



Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka (1923 - 2014)

Dr Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka Houthakker, 91, Founder and President of the World Phenomenology Institute, died on 7 June 2014 at her beloved farm in Pomfret, Vermont. She was born in Marianowo, Poland, into an aristocratic family of historical significance.



Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka Houthakker, an internationally known philosopher, was a Professor of Continental Phenomenology. In 1976, her independent spirit led her to found the *World Institute for Advanced Phenomenological Research and Learning*, in Belmont, Massachusetts, later moving the Institute to Hanover, New Hampshire. The Institute remained Dr Tymieniecka's life-long work and passion.

She was the author of 14 books and monographs (with the central treatise *Logos and Life* in four volumes) as well as the founder and editor (since 1968) of *Analecta Husserliana*, the *Yearbook of Phenomenological Research* (117 volumes in print) and of *Phenomenological Inquiry: A Review of Philosophical Ideas and Trends* (in its 37th issue). As President of the World Phenomenology Institute, she spearheaded and organized some 80 international conferences, two world congresses of phenomenology among them. Additionally, from 1988 until 1998, she served on the Steering Committee of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies.

Dr Tymieniecka studied at University of Krakow, Sorbonne, and University of Fribourg, Switzerland, where she earned her PhD in Philosophy. Academic appointments included the University of California, Berkeley; Oregon State University; Sorbonne; Pennsylvania State University; Yale University (Postdoctoral Research Fellow); Bryn Mawr College, Lecturer; Radcliffe Institute for Independent Studies (Associate Scholar); Duquesne University; University of Waterloo; and St. John's University.

Though Dr Tymieniecka received many academic honors throughout her long and productive life, one special recognition was the Honorary Doctorate she received from the University of Bergen, Norway, in 2008, for her scholarly contributions to philosophy, particularly phenomenology.

Her many friends, acquaintances, and colleagues throughout the world included Pope John Paul II, who visited her family in Vermont when he was Cardinal. Dr Tymieniecka and Pope John Paul II collaborated on several academic publications and remained devoted friends until his death in 2005.

Born on February 28, 1923, in Marianowo, Poland, Professor Tymieniecka Houthakker was the daughter of Wladyslaw Zarembo Tymieniecki and Baroness Maria Ludwika de Lenal.

In 1955, Professor Tymieniecka married Hendrik S. Houthakker, who was a long-time member of the Department of Economics at Harvard; he predeceased her in 2008.

She is survived by two sons, Louis and Jan of Pomfret, Vermont, and one daughter, Isabelle Houthakker of Ukiah, California.



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Her funeral mass took place at St. Denis Church in Hanover, New Hampshire, on June 11, and she was buried in Woodstock, Vermont.

Source: Adapted from obituary penned by

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