she had taken up playing two-piano music with her teacher. Later, she improved apartment traffic flow by exchanging one piano for an electronic keyboard. She could be found reading sheet music in her easy chair in preparation for later keyboard adventures.

She sewed most of her own clothes, and no MLA meeting was complete without a hem still to be done or a seam to be pressed. A succession of Siamese cats filled her various apartments with Siamese conversation and her conversation with stories. Her kitchen was the site of many a culinary experiment.

Her interest in jewelry crafted by Native Americans flourished during her travels to the southwestern United States, and glorious pieces were carefully stowed, on the advice of a security expert, behind key volumes in her extensive collection of mystery novels.

In her spare time at the university, she was an active member and officer of the local Phi Beta Kappa chapter and was a member of the executive board of the University Credit Union. She was also president of the Zonta Club of Madison.

She left life as deliberately as she had lived. Last winter, to avoid slippery outdoor trips to the dining hall, she moved from her independent cottage into the main building at the retirement village in which she lived. Several months later, she was taken ill during a social evening with friends and, shortly thereafter, closed the last chapter in a full and useful life. Faculty, friends, and colleagues filled the ample hall in which the celebration of her life was held, much as they had peopled her life. Even on that day, her friends dwelled not so much on the gap left by her leaving as the richness she brought by coming into their lives.

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John Patruno, Jr., 1948–1994

John Patruno, Jr., former director of the Health Science Library, University of Tennessee-Memphis, died after a long illness on August 7, 1994, at the Mercy Medical Hospice, Mobile, Alabama. He was forty-five.

A native New Yorker, John earned his B.A. in foreign relations from Hunter College in 1972 and his M.L.S. from Pratt Institute in 1975 while working at the Medical Library Center of New York, first under Jacqueline Felter and then with Jean Miller. He was the quintessential New Yorker who had not been west of the East River until he went to college. His professional career progressed rapidly as his expertise in collection development and services grew, and his analytical, planning, and administrative skills developed. After heading technical services units at the George Washington University Medical Center Himelfarb Health Sciences Library and the University of New Mexico Medical Center Library, he became associate director at the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center. In 1990, he assumed what turned out to be his final position, the directorship of the University of Tennessee-Memphis Health Sciences Library, where he hoped to shape a model organization that would express the best of modern library practice, fully integrated in the institution and its medical informatics development. He had begun to make genuine progress with this goal when his illness forced his early retirement.

John's sharp wit, capacity for acute observation, force of character, strongly expressed convictions, clear thinking, and sound ideas, backed by a willingness to work with colleagues towards common goals, impressed all who knew him. As one friend put it, he was

Smart as a whip and always exploring new ideas. Upfront and would let you know when you were on the wrong track and would help you get on the right one. A sense of humor that would snap your head. While patience was not always a strength, he could find patience when it was needed. A kind and gentle person.

In addition to extensive committee service in MLA and its sections and chapters, he served as a consultant to a number of organizations, among them the National Library of Medicine on revising the Collection Development Manual, and he was a member of the JAMA New Journals Review Column Advisory Board.

John's collection development expertise was not limited to health sciences libraries. He assembled a fine personal collection of pottery from San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, and Acoma pueblos; paintings by Native Americans and other western artists; and books on the history and literature of the Southwest. His enchantment with the landscape, the sky, and the culture of the Southwest was unquench-
ble. He relished good food and champagne, travel, music, literature, conviviality, being Italian, the laughter of friends, but, as one of his best friends said, “His life was over before it was finished.”

Nina W. Matheson
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