



MARILYN REINER SCIENCE IN EDUCATION FUND

In the fall of 2004 we lost a strong supporter within our science community. Marilyn Reiner, a retired High School science teacher from Pearl River HS passed away unexpectedly. She elevated the standards for high school students by creating an additional competition for the top nine students at the Tri County Science & Technology Fair. She was the president of the Westchester Section of The Science Teachers Association of New York State and worked tirelessly on the Tri County Science & Technology Fair.

January 2005, The Putnam Children's Discovery Center started a fund in her honor, and the monies raised will be utilized solely for science activities for children. The Discovery Center reaches children in Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, Dutchess and Orange counties in New York State. The programs that currently will benefit are:

Tri County Science & Technology Fair, an annual event for grades K-12. The best and the brightest students exhibit their projects competing on a regional level. Three of the best researchers on the high school level go on to the NYS competitions.

Hands On Science, a program (grades K-8) that takes place in school for students interested in science. The program offers several hands on activities and the children work with a teacher in small, informal groups where questioning is encouraged.

MARILYN REINER—OBITUARY — Journal News, The (Westchester County, NY)

November 12, 2004

OBITUARY

Author: Randi Weiner; Staff

Reiner, retired Pearl River science teacher, dies at 69

Colleagues recall educator as a legend in the district

Randi Weiner

The Journal News

Longtime Pearl River science educator Marilyn Reiner died yesterday at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern from septic shock brought on by an attack of E. coli bacteria, family members said. She was 69.

Reiner was remembered by co-workers and friends yesterday as a legend in the school district, lauded for creating the Advanced Placement biology course, overseeing the science research course and bringing NASA scientists and Nobel Prize winners to Pearl River through a science lecture series.

"Her great love was AP biology, which she really taught with tremendous passion," said Pearl River Superintendent of Schools Frank Auriemma. "She really will be missed."

Reiner was born in Brooklyn on July 10, 1935, married Jerry Reiner in 1955 and moved to Rockland in 1962. She received a bachelor's in biology in 1955 and a master's in science education in 1957, both from Queens College. She received a master's in clinical psychology in 1984 from the New School for Social Research.

She taught in New York City schools from 1955 to 1962 and at Kakiak Junior High School from 1962 to 1964, and she spent from 1964 until her retirement in 2000 at Pearl River High School.

Reiner received numerous professional honors and awards, including the National Association of Biology Teachers Outstanding Teacher award, the New York State Senate Achievement Award and the New York State Outstanding Biology Teacher Award, all in 1984.

In 1991, she was named the Presidential Award-winner for New York state. She was a Fellow of the Science Teachers Association of New York State and was an adjunct biology professor at Syracuse University. She was a contender for a Board of Regents seat in 2000.

Reiner was president of the Alpha Eta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, the state science honor society; chair of the Westchester Section of the Science Teachers Association and chair of the board of governors of Delta Kappa Gamma.

"Science education in New York State will certainly miss her," said Uriel Goldsmith, former Ramapo High School science chair and former local, state and national science organizations officer.

Survivors include her husband; two sons, Harrison Reiner of Los Angeles and Brian Reiner of Suffern; and a daughter, Melinda Reiner of Eugene, Ore.

Services will be held at 9 a.m. today at Hellman Funeral Chapels in Spring Valley.