

Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy

Editors: Tom Stone Carlson, Sanni Paljakka, marcela polanco, and David Epston

Editor's Note: Remembering Victoria Dickerson by David Epston

Vicki died April 3 in the morning. It was important for her that people were made aware that she used the California End of Life Act to bring her life to its end. She kindly contacted me in time for us to speak with one another and reminisce over our memories of those special times we shared- in Oaxaca at an International Narrative Therapy Conference there; here in New Zealand where she would visit us at our cottage on an offshore island reached by fast ferry from downtown Auckland. Because she had established close and enduring friendships here in New Zealand, we were fortunate to have her visit us here as well as meeting at various Narrative Therapy destinations over the years.

Over the last year or two, the Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy had commissioned her to write an auto-ethnography of her life in narrative therapy, following in the footsteps of Colin Sanders and Jeff Zimmerman. Our purpose in doing so was to have some of the pioneers in various parts of the world to contribute to a history of such times and in particular what was on people's minds. I so enjoyed reviewing drafts of Vicki's contribution which we have rushed into publication out of our respect for her. Her own obituary you might say. Happily, she had just completed it to her satisfaction several months before the end of her life and although she was not to see it published, she was able to circulate it to her friends and colleagues. I know from speaking with her about that how much she enjoyed the conversations it elicited amongst them. I have some regret she did not see it in print. I understand that it will soon be reprinted in a Family Process publication in honour of Vicki and her many contributions to that journal.



I see no need to go over what her own account does so well. However, I will miss Vicki and her steadfastness, her pioneering zeal and courage in the early 90s, her kindness, and her companionability. She was truly a good friend to each and everyone who knew her through the course of her life. She undoubtedly will be missed by so many of those.

I asked her dear friend, Kaethe Weingarten, to contribute her remembrance of Vicki before we publish her thoughtful last words telling us of her commitments and accomplishments to the story of narrative therapy.

David Epston, Ph.D.

Co-Editor, Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy

