In Memoriam

“A Pearl on the Jersey Shore”
A tribute to Dawn Bristow Rohrs
July 30, 1941 – February 15, 2014
by Gary Wolgamott*, Past President

Dawn Bristow Rohrs served as the TriBeta National Secretary Treasurer from 1989 until 2002. The TriBeta National Executive Committee elected Dawn a National Honorary Member in 2002.

Dawn was born in Vanceburg, Kentucky, and received her B.S. degree in biology and medical technology from Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. While there she met and married Dr. Harold Rohrs. As lifelong partners they traveled the world and shared many experiences. Harold was always a mainstay and a great help. He will be remembered for the assistance he provided Dawn at our National Conventions. They were truly a great and compatible team.

In 1966, Harold took a position at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, and so Jersey and later “the Jersey Shore” became their home (Drew University has a storied history with TriBeta, because former President Dr. Stanley Baker and former Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Louise Bush both held faculty positions at Drew).

Dawn and Harold have a daughter, Sarah, who has served as copy editor for Bios since 1991, a son Michael, an appointed daughter Rebecca, a son-in-law William (who died April 9, 2016) and three grandchildren; Caitlin, Noah, and Emma.

As it was so eloquently stated in her remembrance:

“While her heart was full of love and compassion for others, Dawn was a force with which to reckon. Many people discovered, much to their surprise (and generally too late), that when pushed or poked, this easy going, loving woman, who was all smiles just a moment ago, was quickly replaced by a feisty swarm of hornets. This estimable part of her legacy

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*Gary Wolgamott died December 15, 2015