

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
Pauline Micu Hunsberger
1935-1996

Pauline Hunsberger retired in 1993 as Archivist and Associate Librarian after twenty-four years of dedicated service to IPFW, Helmke Library, and the profession. Her undergraduate degree in education was from Indiana University where she sang with the Indiana University Belles. As a single mother with four children, she was a "non-traditional student" who earned the Master of Library Science degree from Indiana University in 1972. Pauline did further work here at IPFW in both English and business administration. She served our students, faculty and staff in a variety of positions: reference, instruction, acquisitions, and the area with which her name has become synonymous, archives. It was in archives and preservation that she found her professional niche. As a member of state and regional associations she became well-known and respected; she was often called upon for consulting work in northeastern Indiana. The loss of her expertise in these areas is a void that will not be filled quickly, for it is an area of librarianship that requires specialized knowledge and skills not normally learned in library courses. It comes only over a period of time through study and practice. Her preservation knowledge was developed through workshops, courses at both Stanford and Columbia Universities, and a sabbatical working with one of the most recognized conservation and preservation experts in the United States.

The present organization and collection of IPFW archives is a direct result of her work. It began as one of those unpaid, unrecognized, "hip-pocket" assignments that one does in "spare time." As she saw the need for a systematic gathering and organizing of the collection, it grew so that it now is housed in the library in four rooms and several closets.

One of Pauline's most notable accomplishments in archives was to work with Larry Life to organize the PIT Theatre collection. It was an outgrowth of her interest in theatre and archives and the importance of preserving IPFW's past. To help develop a sense of that past in its graduates she wrote many articles for the Alumni magazine, Current.

It is as a human being, though, that many of us will remember her. As multiple sclerosis slowly and painfully imprisoned her mind in a body that left her unable to hold a book, she refused to give up. Only a few days before her death on October 13, 1996, she was listening to books, to WBNI (another organization to which she was devoted), and discussing politics, video films and ideas for maintaining archives. Viktor Frankl wrote that "...everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of human freedoms--to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances--to choose one's own way." Pauline Hunsberger chose her way, and as a result her friends and colleagues have been graced with the presence of someone who truly practiced "life-long learning." Until the final moments of her life she was focused on becoming a better person, not a bitter one. She has served IPFW with distinction and earned a place in its history.

We extend our condolences to her husband, Ted Hunsberger, retired Librarian at IPFW, and to her children, brother and their families.