

A Few Words of Introduction

by Marty Federman

About Judi and this "Tribute Book"

Many reading this have known Judi longer than I have, so I don't have to say much about her. What I *will* say is that, with all I've learned over the last few years, compiling this volume has been an incredible experience. At first there were a few pieces that old friends and colleagues sent that I thought should be included with a "program." I was not, however, prepared for the number and nature of the responses. Hundreds of people – familiar and unfamiliar – wrote to say how much Judi and her work have meant to them. The respect, gratitude and love expressed in these messages is remarkable. I was also taken by the number of people who said that contact with Judi, or reading her book, inspired them to pursue careers in mental health and survivor issues – many of whom have risen to significant and often highly placed positions of their own.

Compiling this material was almost overwhelming. I considered grouping the notes by category [old friends, colleagues, co-workers, people Judi doesn't even know, etc.] but it was clear how impossible that would be.

At the beginning there are a few special pieces: Ken Braitman's piece has a lot of historical information about Judi along with his thoughts; Betty Mandell's interview reveals a lot about Judi's professional philosophy; Louis Pembroke and Mary O'Hagan's reminiscences are wonderfully personal reflections. Following those are the notes we received from all over.

One "tribute" that is noticeably missing is mine. I thought for a long time about whether to write something and realized that I don't have the words to express what Judi has come to mean to me. So, the event, this book and my deep commitment will have to serve as *my* tribute to this remarkable woman. I offer them all with hugs.

A few thank yous

It's always dangerous to thank people – inevitably there are people who are forgotten – but there are a few people that must be remembered:

First and foremost, thanks to Judi's daughter Julie who, from the beginning, has shared the process of bringing this event to fruition.

Many thanks to Joan Rapp and the folks at the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University who made all of today's logistic arrangements. I know how much Judi's association with CPR means to her – and this event would not have happened without them.

A special thank you to Bernie Carey, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health who arranged for the gubernatorial proclamation.

A special and very personal thank you to my long-time friend Donna Barbieri for her indispensable help and support of this event and so very much more.

And my appreciation to Nance Goldstein, Ruby Poltorak, Judi's PCA's and all those who did so much of the practical tasks that needed to be done.

Donations in Judi's honor

For those who would like to honor Judi through a dedicated donation, these are the two groups Judi has asked that you support:

The National Coalition of Mental Health Consumer/Survivor Organizations

Checks can be made out to NEC [National Empowerment Center] Note on the check that it is "for NCMHCSO in honor of Judi Chamberlin. Checks can be mailed to:

National Empowerment Center
599 Canal Street
Lawrence, MA 01840

Visiting Nurse and Community Health *Checks can be made out to VNCH. Note on the check that it is for "Hospice in honor of Judi Chamberlin" and can be mailed to*

Visiting Nurse and Community Health
Donations
37 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Arlington, MA 02474



Or on line at: http://thevisitingnurses.com/Charitable_Giving.htm