

on any topic he discussed by sharing the thousands of references on 3 x 5 cards he accumulated in his pre-computer world. He also would invite his graduate students to give presentations in his class, encourage them to present their research at professional meetings, and urge them to submit their research to professional journals. When one of his students was in an academic audience and a topic close to the student's work was being discussed, Andrew would make a point of inviting that student to comment.

For those who had the opportunity to travel with him, particularly in the Middle East, such as Steve Humphreys in Anatolia or myself in Syria and Egypt, there was no better travelling companion. He shared his ideas and sought out ours. He was passionate about his research, particularly his criticisms of Saladin's economic and monetary policies, but also cared deeply about contemporary politics often fearing that too many Americans, particularly in the 1960s, took their liberties and freedoms for granted. What made Andrew special was that he never personalized these differences. He demonstrated by his actions, his commitments, his enthusiasm, his respect even for those with whom he differed, what it meant to be *latif*, a gentleman in the best sense of the word. ✧

Jere L. Bacharach
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Jeanne Jeffers Mrad 1921-2009

THE PASSING OF JEANNE JEFFERS MRAD on May 27, 2009 is a great loss for the community of Middle East and North Africa researchers and for anyone who has ever come to know her. As director of the Center for Maghrib Studies in Tunis (CEMAT) from 1986 to 2001, Jeanne ensured that the Center ran smoothly and even flourished. Under her watch, CEMAT was home base for many American and other researchers in Tunisia.

Jeanne was the perfect CEMAT director, not only because of her deft managerial skills but also because of her love for her adopted country. Although a pleasant tourist destination, Tunisia is a minefield for researchers. Without inserting herself in thorny politics or stirring up sensitive issues, Jeanne subtly guided successive waves of foreign researchers through the intricacies of research in the country. In a recent exchange, a fellow alum-

nus of CEMAT summed up Jeanne's indispensable role: "Despite the political context and the constraints on doing research, Jeanne really wanted researchers to go as far as possible, to 'push' as far as possible whom they interviewed and where they went. I relied on her as an interpreter of local politics, and of where red lines were and were not." At the same time that she helped researchers navigate Tunisian politics and society, Jeanne ensured that CEMAT always maintained productive working relationships with key government bodies and served as an informal ambassador for American educational and cultural affairs in Tunisia. In a place where even the most innocuous topics can be grounds for suspicion and invite government surveillance, this is no small feat.

Jeanne enriched the daily living experiences of visiting scholars. She was a warm and hospitable host, welcoming new researchers and maintaining bonds with current and former affiliates. Many of us have happy memories of walks and meals in the medina, hikes and swims at *Ghar El Melh*, and treks to remote and beautiful spots around the country. She also ensured that we were well-nourished by bringing us to her favorite *cous-cous* and *marka* restaurants near the medina and by inviting us to her house in La Marsa for home-cooked meals. Fellow CEMAT affiliates share an appreciation of her hospitality and describe her as "calm" and "kind," appropriate descriptions given her unflappable, pragmatic nature and firm support for the community of scholars who study North Africa. When we delivered talks on our research projects—a requirement for affiliating with the Center—Jeanne supported us and smiled with pride, as if we were her own children standing up at the podium. The prefaces of just about every book published by a researcher who came to CEMAT during Jeanne's tenure sincerely acknowledge her vital influence on the research and research experience.

For some of us, Jeanne played a genuinely transformative role in our lives. A colleague and fellow North Africa specialist conveyed to me that Jeanne profoundly shaped his personal and professional development. As a young American scholar who had never traveled abroad, not even outside of his home state, he noted: "If I ever showed fear, Jeanne ignored it. From the very first day I set foot in CEMAT, she treated me like one of the family, [her own] family and the family of people who study [the] region. She just assumed that if I had gotten myself there and was ready to work, then by God I would do it. She never expressed anything less than whole-hearted, unquestioning faith in me. That encouragement, that vote of confidence from her, was so critical to me; to *me*, not just to my research project or my career."

Jeanne also shaped my own personal and professional development. I first met her in spring 1998, when I was affiliated with the Centre d'Etudes Maghrébines à Tunis (CEMAT) during a preliminary research trip in Tunisia. Jeanne was a critical sounding board. Jeanne was far more than the director of CEMAT to me. She was an honorary grandmother to my children, a relationship that took root when she accompanied me to an ultrasound examination in Tunisia when I was pregnant. From that point onwards, Jeanne had a special relationship with my son and, later, my daughter. Her passing is a profound loss for us, as it is for many others.

Jeanne was fortunate to have a wonderful family and, of course, Khaled, Mouna and Ramzi were truly privileged to have such a wonderful person in their lives. She was immensely proud of her children, who brought her endless joy and never ceased to amaze her with their achievements. May they find comfort in the fact that Jeanne lived a rich and rewarding life and touched the lives of so many others. ✨

Melani Cammett
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Zeev Rubin **1942-2009**

ON MAY 29TH, SHORTLY AFTER A SERIES OF COMMUNICATIONS where, with his usual delightful charm, Zeev Rubin had finalized his participation in the ASPS sponsored “mini-conference” at MESA on late antique Iran, his colleagues received a shocking message from Dr. Effie Habas (Rubin): Zeev Rubin, one of the most prolific scholars of antiquity, a humanist, a great colleague, and a dear, loving friend, had passed away. Words do not do justice either to his remarkable career, or to the void he has left behind amongst his army of admirers, colleagues and friends.

Zeev Rubin led a remarkable life spent in studying late antiquity, a fascinating period of our collective history. Throughout his life Zeev was busy lighting lamps, not only for those around him, but also to shine on the history of classical Rome, on Byzantium, on Christianity in Palestine, on mass movements in late antiquity, on the conversion of the Visigoths to Christianity, on Judaism and Rahmanite Monotheism in the Himyarite kingdom, and furthermore, on Sasanian monarchy, on Greek and Middle Iranian in documents of Sasanian anti-Roman propaganda, on the reforms of Khusrow Anushirwan, on Ibn Muqaffa...the list is unending. Zeev Rubin