In Memoriam

Bernadette F. (Bunny) Rodak

Medical laboratory professionals nationwide learned the unhappy news of **Bernadette (Bunny) F. Rodak's** death from pancreatic cancer at age 70 on March 22, 2016. Bunny's family, friends, colleagues, and clergy celebrated her life in a Eucharistic liturgy at her beloved St. Monica Catholic Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, on March 29 just prior to her burial.

Known to students, colleagues, and friends as Bunny, she served from 2006–13 as Editor in Chief of our ASCLS official journal, *Clinical Laboratory Science*. She served as the *Clin Lab Sci* Clinical Practice Editor beginning in 2001 and as a consulting editor from 1997 to the end of her life. During her tenure as Editor in Chief, Clin Lab Sci grew from four to five issues per year; having increased its submission rate through enhanced visibility to the ASCLS membership and the profession in general. In addition to serving as Editor, Bunny contributed numerous articles to *Clin Lab Sci*.

Bunny also served ASCLS as chair of the Scientific Assemblies for 1997–99 and again in 2002–04. She was vice-chair of the Hematology/Hemostasis Assembly in 1996–98, and chair 1998–2000. The assemblies gained organizational attention and grew during her period of leadership. Bunny was also a trustee of the ASCLS Education and Research Fund, Inc from 2014 to the day of her death.

Bunny's most enduring achievements are her textbook, *Rodak's Hematology; Clinical Principles and Applications,* now in its fifth edition, and *Clinical Hematology Atlas,* also in its fifth edition, which she wrote with her friend and colleague **Jacqueline Carr**. Jackie and Bunny completed the fifth edition just two months before Bunny's demise. The textbook and atlas have achieved international recognition and are used as primary texts for many undergraduate and graduate Medical Laboratory Science programs in the USA and throughout the world. The text, which has been translated into Spanish, is used extensively in medical schools, pathology residencies, hematology fellowships, and in physician assistant programs. The atlas sets a professional standard as it features color-balanced photomicrographs produced by Bunny in her own laboratory.

In addition to her books and numerous articles, Bunny made scores of professional presentations both nationally and internationally. She also led a team of professionals who answered consumers' questions on the website, www.labtestsonline.org.

Bunny volunteered for many years at Gennesaret Free Clinic in Indianapolis, where she was named Volunteer

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of the Year in 2007. She was a dedicated member of St. Monica's Catholic Church, where she was a worship leader and sang with the folk group *Sonrise*. For at least 10 years, Bunny hosted a distribution list that informed its participants about friends and colleagues in special need for prayer. Along with her husband Bob, she loved her Labrador Annie, loved to travel, and was an avid Indianapolis Colts fan.

Bunny's legacy lives on as an honored figure in the field of hematology and hematologic morphology. She was a role model and representative for her profession and for ASCLS. She was a woman of faith, integrity, and humility. Her husband **Bob Hartman**, two stepdaughters, two grandchildren, a brother, and five sisters survive her. Her parents preceded her in death, also her first husband **Charles (Chip) Rodak**, her sister **Mary Patricia**, and infant brother **Jimmy Joe**. **Bernadette F. Beales Rodak Hartman** offered love to all she met, and was loved by all who knew her.

Memorial fund contributions may be made to the ASCLS Education and Research Fund, Inc. Rodak Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship, 1861 International Drive, Suite 200, McLean, VA 22102 or by selecting *Donate* on www.ascls.org and indicating "Rodak Scholarship."

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