Kathleen Susan (Sue) Trevitt-Clark
1946 - 1998

Longtime WAML member, Sue Trevitt-Clark died on April 15, 1998 at her home in Eugene, Oregon. She was 52. Her family did not disclose the cause of death.

She was born February 14, 1946, in Oakland, California to Frederick and Dorothy Trevitt. Upon graduation from High School in Oakland, she moved to Chico, California in 1963, receiving her bachelor's degree in geography from Chico State University four years later. She moved to Eugene, Oregon in 1967 to attend graduate school and earned a master's degree in geography from the University of Oregon. She married Dennis Clark June 13, 1976 in Point Arena, California.

Survivors include her husband; her mother of Point Arena, California; a brother, Michael Trevitt of Santa Ana, California; a sister, Patricia Neth of Point Arena, California; and hundreds of friends near and far. A celebration of life was held at Hendricks Park and Rhododendron Garden in the early evening hours of June 4, 1998 where many of her friends and family gathered to celebrate her life.

In 1967 the Department of Geography and the University Library merged their two cartographic material collections into a new branch library in Condor Hall. Sue Trevitt-Clark began work in the newly created “Map Room” as a work/study student the same year. She first worked under Dierdre Malarky, Head, Government Documents Library, University of Oregon Library, who was appointed acting head of the Map Room. In 1968, when Science Librarian, Ed Thatcher returned from his sabbatical in Africa, he was appointed Head of the Map Room and was able to name Sue to a permanent staff position. Her first day in the permanent staff position was November 1, 1970. There, she continued without break or pause for over 27 years until her death this year.

She was largely responsible for collecting, organizing, and assisting users with the large collection of aerial photography held by the UO MAP Library. She was always working to improve the collection by collecting, indexing, trimming, labeling, organizing, or shifting the photos. The aerial photography collection of over one half million prints is her lasting legacy to the University of Oregon and to the citizens of the state. However, it was her public service orientation that will be remembered most by the students, faculty, staff, and members of the community who used the MAP Library. Her working world revolved around the patron. Everything else came to a stop while she focused completely on the user and the inquiry at hand until the user either had the information requested or was satisfied with a referral.

Sue took her turn as President of the Western Association of Map Libraries from 1982 to 1983 and worked to advance the goals of the association in many smaller ways. She began the tradition of compiling the annual “WAML Lists” or the roster of WAML officers, committee members, and appointed liaisons that appears in the WAML Information Bulletin. She worked with Stan Stevens in compiling the historic WAML List in advance of WAML’s 1987 20th anniversary meeting in Reno, Nevada. Sue served as Oregon Editor for the WAML IB for many years and was responsible for several atlas reviews and articles. Of course, she attended and contributed to WAML meetings as a speaker, as a member of the hospitality committee, and by just being Sue, an uplifting and positive individual in every circumstance. WAML members, undoubtedly, can add to this short list of her contributions to our association and it is not an exaggeration to say that she will be missed all up and down the West Coast for many years to come.

Peter Stark
Head, Map and Aerial Photography Library
University of Oregon.