



In Memorium: Patrick M. Hartwell

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In Memorium

Patrick M. Hartwell

Patrick M. Hartwell, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), died on October 4, 2000, after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, Chip (Patricia), two daughters, Elizabeth Braso and husband Kenneth Braso of Louisville, Kentucky, and Margaret Reggentin and husband Mark Reggentin of Orlando, Florida. Additionally, he is survived by two grandchildren, Paul and Luke Reggentin.

Dr. Hartwell was a nationally known scholar of literacy and its teaching and a member of the doctoral faculty in Rhetoric and Linguistics at IUP. He will be remembered for his research and theorizing about teaching writing in his seminal journal article “Grammar, Grammars, and the Teaching of Grammar” in *College English* (1985), in which he showed the ineffectiveness of teaching grammar as a way to teach students to write. For the last fifteen years this article was considered the central document in understanding the limited role of grammar study in learning to write. He also applied a multidisciplinary meta-research approach to the question of dialect interference in learning literacy in an article published in *Research in the Teaching of English* (1980), and his comprehensive college writing textbook, *Open to Language* (Oxford UP, 1982) was a popular textbook in college writing courses around the country.

Outside the classroom, Pat was a mild-mannered man who would avoid being the center of attention unless he was in the middle of telling a joke. In fact, he had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed wordplay, especially any

jokes having to do with ducks or Dorothy Parker. Most of all, Pat will be remembered for the many lives he touched around the country. He was gentle and supportive with students, graduate and undergraduate alike, and gracious with credit to colleagues who gave him pieces of the scholarly puzzle he was constructing. He built new knowledge as some build barns, with colleagues and students, all working together, laughing and refreshing each other with ideas, all united in the construction of that structure that was their professional lives.

Donations in memory of Pat may be made to the Patrick M. Hartwell Composition Scholarship Fund. Make checks payable to the Foundation for IUP (#5263) and mail to the Foundation for IUP, 103 Sutton Hall, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705.

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