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Jenni Hine - An Obituary – October 2020

Julie Hay



I am so sorry to hear that Jenni Hine has died. I had contact with her and husband Mervyn over many years and they made great contributions to the TA community. I still remember fondly our initial meeting, when as a TA beginner I had travelled to Switzerland for a conference and discovered that we were being made welcome in their home before being taken in a group to the conference venue. I also enjoyed joining them many years later for their wedding anniversary party.

Recently I was also in contact by email with Jenni about one of the significant contributions made by her and Mervyn. I was correcting misinformation and making sure that Jenni and Mervyn got the credit for the original idea about giving discounts to people in

economically-disadvantaged countries. They had come to me with this idea when I was EATA President and I was really pleased to get it introduced. We joked about how they were making the bullets and I was firing the gun, because previously their idea had not been picked up on. We named it the TAlent as a play on TA and the name for money. When I then became ITAA President, I was delighted to introduce the same idea there, which was why I acted so quickly when I saw that ITAA were publishing inaccurate information and not crediting them with the idea.

I went on to use the same idea when I was one of the founders of the European Mentoring & Coaching Council, and also in the Institute for Developmental TA, as well as into my own TA training business, and various other initiatives. Although it was cancelled, I managed to convince the major TA associations that the TAlent idea should be implemented in its correct original format for the World TA Conference that was due to have been run in the UK in July. I am pleased that, thanks to her daughter Marion's efforts with emails, I was able to make sure that Jenni knew that this idea was still going strong.

Jenni also contributed much to TA theory. Her material on games, and how couples can trace the start of a game back to the honeymoon, is so enlightening for clients, as is her TA explanation of Stern's RIGs (Representations of Interactions that have been Generalised). And I am sure Jenni would want us to credit Mervyn also, who was at CERN when they introduced the Internet. So, we are unlikely to ever forget their several legacies to the TA community and through us, to many others.

References

- Hine, J. (1997). Mind Structure and Ego States. *Transactional Analysis Journal*, 27(4), 278–289.
- Hine, J. (2005). Brain Structures and Ego States. *Transactional Analysis Journal*, 35(1), 40–51.