MARY MORAIN (1911-1999)

A few days before this issue of ETC went to press, we received the sad news of the death of Mary Morain. She died at her home in Carmel, California, after contracting pneumonia. Lloyd Morain, her husband for 53 years, told a local newspaper: “I couldn’t think of a more fortunate life — to be with [such] a beautiful, intelligent, caring woman.”

She became interested in general semantics during the 1930s, eventually becoming President of the International Society for General Semantics. At the time of her death, she held positions on the ISGS Board of Directors and on its executive committee. She also edited the Membership feature in ETC. With her husband she wrote Humanism As The Next Step. A new edition appeared in 1998.

Her enthusiasm for general semantics and contributions to numerous fields have inspired many over the years. The following representative remarks came from Darrel and Barbara McOmber, directors of the Bridges Academy, a school in Bend, Oregon, assisting troubled teenagers:

“We can all take comfort in that Mary left this world a better place than she found it. She was a great lady and will long be remembered. [We] will remember Mary as a woman of great dignity and generosity. It was a singular honor to have known her personally. She embodied the qualities that are sorely lacking in today’s world.”

The Fall issue of ETC will feature a Mary Morain memorial section.