



As most of you are aware, Dr. Janet Helen Fontaine passed away peacefully on Friday, Sept. 16, 2005, at her home. Jan was born June 1, 1943, in Woonsocket, R.I. Since 1989, she was an esteemed full professor in our Department. Prior to coming to IUP, Jan served as director of the Moorhead State University (MN) Counseling Center. Dr. Fontaine had also worked as a counseling center psychologist at Colorado State University and the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). At UNC, she was appointed director of the career development and testing center. Having received her doctorate from the University of Hawaii, teaching on U.S. Military bases in West Berlin and England, she developed an interest in multicultural counseling and diversity issues and fostering safe school environments.

Dr. Fontaine made significant contributions to the Department of Counseling, IUP and the professional counseling and psychology community. She was a recognized expert in the area of sexual minority youth as was evidenced by her many publications and presentations. She was an invited member of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educators Network Inaugural Research Roundtable and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Liaison to the American Psychological Association (APA) Healthy Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Student Project. Her work also focused

on the training of school counselors and the quality of school counseling programs. She held national positions as an editorial board member for the Professional School Counseling Journal, a trainer for the ASCA National Standards, and CACREP Site Reviewer. She was a Licensed Professional Counselor, Master Career Counselor, and National Certified Counselor. She touched the lives of many in a variety of ways. She will be greatly missed. Her devoted partner of nine years, Carol Townsend, arranged for a memorial service at the Newman Center on Oct. 1, 2005. During this service, counseling faculty, alumni and current students shared heartfelt memories of Jan.

Dr. Claire Dandeneau shared

Bob Witchel shared I first met Jan when she arrived at IUP in Aug. 1989. I was dept. chair, and including Jan there were only 4 of us in the Counseling program. We had something in common as we both had come to IUP from Minnesota. I last saw Jan on August 27th. I had not seen her since she was at the Monroeville Center sometime in March. She had literally dragged herself to Monroeville to teach that night. We sat side by side and she shared her feelings about the turn her life had just taken.

When I visited her on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> I was greatly moved by her. We held hands for a long while. I told her how important it was to me when she told me in 2002 that she admired how I continued to re-create a new life for myself; I had just decided to get married.

I shared with Jan that when she arrived in 1989 that she was the only woman in a dept of 8 men; I said how pleased I was that this was no longer the case, as there were now 7 women and 3 men in the dept. Her whole face smiled.

I brought greetings from the 1st Monroeville school cohort









