

REMEMBERING DENNIS MORTON

[1947-1989]

His family, friends, and former coworkers will always recall Dennis Morton for his gentle nature and a burning sense of idealism. A small-town New Englander who never quite adapted to the rat-race pace of Big City life, Dennis was born June 29, 1947, in Oakfield, Maine, the son of the late Wallace and Madeline Morton. He earned a teaching degree at Farmington State Teachers' College and devoted the rest of his life to educating youth. His rapport with students became evident immediately in his first assignment at Millenockett, Maine.

Dennis remained 16 years at Millenockett High School before moving in 1984 to Philadelphia at the urging of his closest friend, the late Clifford Young. He taught first at Wynnefield Academy, then at Clara Muhammad Elementary and Secondary School. Whether instructing the privileged or the poor, Dennis impressed coworkers and students alike with his strong sense of social justice and his loathing for racism.

All who knew Dennis were deeply saddened by the news of his death November 26. He will be recalled by each of us as a caring, generous man — a gentle fighter for equal opportunity for all. A member of the United Church of Christ, he is survived by his sisters, Joanne Rockwell and Mrs. Christine Brotting, and his brother Ronald Morton as well as a sister-in-law, Joan Morton, a brother-in-law, Eugene Brotting, many nieces and nephews, and a host of other relatives.

* Funds in memorial may be sent to assist the historical restoration work of the Oakfield Historical Society, Oakfield, ME 04763.