Frances F. Vandivier-1926-1987

Proud To Know Ye

Frances F. Vandivier, a nationally recognized child advocate and educator in child care work, died of cancer November 19, 1987, at the age of 61.

After graduating from Berea College in her home town of Berea, Kentucky, Fran began her professional career as a music teacher. She received a Master's degree in Child Development and Child Care from the University of Pittsburgh in 1966, continuing her interest in music and focusing also on disturbed adolescents.

Fran was perhaps best known by us in her role as founder and chair-person of the Child Care Department at Temple University, which came to graduate over 1,100 child care professionals. This set the stage for her participation in a wide array of activities for training and educating child care workers. She played a major role on the Task Force on Curriculum of the Conference-Research Sequence in Child Care Education sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh in the early 1980s.

In 1986, Fran undertook work with Georgetown University and NIMH in the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP). She was honored for her role in initiating the "Invisible Children" project of the National Mental Health Association and was listed in the World Who's Who of Women, 1986. Fran was the author of a number of publications, including Hope is not Enough: A Guide for Child Mental Health Advocates (1983); she belonged to the Academy of Child and Youth Care Professionals; and she served as a consultant to numerous training programs and children's agencies.

Fran was known personally by many of us not only for her pioneering work in our field, but also for her warmth, generosity, and wit. She delighted in others' achievements and good fortune, and would often say in response, "I'm proud to know ye!"—an expression learned, perhaps, from her upbringing in Berea.

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I met Fran when we were both students in the master's program at the University of Pittsburgh. With our name similarity it was inevitable that we would become friends and colleagues.

Her friendship is missed by all of us who were privileged to know and work with her, and the field as a whole has lost one of its highly recognized and accomplished contributors. I think I speak for all of us when I say, "Fran, we are proud to have known ye."

Karen Vander Ven

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