

Farewell, Old Friend: Remembering Diane Nedved

Diane Nedved, a 1954 alumna of Shimer College and a member of the Shimer Board of Trustees for the past several years, passed away on Tuesday, February 26. Her death is a great loss to the Shimer community. Diane was an unflagging booster of the College, one who backed up her enthusiasm with extraordinary financial generosity. She also gave a lot of time and effort to her work on the Board, serving on many Board committees and helping out in numerous other ways.

Upon hearing of Diane's death, former Shimer President Bill Rice sent a eulogy in which he wrote, "The qualities of fanaticism and loyalty, generously mixed with the rigor, intimacy, and range of a Shimer education, make for exceptional human beings, and Diane was a brilliantly minted example. She would often say: 'Shimer saved my life.' In the early 1950s, she was a colossally bored, intellectually voracious, verging on out-of-control early teenager whose mother had no idea what to do with her and was deeply, deeply worried. Then her mother learned about the Early Entrant Program at Shimer. When Diane told this story to young people, it was interesting to watch them bonding with her with their eyes. One was moved almost to tears, as Diane occasionally was." Almost any Shimerian, young or old, who met Diane can relate to those comments.

Diane, who lived near Pittsburgh, was an active 71 years of age at the time of her death. She was a lawyer (John Marshall Law School, Class of 1957) and a certified public accountant. She served with distinction on many non-profit boards, but Shimer was closest to her heart. Those of us who knew her will miss her very, very much.