



Diane Marie Schumaker
November 27, 1960 –
November 28, 2024

Memorial Ode to Diane M. Schumaker

Saturday, December 14, 2024

By John T. Petures, Jr.

I've of course crafted many a poem
Honoring leaders at various events
I was humbled when asked to address you this morning
Sharing reflections on how much Diane meant

We can never understand when we lose someone so close
Why this moment of their loss hurts so much
Thinking back on the memories of our times together
Did she know we're the lives that she touched?

Dianey was more than a colleague to so many
Such a loving and kindhearted soul
Meticulously driven, always looking out for others
The weight of her caring took its toll

For 27 years she perfected her work
Stewarding donors, families and more
Many have reached out to me since her passing
Their respect for her....this I'm sure

In recent years there were physical challenges
That were a burden to her body and mind
But they never took away from her spirit so caring
She remained so thoughtful and kind

Imagine the young people whose lives are enriched
By the scholarships they earned and received
And how carefully Diane shepherded them forward
To study, to grow and earn degrees

Our moments together are too countless to mention
We felt her embrace every day
We laughed and bantered always good-naturedly
We're all grateful for those moments I'd say

To her family and friends I'm so sorry
That we've lost a loved one so dear
I'm sure she'd want us to live our lives fully
And be upset if we shed all our tears

Goodbye to our dear Dianey
Your passing was a blow all too sudden
Please know you touched us so fondly
And I'm certain you won't be forgotten

Let's all remember her smiling
That devilish twinkle we saw in her eyes
I hope she knew.....or knows it now
That we're blessed that she graced all our lives