Mari Terman

Mari Terman passed away in January 2013. A longtime docent and dedicated member of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee, Mari will be dearly missed by the Institute faculty, staff, and volunteers. Mari grew up in Hyde Park and her lifelong fascination with archaeology and the Middle East began with dinner-table conversations and visits to the Oriental Institute. She studied at the University of Chicago Laboratory School, the College of the University of Chicago, and Radcliffe College.

In 1998, Mari began volunteering as a docent with the Oriental Institute. Visiting Committee member Deborah Halpern remembers, “I immediately recognized Mari as being one of the most inquisitive and curious people I ever have known. There was never a lecture presented where she did not offer a poignant question. And while we all learned new information from the OI, Mari taught us all to be more thoughtful learners, and that may be the greatest lesson of all.”

Mari will be remembered as a true champion of the Oriental Institute; for her bright, energetic, innovative mind and her deep commitment to improving her community and the lives of those around her. The faculty, staff, and volunteers of the Oriental Institute are particularly grateful to the Terman family for designating the Institute as a recipient of philanthropic contributions in memory of Mari. The outpouring of support received is a testament to the positive impact Mari had on so many lives.