



Mrs. Nicole S. Schott Desrosiers

June 6, 1941 - September 1, 2018

Mrs. Nicole Schott Desrosiers passed away on August 31 at the age of 77. She was born in Le Puy, France, the daughter of Harry and Ruth (Katzenstein) Schott. She was predeceased by her loving husband, Paul Desrosiers. The Schott family was originally from Germany; however, they were forced to flee during WWII due to their Jewish faith. Nicole came to the United States in 1966 on a Fulbright Scholarship to attend Mount Holyoke College, where she obtained a master's degree in American literature. She also held a master's degree in French literature from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, a Master's degree in English Literature from the Université de Clermont-Ferrand (from which she also obtained her Bachelor's degree), and a Phd from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Fiercely dedicated to the pursuit of education and knowledge, she embarked on a career as a French teacher, translator, writer, and professor.

She worked for Lenox Memorial Middle and High School as chair of the world language department, retiring in 2007 after 22 years. During her time at Lenox, she taught all levels of French, created an Advanced Placement program, and led an exchange program with a high school outside of Paris, fostering a rich cross-cultural dialogue for her students.

Nicole was still employed at the time of her death, teaching at Williams College, where she worked as a Lecturer in Romance Languages for 44 years. There, she taught graduate courses in French literature, culture, and

translation. She previously taught at Trinity College and Bennington College. She was a founding member of the Berkshire Organization of Language Teachers (BOLT), where she was serving as Treasurer. She was also an active member of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), and the Berkshire International Club (BIC). Nicole was also very involved in the Clark Art Institute. Nicole was also a two-time recipient of National Endowment for the Humanities grants, spending a summer each in Dakar and Paris studying, researching, and writing. A published author, Nicole lent her time and knowledge to others, serving as a translator and advisor to others in their publications and academic pursuits. In 2015 she was awarded Les Palmes Académiques by the French government for her contribution and dedication to the teaching of French culture, language, and literature. While attending Mount Holyoke College, Nicole met the love of her life, Paul Desrosiers. They were happily married for 49 years, raising their two sons in the Berkshires. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and community member. She and Paul volunteered for many years at Tanglewood and for Democratic causes. It should be said that Nicole was passionate about every aspect of her life and the lives of her family members. She was so excited to become a grandmother and enjoyed every minute of her time with her children, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, and they loved her immensely. She leaves behind her very close and loving family: her son David, his wife Wheatly, and their daughter Lulzime; her son Daniel, his wife Bridget, and their daughters Camille and Patrice; her brothers Henri, Gaston, and Marcel, and their families, all in France. She was predeceased by her brother, Rene, as well as her husband, Paul.

Her caring friends and colleagues whom she leaves behind are too numerous to mention by name, but they held a place in her heart that was greater than their titles suggest; they truly became her adopted family. They include, but are in no way limited to, Monique Jalbert, Isabelle Kaplan, Ghetta Hirsch, Bernadette Gros and Emmanuelle Dunoyer, Sharon Feltzer, Dori Katz, and

Bill and Sharon Ballen. She was extremely proud to mentor and encourage language students at all levels; with one student in particular, Isabel Roche, she developed a lifelong friendship, filled with pride in her accomplishments.

Funeral Notice:

There will be a Commemoration of Nicole's life on September 23, 2018, from 1-4 pm in the Ballroom at Cranwell Resort & Spa, in Lenox. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Berkshire Medical Center's Cancer Center or BOLT or to a charity of choice, care of the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St., Pittsfield, MA 01201. Please visit www.dwyerfuneral.com to leave condolences and remembrances.

Tribute Wall

CE

“ *Merci pour tout ce que vous avez fait pour avancer la langue française et pour aider les étudiants ici dans notre petit coin du monde. Merci aussi pour m'avoir aidé personnellement dans ma quête de devenir professeure formidable. Que vous ayez trouvé de la paix et retrouvé ton amour. Condoléances à la famille.* ”

Carrie Ely - September 27, 2018 at 10:51 AM



“ 35 files added to the album Life Tributes ”



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - September 22, 2018 at 11:48 AM

GB

“ *Gene H. Bell-Villada purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Nicole S. Schott Desrosiers.* ”



Gene H. Bell-Villada - September 17, 2018 at 02:27 PM

GB

“ Nicole and I were good friends from the time I arrived at Williams in 1975--so we were almost exact contemporaries. She was such a warm, caring human being and a true delight to be with. I was shocked at her sudden passing, and I have been missing her deeply since then. My thoughts are with David and Daniel and the rest of Nicole's kin.

Gene H. Bell-Villada

Gene H. Bell-Villada - September 17, 2018 at 02:21 PM

SG

“ Nicole and I were colleagues at Lenox Memorial Middle/High School for a long time. She was a brilliant and dedicated teacher and always a gracious lady. I am so very sorry at her passing. Nicole is missed.

Sincerely,
Sue Gventer

Sue Gventer - September 13, 2018 at 08:52 AM

DA

J'ai connu Nicole Schott Desrosiers en 1965-66 à l'Université de Clermont-Ferrand Ferrand .Je me souviens d'une personne très gentille et attentionnée
Je l'ai pratiquement perdue de vue à l'été 1966 lorsqu'elle partit continuer ses études aux USA
Je suis affecté par cette disparition et je présente mes condoléances les plus attristées à sa famille
Que Dieu lui pardonne

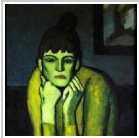
Diallo Boubacar à Abidjan - September 17, 2018 at 06:39 PM

JD

“ *Some of the most endearing memories of my childhood were formed in the Desrosiers household. Dan and Dave, your mother (and father) were always so welcoming and your house was so warm and inviting. I will always think back on these days fondly.*

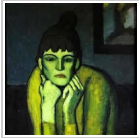
Lauren and I send our deepest condolences and heartfelt hopes that you will all find comfort in coming days.

Jason Denmark - September 12, 2018 at 09:36 PM



“ *Condoléances a la famille*

Sophie Blasco - September 12, 2018 at 08:55 AM



“ *Tu fus une merveilleuse ami et tu me manqueras énormément.
Mes condoléances a David et Daniel ainsi qu'à toute sa famille.*



Sophie Blasco - September 12, 2018 at 08:52 AM

IB

“ *Nicole was an inspiration to so many people. I met her when I became a member of the Berkshire International Club many years ago. She encouraged me in the activities that we worked on together to foster and provide a variety of experiences for our French group. I could not have organized the showing of French films or the afternoons of playing word games in French without her help and enthusiasm.*

She is deserving of all the many accolades that she has received in both her professional and personal life. I shall miss her very much.
Irene Bernstein-Pechmèze

irene bernstein - September 12, 2018 at 08:43 AM