

In Memoriam

Herbert L. Baird, Jr., Western Washington University, 23 December 2013
 Jan Bakker, Utah State University, 18 March 2013
 Frank G. Banta, Indiana University, Bloomington, 3 January 2014
 Frances K. Barasch, Baruch College, City University of New York, 25 April 2014
 Herbert Blau, University of Washington, 3 May 2013
 Robert W. Bradford, Lafayette College, 25 May 2014
 Patricia Ann Gartenberg, Rutgers University, Newark, 3 May 2014
 Darryl J. Gless, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 10 June 2014
 David Garland Halliburton, Stanford University, 2 June 2014
 Winifred Bryan Horner, Texas Christian University, 4 February 2014
 Norman Kelvin, City College, City University of New York, and Graduate Center, City
 University of New York, 14 April 2014
 J. R. Le Master, Baylor University, 29 June 2014
 Robert William Lewis, University of North Dakota, 26 August 2013
 Joseph Maltby, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, 29 June 2014
 Albert F. McLean, Point Park University, 15 January 2014
 Stella P. Revard, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, 14 July 2014
 Roger L. Slakey, Georgetown University, 21 May 2014
 Walter Eugene Swayze, University of Winnipeg, 28 January 2014
 William Watson, Tucson, Arizona, 8 May 2014

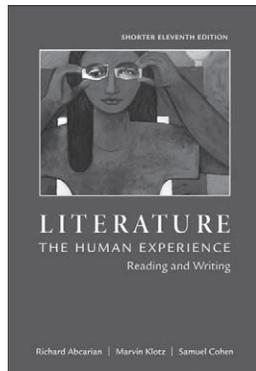
PATRICIA SMITH YAEGER (25 FEB. 1949–25 JULY 2014). Patsy Yaeger died of ovarian cancer earlier this year. A member of the University of Michigan Departments of English and Women's Studies since 1990, she was named Henry Simmons Frieze Collegiate Professor in 2005.

As editor of *PMLA* from 2006 to 2011, Patsy reimagined what the journal could be, most notably in the innovative Theories and Methodologies section and her Editor's Columns. The latter she often transformed into conversations, inviting scholars to think through issues ranging from the future of postcolonial studies to the import of different forms of energy for literary periodization. Key to her critical genius were an irrepressible imagination and a limitless curiosity that allowed her to see things and make connections others couldn't. Also key was an aesthetic sensibility that brought

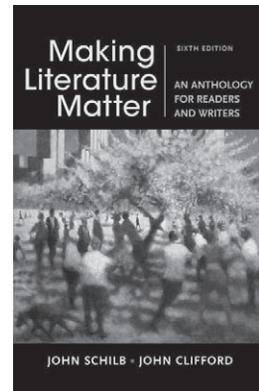
This listing contains names received by the membership office since the May 2014 issue. A cumulative list for the academic year 2014–15 appears at the MLA Web site (www.mla.org/in_memoriam).

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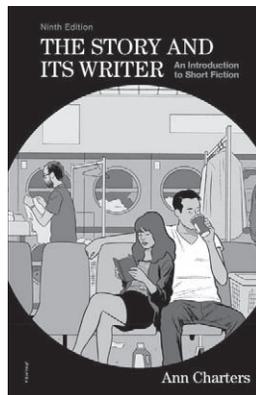
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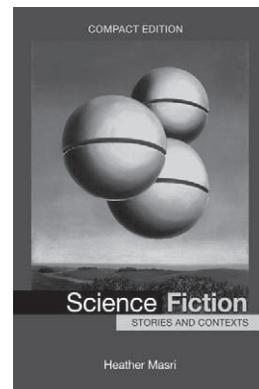
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intriguing color and design to the covers of *PMLA* and made the images reproduced there objects of critical thought in their own right.

Patsy's editorship was only one of the highlights of an illustrious career during which she pioneered feminist scholarship of literature and culture, particularly of the American South. Her *Honey-Mad Women: Emancipatory Strategies in Women's Writing* appeared in 1988 and the award-winning *Dirt and Desire: Reconstructing Southern Women's Writing 1930–1990* in 2000. Her edited volume *The Geography of Identity* (1996) and the coedited collection *Nationalisms and Sexualities* (1992) extended her purview beyond the United States. She turned to issues of trauma in the landmark "Consuming Trauma; or, The Pleasures of Merely Circulating" (1997).

Patsy's more recent publications in material culture and the environment, specifically those on cities, infrastructure, oceans, trash, and energy, will shape the environmental humanities for years to come. Her *PMLA* Editor's Column "Literature in the Ages of Wood, Tallow, Coal, Whale Oil, Gasoline, Atomic Power, and Other Energy Sources" (2011) led to *Fueling Culture: Energy, History, Politics* (forthcoming), an interdisciplinary collection of essays on keywords related to energy she was coediting at the time of her death.

Spanning the wide arc of Patsy's scholarship, from her formal training as a Yale Romanticist in the age of high theory to "Luminous Trash," a book manuscript under way when she died, is the spirit of what she termed "a female sublime," a sublime not of mastery but of undoing. Patsy valued the restlessness and excess of her curiosity, which, even as it opened new intellectual territories, rounded back on those adventures in knowing to trouble their authority. Patsy embraced that reflexive return, troping it as a prolific violence. She loved this line in Yeats's "Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop": "For nothing can be sole or whole / That has not been rent."

Patsy was a bold scholar, vibrant teacher, gracious colleague, supportive mentor, fiercely loving wife and mother, passionate gardener, inimitable dancer, wondrous conversationalist, and precious friend to many. A scintillating interlocutor, she talked seamlessly about poems and politics, critical theory and travel, gardens and girlfriends. Her students describe her generous sharing of her insights about literature and life, a facility that was recognized by an award for distinguished graduate mentoring in 2013. She was asking canny questions and generating dazzling ideas up to her death. On hearing of her illness, many people remarked in protest or disbelief that Patsy was so extraordinarily *alive*. Her boundless charisma expanded the worlds of all who knew her.

A session in memory of Patsy will be held at the 2015 MLA convention in Vancouver (9 Jan., 3:30–4:45 p.m.) and a symposium in her honor at the University of Michigan in March 2015.

MARJORIE LEVINSON, ANITA NORICH, VALERIE TRAUB, AND JENNIFER WENZEL