
IN MEMORIAM

Melva Jo Hendrix
August 11, 1935-March 15, 1998

Melva Jo Hendrix, Professor at the University of Kentucky, died on March 15, 1998 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was born on August 11, 1935 in Salisbury, North Carolina, the daughter of the late Sadie F. and Thomas Hendrix. Dr. Hendrix earned her baccalaureate and masters degrees from the University of Maryland, her doctorate from Boston University, and completed a postdoctoral program at Harvard University.

A professor of psychiatric nursing at the University of Kentucky since 1973, Dr. Hendrix served as Division Director of Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing at the College of Nursing, and later was Coordinator/Associate Director of the UK Center for Rural Health in Hazard, Kentucky. Dr. Hendrix made significant contributions to the University community. For many years she served as Vice Chair of the UK Medical Institutional Review Board. She established the Nurses Assisting Nurses (NAN) project and served as interim director of the Kentucky Partnerships for Research and Training in severe Mental Illness. Dr. Hendrix received numerous honors and awards throughout her distinguished career. She was a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and, at the time of her death, the President of the Society for Education and Research in Psychiatric Nursing.

Dr. Hendrix was devoted to her work, and her leadership touched and transformed many lives. She was an inspiring teacher, a caring therapist, a loyal friend, and mentor to many. Her courage, compassion, humor, and love of life will be missed.

She is survived by her long-time partner Gretchen LaGodna and her children M. Michael LaGodna and Mary LaGodna Reynolds, a sister Maureda Hendrix Jones of Winston Salem, North Carolina, many nieces and nephews, and many special friends.

Contributions may be made in memory of Dr. Hendrix to the Memorial Fund, J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, 1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, Florida 33917 or the Research Fund, Society for Education and Research in Psychiatric Nursing (SERPN), 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, Florida 32514.

Jo Hendrix was not only the immediate past President of SERPN but in many ways the spirit and conscience of SERPN as well. As Editor of *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing* and a regular participant in SERPN events, I was privileged to witness her leadership, warmth, wit, and wisdom. Her legacy to us is one of principle and compromise on behalf of the profession and the patients we serve. She will be greatly missed.

Judith B. Krauss, RN, MSN, FAAN
Editor