was truly the hallmark of Anabel's life. Her dedication is only barely represented by the various awards and accomplishments in her life. She had a gift for recognizing and encouraging potential in people outside the mainstream; her enduring legacy is in the friends, colleagues, former students, and mentees in this country and around the world who carry the memory of her kindness, openness, and generosity into their endeavors to make the world a better, more just place.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to surviving nieces and nephews, the Language Education Department at IU, the VITAL Program at the Monroe County Public Library, and close friends and colleagues in literacy, Brad Antonides and Karen Shepherd.