

**Memorial Resolution – Ann Gordon-Walker**  
**February 27, 1944 – January 27, 2021**

The Hon. Dr. Ann Gordon-Walker passed away in January 2021 at the age of 76. She was born on February 27, 1944, in London, England. It is said that she was born during an air raid in London. She suddenly acquired two older sisters when they arrived home from Jamaica when she was about one-year old having been evacuated there during World War II. Twin brothers were born the year after.

Ann received her bachelor's degree from University of St. Andrews and went on to receive her D.Phil. from Oxford University in biochemistry. It was there that she married Laurence Andrew Ball, also in academia, and then moved to Madison for her post-doctoral work. After a couple years, they returned to England where Ann served as an editor of the *Biochemical Journal*. Back in the US again, the family settled in Connecticut briefly until setting back in Madison in the 1970's. During this time, they had two daughters.

In Madison, Ann taught chemistry at both Edgewood College and Madison College (then known as MATC) before beginning her 21-year career at UW-Madison as the administrator for the Institute of Molecular Virology. She was awarded an Academic Staff Excellence Award, the Wisconsin Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Leadership in 2002, the year she retired from UW-Madison. One of her nominators, Ann Palmenberg, who chaired the institute wrote, "Although technically, her academic staff title is that of 'researcher', Ann's real title should be something along the lines of "Director/in charge of everything."

Ann remained active in retirement with the Dickens and Jane Austen Societies, PLATO and volunteering in the Madison Metropolitan School District. She is survived by her daughters, Jennifer Truitt (Tim) and Katherine Ball, 5 grandchildren, and many others.