



Catherine Julien

May 19, 1950 - May 27, 2011

Catherine Jean Julien, age 61, passed away at Emanuel Medical Center, Turlock, on May 27. The oldest of five children of Dr. Robert and Mrs. Jean Julien, she was born May 19, 1950 at Stanford Medical Hospital, Stanford, California. Catherine Julien was a working archaeologist and ethnohistorian. After completing high school in Turlock, Catherine attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. After two years there she transferred to the University of California, Berkeley where she completed her education: B.A. 1971, M.A. 1975, and Ph.D. in 1978. All of her degrees were in Anthropology and her doctoral dissertation explored Inca rule in the Lake Titicaca region. After her graduation she carried out archaeological research in Peru, and archival research in South America (mostly in Peru), Spain, and Germany. She taught at the University of Bonn between 1989 and 1995, with time away to pursue research elsewhere, and joined the Department of History at Western Michigan University in 1996.

Catherine Julien was a prolific scholar. She wrote ten books, another is to appear in the near future in Peru and yet another, a multi-volume work on Spanish explorer and writer Cabeza de Vaca, will be brought to completion by Dr. Pablo Pastrana. She published fourteen articles in leading journals in her field, contributed twenty-two chapters to important edited collections and almost two dozen more popular publications. She has also presented nearly one hundred scholarly papers at conferences, many as invited or keynote speaker. Her publications focussed on understanding the ways by which the

Inca managed their empire.

Her work, published in English, Italian, German, and Spanish, has been recognized for its contributions to the field of Andean Studies and supported by major funding institutions in Britain, Germany, and the United States. She won no less than fourteen national and international grants and fellowships including a grant from the National Academy in Britain, a Humboldt Fellowship, numerous National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships, two Fulbright Fellowships and a coveted Guggenheim Fellowship. Catherine's 2000 publication, *Reading Inca History*, was awarded the Modern Language Association's Katherine Singer Kovacs prize and the Ermine-Wheeler Voeglin prize from the American Society for Ethnohistory.

She leaves behind a daughter Clara Julien; her father, Dr. Robert Julien; brothers, Eric (Becky) Julien and Matthew (Becca) Julien; sisters Ellen (Al) Bracamonte and Sarah (Shawn) Anderson; and many nieces and nephews. Her mother, Jean Julien, preceded her in death. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made out in her name to Merced County Historical Society, 21st and N Streets, Merced, California, 95340.

A graveside memorial service is planned at Turlock Memorial Park, on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. and is open to those who would like to attend.

Tribute Wall



“ Catherine Julien

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ I was a student of Dr. Julien's in 1999 and in 2000 she offered me a personalized one on one course in Inca architecture (reading mostly her own writings in journals)and then took me and another student named Mark to Peru to do baseline measurements and study of some unexplored pre-Inca sites. I was also lucky enough to travel with her and her brother, who came for a visit, to several places, including Macchu Pichu. It is with regret that I found out today that she has passed, and I wish I could have touched base with her in the intervening 12 years, and said I was sorry for not completing a presentation of our trip and quitting school that year. I have felt ashamed for not keeping up my end of that bargain after she went out of her way to broaden my world, and taught me how to travel. She, and the experience of doing fieldwork with her (my first time out of the U.S.)will be something I will never forget, and have helped define how I look at my life. My condolences to the family. I know how fondly she spoke of her daughter in our month of travel together. If anybody wishes to contact me for any reason, please feel free. -Nicole L Arevalo

Nicole Arevalo - November 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I also have a couple of good photos of Dr. Julien from our time together in peru, and would be happy to share them with her family. I think one has her brother in the shot too. My e-mail should be listed with this post, but if not, it's genehackmanwho@yahoo.com

Nicole Arevalo - November 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM