Ohio Wesleyan University

Distinguished Achievement Citation

Laura (Lolly) Newman Class of 1946

With the presentation of Ohio Wesleyan's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan University Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize Lolly Newman '46.

Lolly Newman was the first in her family to attend college, and it absolutely transformed her life. Her aunts thought she should stay in Lima, Ohio, and work on finding a husband. Luckily her adoring father supported and financed Lolly's ambition. She graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1946 with a degree in Journalism.

Her OWU experience paved the way for an international career. In 1950, she joined the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State, and served at U.S. Embassies in Egypt, Germany, and Ethiopia. In Addis Ababa, she met and married Magness Newman, also a member of the U.S. Foreign Service.

Moving back to the United States, Lolly became the first female director of Alumni Relations for OWU from 1969-1994. One of her proudest achievements was Summerweek, a continuing education learning session for alumni taught by faculty members.

Lolly's daughter, Christine recalls, "My mom loved her job and made many dear friends in the OWU community. An ardent feminist, she spoke her mind and went to the bat for her beliefs. In the late 60s and 70s most Alumni Directors were male, so she really had to work to make herself heard."

In honor of her exceptional career and dedication to OWU, Ohio Wesleyan is proud to honor the late Lolly Newman with the presentation of the Distinguished Achievement Citation.

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61 S. Sandusky Street