

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1986

In Memoriam for Pat

We deeply mourn the death June 28 of our Los Angeles comrade, Pat (Eve Strong), whose passion and struggles for freedom, as proletarian, as women's liberationist, as activist, brought her to Marxist-Humanism. Her proletarian dimension and rich rural roots gave her contributions to N&L a special importance on the threshold of the 1980s as we were concretizing Marx's unique concept of the Man/Woman relationship in the context of the new Women's Liberation movements, and were designating "Woman as Reason as well as Revolutionary Force."

This can be seen from her frequent articles in N&L, as well as in all of her activities, whether in local meetings or on picket lines, especially in Kentucky, Indiana, and with the Phelps-Dodge strikers in Arizona. We all remember the moving report on the Phelps-Dodge strike Pat gave to the 1984 News and Letters Committees Convention, where she told the story of a 10-year-old miner's daughter who refused to say the pledge of allegiance in school because "the words were a lie."

It is this legacy which she leaves for us as well as for her family and friends who have been with her, and gained from her strength, during that long period of her painful battle with cancer, which had not interrupted her work as a Marxist-Humanist. Our hearts go out to her comrade-husband, Felix Martin, who, as N&L's Labor Editor, walked many picket lines and attended many meetings with her.

— Raya Dunayevskaya
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