



Beate A. Schiwek (Schiwek)

August 11, 1943 - December 10, 2016

Beate A. Schiwek of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, died in her home on Saturday, December 10, 2016, after a long illness.

Dr. Schiwek was born August 11, 1943 in East Prussia, then part of Germany and now part of Poland. With her parents and sister she immigrated to New Jersey in 1955. After graduating from high school, she pursued undergraduate study at Barnard College and the University of Hamburg. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. in German literature from the University of Maryland in College Park.

She taught for several years at the Community College of Baltimore, and then decided to enter academic administration. Dr. Schiwek was awarded a year-long Fellowship from the American Council on Education, which she spent at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro,

She then worked for the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, serving as liaison to Rutgers, the state university of New Jersey.

The next stage of her career was serving as dean and chief academic officer at three colleges: Felician College in Lodi, New Jersey; Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; and Rosemont College in Rosemont, Pennsylvania. While at Felician, she became the first dean of a private college to serve as national president of the Council of Colleges of the Arts & Sciences.

Dr. Schiwek retired in 2005 and, "just for fun," earned a Master of Arts in Religion from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg in 2008. She

then helped to organize several adult education courses in Franklin County on comparative religion.

Dr. Schiwiek was an extremely versatile person: she was a master gardener; she sang with the Monteverdi Choir in Hamburg and the Princeton Pro Musica, performing several times in Carnegie Hall; she edited the journal of the Franklin County Historical Society; she had an outstanding art collection, focusing on the art of Provincetown, Massachusetts; and she organized several Bloomsday celebrations emphasizing the richness of Irish literature. She read voraciously, traveled extensively, and had a deep love of music, which surrounded her always.

She is survived by her husband, John O'Connor of Chambersburg, and her sister Anita Jacobssen of Brooklin, Maine.

Burial was private. There will be a "Beatefest" in the Spring at a time and place to be determined.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Beate A. Schiwiek (Schiwiek), please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.