

Valarie A. Elswick

Valarie Elswick began her undergraduate work at SUNY Plattsburgh, continued at Morris Harvey College (after moving to Charleston, West Virginia), and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Mathematics from SUNY New Paltz (after moving back to New York State). Her entire teaching career took place in the Wappingers Central School District. While teaching she continued her graduate work at SUNY New Paltz, Vassar College, University of San Francisco, and Indiana University.

Over the years Valarie belonged to and/or participated in the activities of several mathematics organizations including the New York State Association of Mathematics Supervisors (NYSAMS), the Association for the Development of Computer Based Instruction (ADCIS), the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey (AMTNJ) and the Association of Mathematics Teachers in New England (AMTNE). For the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New York State (AMTNYS), she served as newsletter editor, recording secretary, executive secretary, Vice President, President, both Junior and Senior Delegate to New York State Council of Educational Associations (NYSCEA), and Delegate to National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). As a founding Board Member of the Ten County Mathematics Educators Association (TCMEA), she served as President and chaired many conference committees. At the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) Valarie served as Second Vice President, First Vice President, and developed the position of and served several years as Conference Coordinator for their annual conferences. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) offered her the opportunity to be Program Chair for Regional and National Conferences, to give presentations and conduct workshops, and to serve on a variety of Committees.

With other colleagues (including Lee Yunker, Joe Crosswhite, Glen Vanatta, David Myers, Patrick Hopfensperger, Joe Pavlovich, and others), Valarie co-authored textbooks on advanced math concepts, computer programming in BASIC, and a series of text books on integrated mathematics for Course I, II and III. She also did reviewing and consulting for several publishing companies, correlation studies for several states, and contributed to several monographs and publications, including *The Prime Leadership Framework: Principles and Indicators for Mathematics Education Leaders* (a National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics publication).

Valarie always wanted to do more for her students, K-12 classroom teachers, and supervisors, by providing opportunities for discussions and the sharing of insights with respect to changes in curriculums, use of manipulatives, development of new technologies, and applications of various evaluation techniques. During her working career she investigated these areas of interest not only throughout the United States and Canada, but also by meeting with many other mathematics educators and departments of education from various countries around the world including Australia, England, France, Germany, Korea, Japan, China, Thailand, and the Philippines. She also participated in a People-to-People Ambassador Program to Brazil. From 1965 – 2013, Valarie participated in many special programs, offered several after school leadership and enrichment programs for students, and taught many in-service courses, presented many workshops, and gave many speeches throughout the country for K-12 teachers, supervisors, and administrators. She had the opportunity to work with many school districts and the New York State Bureau of Mathematics developing and writing curriculums for topics in mathematics and computer study. She was honored to receive a Tandy Technology Scholar Award during an Annual NCTM Conference in Minneapolis followed by accolades at her District Faculty Meeting.

Valarie is honored to be included in the New York State Hall of Fame for Leadership in Mathematics Education. She is especially appreciative of the support of her family, daughter, Kari, and son, Craig, her many colleagues, and the opportunities that have allowed her to be a contributing factor in the world of mathematics education and leadership throughout her working career and retirement years.

