



Regina Marie Foley

July 20, 1957 - November 22, 2009

Dr. Regina Marie Foley, Professor of Special Education in the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, November 22, 2009.

She was born to Emmett William Foley and Thelma Monica (Erny) Foley, on July 20, 1957, in Alliance, Nebraska. She attended a rural country school and junior high school in Hemingford, Nebraska. She graduated from Saint Martin's Academy of the Black Hills, Rapid City, SD in 1975. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in special education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1979 and 1983 respectively. Dr. Foley completed her Doctorate of Education in Special Education at Northern Illinois University in 1989. She had been with the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education in the College of Education and Human Services at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale since August of 1990. She was a full professor in special education program and was an active and productive scholar. Dr. Foley received grant funding at the university, regional, state, and national levels for the advancement of special education curriculum. She published over 34 articles, monographs, and book chapters, and made presentations at over 70 professional conferences for her work in this area.

Regina grew up on a farm in western Nebraska, the eldest of six children. Her parents expected much from her, and the rest of the Foley children looked up

to her throughout their lives. At the time of her death, she was also guardian and responsible for the care of her aging mother. She was a loving aunt, sister, and daughter, and an avid supporter of her Alma Mater, the University of Nebraska and its Husker football team.

She is survived by her mother Thelma Foley of Carbondale, Illinois;

four sisters and one brother Martha of Denver, CO, Susanne Fuerst and her husband John Fuerst of Bloomfield, MI, Jane Langemeier and her husband Michael Langemeier of Manhattan, KS, William Foley and his wife Trudyanne of Longs, SC, and Ellen Thomas and her husband Troy Thomas of Shickley, NE;

six nieces and three nephews Anna Langemeier, Jane Fuerst, Zachary Fuerst, Olivia Thomas, Mary Langemeier, Christine Langemeier, Alexander Thomas, Victoria Thomas and Thomas Thomas.

She was preceded in death by her father Emmett Foley, who passed away in February of 2008.

A Funeral Mass of Catholic Burial will be held at 10 a.m Saturday, November 28, 2009, at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 724 Mulberry Street in Murphysboro with Father Gary Gummersheimer officiating. A Rosary will be held at 5 p.m. Friday, November 27, 2009 at Pettett Funeral Home, where visitation will follow until 7 p.m. on Friday. Burial will be at Hemingford Cemetery in Hemingford, Nebraska. Memorials may be made to the University of Nebraska Foundation, P.O. Box 82555, Lincoln, NE 68801.

Tribute Wall



“ Regina Marie Foley

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ Dearest Foley Family, Roddy and I would like to send our deepest sympathy to you. I am so glad that I got the chance to see Regina at Bill's wedding and spend some time talking with her. I know she will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Please take comfort knowing that she is in heaven with Our Lord and your dad Emmett.

Diane and Roddy Bieber - December 06, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ I would like to offer my sympathy to Regina's family. Dr. Foley was a valuable asset to education in Southern Illinois and throughout the state with her research and expertise in Rtl and Special Education. She has acted as a trainer and consultant with our high school for the past few years and she will be missed.

Virginia Appuhn

Carbondale Community High School

Virginia Appuhn - November 28, 2009 at 12:25 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies during you time of loss. Please know that we are here for you. With love and prayers.

Nickie & Sharon - November 27, 2009 at 01:10 PM

LB

“ *My sincerest sympathy to the Foley family. I was a student of Dr. Foley's and, later, partnered with her and a student in educational research. We remained in-touch after that time with Regina periodically checking on me to see how life was going. She was always a caring warm person. Her smile and compassion will be greatly missed!*

Lisa Bustos - November 27, 2009 at 12:25 PM

ST

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Reg was such a wonderful and caring person. I have many fond memories from when we were roommates in Lincoln. I will never forget how she loved the huskers and her family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Shirley Teply - November 27, 2009 at 10:34 AM

CL

“ *I was so shock to learn of the sudden death of your daughter Regina. i didn't know her except when she had her mother with her at the 5:30 P.M. Mass on many Saturday night Masses. She will be missed by many her saw her at Mass on a Saturday Night. My prays go out to the whole family in their time of need.*
Sincerely,
Concetta Lamendola

Concetta A. Lamendola - November 27, 2009 at 06:50 AM

MD

“ Please accept my sincere sympathy. Regina was a good friend. We were in the doctoral program together at NIU. We have been friends ever since. We shared stories of the events in family members' lives and shared professional interests in the field of special education. Regina was always the first person I thought of to call when both good things and not-so-good things happened in my life. She would always listen and be supportive or rejoice in the good things that happened in my life. She would always tell me all of the good things that her nieces and nephews were involved in and she loved being an aunt. I could also always count on her to pray when I needed prayers - her faith in the Lord and in His will for her was a great model for me.

I know she is in the arms of the Lord now and I pray that you all can rejoice in all of the good Regina did for those who knew her and for the field of special education.

Maryann Dudzinski - November 26, 2009 at 12:26 PM

PW

“ Regina had the office next to mine until I retired in 2001. We shared many comments on people, places and events and she was always such an upbeat person. I still saw her occasionally when I walked my dog, since I live on Emerald Lane in Carbondale, one street over from hers, although she wasn't too fond of my "attack dachshund," who is somewhat overprotective. The earth has lost a wonderful person, but heaven has gained a real angel.

Paula Woehlke - November 26, 2009 at 11:52 AM

MD

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Maryann Dudzinski - November 26, 2009 at 11:30 AM

DT

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I didn't know Regina but sat in the row behind her and Thelma many times at church. She was a devoted daughter to her mom. She was well respected by everyone. It was such a shock to all of us. May God comfort you in your sudden loss.

Dianne Trammel - November 25, 2009 at 09:59 AM