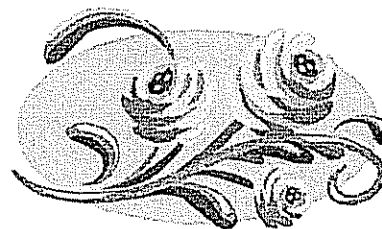


## Dr. Norma Claire DeMario

Dr. Norma Claire DeMario, 54, of Normal, IL, formerly of Ipswich, MA, died at home with her family on July 31, 2004 after a lengthy illness.



Norma was born in Salem, MA on December 17, 1949. She was the daughter of Marjorie (Wall) DeMario of Marion, S.C. and the late David DeMario of Ipswich.

Norma received a BA in history from Northeastern University. She completed a master's degree in special education in the area of Visual Impairment and Blindness from Illinois State University and later received her doctorate degree there. She also received a second master's degree in Orientation and Mobility from Boston College.

Dr. DeMario spent 31 years working in the special education field. For 17 years she was an itinerant special education teacher in NY, MA, TX, and NH. In 1991 she joined the faculty at Illinois State University. As an Associate Professor in their Department of Special Education, she coordinated the teacher education program in low vision and blindness until her death. She often consulted with education programs through the nation and was highly respected by others in her field. She maintained a special relationship with Perkins School for the Blind where she served as an orientation and mobility instructor before going to ISU.

Dr. DeMario was a long standing member of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and received the Teacher of the Year Award for 2003. She was elected to leadership positions in several professional organizations, including Chapter President for the Association for Education of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER).

Besides her mother, she is survived by her twin brother David and his wife Debby of CA, brother Neil and his wife Lisa of Beverly, MA, sister Lois MacIntyre and her husband David of Ipswich, two nephews, Keith MacIntyre and his wife Heather of VT, and Craig DeMario of Ipswich.

A funeral mass will be offered on Thursday, August 5th at 9 AM, at Our Lady of Hope Church, Linebrook Road, Ipswich. Burial will be in Veterans Cowles Memorial Cemetery, Ipswich. Visiting hours will be on Wednesday, August 4th, from 5 to 8 PM, at Morris Funeral Home, 45 N. Main Street, Ipswich. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to John Hopkins University, Ovarian Cancer Research Program, by calling 410-641-2905 or online at [http://ovariancancer.jhmi.edu/giving\\_flowers.cfm](http://ovariancancer.jhmi.edu/giving_flowers.cfm)

Norma Claire DeMario 1949 – 2004

