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Vicky Helen Speck Obituary

Submitted by Francis “Fritz” Speck (Computer Center Director, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, 700 Terrace Heights #17, Winona, MN 55987; Phone: 507-457-1405) <ispeak@smumn.edu>

SANTA BARBARA, Calif./WINONA — Vicky Helen Speck, 56, of Santa Barbara and Winona died Friday, April 21, 2006, at St. Anne Extended Healthcare. She was born May 26, 1949, in Winona, the daughter of Edward and Helen (Kaldunski) Speck.

Vicky Helen Speck was a gentle woman who was a great achiever in her lifetime.

She was a graduate of the College of St. Teresa and William Mitchell Law School. She was director of Serials Division of ABC-CLIO at Santa Barbara and was involved in theatre, dance and music, participating in them whenever she could. She was a member of Canticle and San Roque Church choir. Music was important to her. She followed the Moody Blues, Michael Ball and Cliff Richard. Vicky loved needlework and was a member of Embroidery Guild of America. She lived and worked in Bogota, Colombia; Winona; St. Paul; Eau Claire; Colorado Springs and Santa Barbara. She made and kept close friendships wherever she went. Family was important to her, both its history and maintaining close ties. She was close to her niece, nephews and godchildren, and proud of their achievements.

She is lovingly survived by her parents and two brothers, Francis (Teresa) Speck of Winona and Mark (Judy) Speck of Hixson, TN; one sister, Therese M. Plate of Santa Ana, CA; and one uncle, the Rev. James A. Speck of Winona.

She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant sister.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered Wednesday, April 26, at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of St. Casimir, the Rev. Robert P. Stampschorr officiating. Interment will be in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Visitation will be Wednesday at the church one hour prior to Mass.

Pallbearers will be William Speck, John Morin, Michael Speck, Thomas Kukowski, Colin Jaedike and Al Jaedike.

Memorials may be directed to St. Anne Extended Healthcare, Winona, or to Tutwiler (Miss.) Clinic. A Watkowski-Pronschnik Funeral Service.

A Recollection from Rosann Bazirjian

by Rosann Bazirjian (University Librarian, The University of North Carolina - Greensboro, P.O. Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402; Phone: 336-334-3418; Fax: 336-334-5399; and President, Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), a Division of the American Library Association) <Rosann_Bazirjian@uncg.edu>

My most memorable recollection is the weekend that Vicky visited me in State College to edit the Charleston Conference Proceedings volume together for the first time. We hardly knew each other — just incidentally from the conference. I don’t remember how or why Katrina put us together to co-edit the Proceedings volumes, but it happened and we worked together so well!

The first day we worked on the volume, we sat in my office at the PSU Libraries, and had all of the articles that the speakers contributed laid out on the floor. Then we sat down on the floor ourselves, and tried to sort them into categories. It worked like magic. We agreed on everything, sorted the articles quickly, decided who would write the introduction and short abstracts, and then decided it was time for Vicky to see the town!

We had the most wonderful two days shopping together, talking, eating at some wonderful restaurants, and generally very proud of ourselves for getting so organized for the Proceedings volume so quickly and easily. Of course, we worked long distance after that weekend to get the volume in final shape, but it went so well because we worked so well together. We just clicked.

And we clicked after that weekend, and together to edit three more Proceedings volumes. We had the “formula” down, each giving equally to the partnership. I’ll miss Vicky very much. She was always kind, helpful, a hard worker, easy to be with — just a nice, nice person! I’ll remember Vicky forever, and am glad that our names will be tied together for ever on the volumes that we co-edited.

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