



Beverlie Conant Sloane

1951-2007

Beverlie Conant Sloane, 1951-2007

An accomplished academic and practitioner, Beverlie Conant Sloane was first and foremost a devoted wife, sister, aunt, daughter, mentor and friend. She was born in Virginia in 1951. After attending Weston High School outside Boston, she graduated from Middlebury, from which she received the Alumni Achievement Award in 1990. She then went on to receive her Master of Public Health from the University of Texas and her doctoral degree from Syracuse University, where she met and wooed her husband David. They were married in 1981, having gotten engaged on December 15, 1979.

Beverlie repeatedly challenged society's conventions. At Middlebury, she participated in a group that helped pregnant college students make choices, including the illegal decision of abortion in the era before *Roe v Wade*. While attending graduate school in Syracuse, she aided renegade midwives who conducted home births against standard medical practice. At Dartmouth, where she became health educator in 1979, she challenged a conservative institution to educate its students about AIDS.

She was often ahead of her time. At Dartmouth, she developed an innovative program for the self-management of diabetes. She co-created a program about positive parenthood for college adolescents far better than today's marriage programs. She oversaw the development of a contraceptive road show and other peer education programs that preceded the era of promotoras and other health promoters. And, most prominently, she attacked the myth that heterosexuals should not be worried about AIDS.

The contraceptive road show that students adored led a New York Times writer to describe her in 1987 as the "feisty" health educator who was working "to demystify sexuality and affect student behavior positively by setting up peer-education sessions in which students teach each other about contraception; integrating sex education into the liberal arts curriculum, and advising students individually and lecturing at other campuses."

Beverlie in 1987-8 developed, based on a model used in the gay community, a safe sex kit for adolescent youth. The kit included a condom, a dental dam for oral sex, and a pamphlet explaining how to practice safer sex in the era of AIDS. That led her to the Today Show and a conversation with Maria Shriver. Then, she worked with four Dartmouth seniors to create a peer-theater program, Responsible AIDS Information at Dartmouth (RAID) that appeared at colleges and universities around the country – and in France as well. A version provided the basis for a paper at the Montreal International AIDS conference, as well as adaptations for Native Americans and for middle school youth. While Beverlie was uncomfortable with every technology except the telephone, she next consulted on an award-winning interactive videodisc on sexual decision-making. The videodisc adapted the skit embedded in RAID to a larger audience of high school students. In 1992, Beverlie was awarded (with David) the Jon D. Goodrich Memorial Award by Positive Action's New Hampshire, a chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS.

In 1986, Conant Sloane co-authored the booklet, *Partners in Health*. In 1987, the Educational Press Association of America awarded *Partners* its Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Educational Journalism. For her work in all these areas, Beverlie was named the Orton-Sherman Dartmouth College Woman of the Year in 1988.

After moving to Los Angeles in 1992, Beverlie continued to work in health promotion and education around issues related to sexuality, alcohol, and even, recently, bioterrorism. She also taught at USC and conducted research with her husband, leading to their co-authored book, *Medicine Moves to the Mall*. In recent years, illness limited her professional activities, but she still found time for her beloved photography and her former students, friends and family. She was a peerless mentor, an extraordinary colleague, a dedicated correspondent, and an amazing woman.



Opening Remarks • Gen Giuliano

Prayer • Reverend L. L. Lewis, Jr.

Nature Through the Eyes of Beverlie

Memories • Family, Friends and Colleagues

Beverlie With Friends and Family

Reception • Immediately Following on the Courtyard



*Thanks for attending
If you wish, contributions can be made to:*

*The Huntington
Stratford Shakespeare Festival - Ontario*

flowers photographed by Beverlie Conant Sloane