



In Memoriam

On January 17, 1989 it pleased the Lord to take from this earth to her place in glory

Mrs. Antoinette Quenga,

a long-time teacher in our Protestant Reformed schools.

Mrs. Quenga's teaching career spanned some 36 years, beginning at Adams Street School in 1952. She was for nine years in Guam, teaching school also there; but the remainder of those 36 years were given to Adams (3 years), Covenant High (10 years), and Hope

(14 years). She distinguished herself at all levels as one of unusual ability, keen insights, and dedication to the cause of providing distinctively Reformed education for covenant children and young people.

Quiet and unassuming she was by nature, but her presence was felt, and she will be missed — both by her students and her colleagues. We rejoice nevertheless in the assurance that she has received her eternal reward, a crown of life that never fades. And we thank the Lord for the years of faithful service which by His grace she was privileged and equipped to provide for us. Our prayer for Mr. Quenga and son Dwight is that they will receive comfort in the knowledge that "precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

Mrs. Quenga knew she was going home. Not long before she died she reflected on that, and penned these lines, which were read later at her funeral, and which we share also with our readers:

PARADOX

*The Lord dimmed my sight,
the better to see the glory of the kingdom of God.
HE softened my hearing,
the better to hear the voice of the Word of God.
HE muted my song,
the better to hear the songs of the morning stars
and the angels singing together.
HE emptied my breath into a gasp, a sigh,
the better to be filled with the breath of the Spirit of God.
HE dulled my taste,
the better to taste and see that the Lord is good.
HE slowed my steps,
the more compassionately to see the pain and suffering of those
around me.*

... and at last He stills the beating of my weak heart, so I can clearly feel the pounding of His mighty heart as He cried, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" The promise — "Today thou shalt be with me in paradise" echoed in my ears. All of my senses were restored to me and I joined the multitude before the throne who sing, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain who has redeemed us."