

IT'S POSSIBLE

By Jane Garland

Linda Mook's mantra was "It's possible," and Linda made things possible. She was a daughter, sister, wife, mother, teacher, journalist, union president and educational-issues coordinator for the California Federation of Teachers.

Linda passed away on December 30, 2004, but her dynamic energy and passion for truth will live on through the journalism students, whom she taught for over 27 years, and her colleagues, who mourn her passing but rejoice in having had the opportunity to share time with her.

Jody Becker, a former student said, "Linda Mook was my journalism teacher at Corona del Mar High School from 1979-1982. I was an editor for the *Trident* newspaper and *Vision* magazine, and I was a student in her journalism class. I consider her my mentor. She helped me get started on a very successful 20-year journalism career—as a staff

member for the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Seattle Times* and as a foreign correspondent. Not only do I remember what she taught me, but how she taught: with that smile that was almost a laugh...always encouraging us to think."

Jo Ann Copp, fellow teacher and member of the NMFT executive board stated, "As I think back on the many ways you have lifted, guided and counseled me, you have truly been 'the wind beneath my wings.'"

Linda left a loving husband, Harland and a daughter, Katie—as well as a multitude of friends, colleagues and students. She also left a legacy of accountability and integrity.

Donations to the Linda Mook Memorial Scholarship Fund should be sent to the district at 2985 Bear St., Costa Mesa, 92626; or to the Newport-Mesa Federation of Teachers at 2900 Bristol St., Suite C107, Costa Mesa, 92626.

