

IN MEMORIUM



Renilde Montessori (1929-2012), former director of training, was Maria Montessori's youngest grandchild. Montessorians all over the world were saddened by her death at her home, in Mansilla, Spain on Sept 14.



Renilde lived and travelled with her grandmother as a child. She attended Montessori schools in Barcelona, Spain and Laren, the Netherlands, and completed her secondary school studies at the Montessori Lyceum in Amsterdam.

In her late teens, she audited one of Dr. Montessori's courses in Adyar, India. Renilde worked in various fields of work before joining the Montessori movement as personal assistant to her father, Mario Montessori, in 1968.

She went on to graduate from the Washington Montessori Institute in 1971 and from that time onward was actively involved with the Toronto Montessori Institute and later, in the work of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) as a lecturer, trainer and examiner.

She served as Director of Training at the Foundation for Montessori Education in Toronto from 1989 to 1995 when she took on the position of General Secretary of the AMI in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She left this function in 2000 and served as President of AMI until Aug 31, 2004.

Renilde's very special role and vision took Montessori outside the realms of the classroom with Educateurs sans Frontiers programme, and embraced new initiatives within the AMI — a legacy the association is proud to see continued today.

She will be remembered with great affection and fondness by many throughout the world and with gratitude for helping to support and promote Dr. Maria Montessori's work with children worldwide.