

A WONDERFUL DONATION

Camden Carers Centre has received a generous donation of £10,000 from Kate Harwood our Chair of Trustees. This money will be used to support our work around dementia in 2018. Please read this lovely message about the donation.

I don't think many will recognise this wonderful person. MaryLou was born in the countryside near Seattle. Brought up mainly by her capable mother, she was a determined and resolute woman, an early socialist feminist role model for me (although I do not think she would have described herself in that way!).

MaryLou took me under her wing when I was a new, young mother. She had been at college with my partner and bumped into him in London on a short trip from East Berlin where she found herself living with her academic husband who had been unable to get a university post in MaCarthy's USA.

She had so many skills. She had studied interior design, she made furniture by hand, was a brilliant cook, sewed, crotched, knitted and gardened and learned more German than Len, her husband.

They retired to London and had a few happy years before her diagnosis of vascular dementia.

She had cared for Len during his life and supported him in his career. They had a deep, caring relationship but Len found it too difficult to manage at home. MaryLou went to a local Care Home so that Len could visit her every day.

Sadly, Len died suddenly from pancreatic cancer.

Shortly after Marco, my husband, died, and strangely MaryLou was more saddened by this. She had loved jokes and treated Marco like a naughty boy!

I could write much more but will just say how sad it was to visit MaryLou at the Home and see how unhappy she was. She wanted to end her life but was unable.

Nearly 2 years ago she died, and I have recently found out that she left me some money. I decided to give this to Camden Carers Centre as she would have approved and I know that it can make a small difference to Camden's wonderful Carers.

She would have given it with love.

Kate Harwood

