

# A Gift to the University Library

ArtemisLeontis



**T**he memory of Gwen Stavros (1938-1981) lives on in the University Library through a gift by Dr. Denny Stavros honoring his late wife. The gift will be used to purchase Modern Greek materials for the library for a period of ten years from 2005 to 2014.

Mrs. Stavros loved many things, from cooking to playing music to spending time in Athens with her husband and two children, Jack and Margo. Her talents were

impressive. An accomplished violinist, she was a member of the Dearborn, Plymouth, and other community orchestras. Her recipe for baklava found its way into Daniel S. Cutler's *The Bible Cookbook* (New York, 1985) as "Gwen's Baklava." She learned Greek in preparation for her stay in Athens during her husband's sabbatical in 1967-8 and kept it up for each new visit. Active in community affairs, she was Chair of the Educational and Cultural Committee of the Hellenic American Congress, for which she organized book parties and receptions, and was involved in the Detroit Ethnic Music Tour of the Smithsonian Institute.

But a big part of her heart belonged to libraries. Mrs. Stavros was an educator active in school library and nutrition education programs in Wayne County. She earned her B.S. in Education and Masters in Library Science from Wayne State University. She worked as Library Media Specialist and Adult-Continuing Education teacher with the Redford Union School District before becoming Project Director of Nutrition Education and Training, a program she established as part of the Wayne County Intermediate School District. She published and presented papers on language arts, reading, and the training and work of school librarians. The Gwen Stavros Award for good nutritional practices was posthumously established in acknowledgement of the quality of workshops in nutrition education that Mrs. Stavros presented at the Detroit Public Schools Head Start Project. At each annual community volunteer reception, a Head Start mother was chosen to receive the year's Award.

Gwen Stavros died on December 22, 1981 at age 43 from Acute Leukemia. Purchases made for the Modern Greek Collections in the University Library will bear a bookplate recognizing the gift in her memory.