

In Memoriam: Miriam Carolin, SSU Alumna and Longtime Campus Volunteer



Alumna Miriam Carolin passed away August 12. She came to the SSU Department of Physics and Astronomy in January 1974, ultimately earning the descriptive B.A. in physics. She was the first physics graduate to finish with a 4.0 GPA for all courses taken at SSU. She was also the Department's oldest graduate when she received her B.A. in 1982, shortly before turning 55.

Miriam fell in love with observing. Working closely with Gordon Spear, she helped generations of students to use the SSU Observatory, spending several cold evenings per week out in the football field. For more than a decade she made daily sunspot drawings at the telescope.

When the Department held a celebration of the first 10 years of the observatory, Gordon went through the logbooks and found that Miriam had used it slightly more than half of all the times it had been used!

She also went out to many elementary schools and spoke about astronomy. With her background in both history and astronomy she talked about the constellations as well as the astrophysics. And last, but not least, she was the volunteer coffee maker for the What Physicists Do public lecture series for about 25 years.

Posted by Jessica Anderson on Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 10:40 AM | 0 TrackBacks

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