**“Sheila…ISI Treasure and Heroine”**

**by Ed Germann**

***“****So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;**bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity” (Col. 3:12-14, ESV)*

I have a heroine and she goes by the name of “Sheila.” Sheila Hargreaves. The dictionary defines a heroine this way: *“a woman of distinguished courage or ability, admired for her brave deeds and noble qualities.”*

Sheila is all the dictionary says…and more…a lot more! Sheila is a walking sermon. Sheila is a Colossians 3 Lady. Sheila is a Woman of God who puts on love every single day…and shares it! Below is an updated description of Sheila I first wrote in 2003…and still at the time of this writing she presses on!

Sheila started working with international students in the DC area in 1962. She is well known in heaven and on earth amongst leaders of the world. She cared for both her parents until her dad died many years ago. She then cared for her mom, who was stricken with Alzheimer’s disease, for years until she died. All that while, she also cared for a friend with Down’s Syndrome (and also Alzheimer’s in his latter years) who had lived with Sheila and her family from age 5 until his death at 56.

None of that stopped Sheila from ministering to international students in her home. Her weak situation was often the strength of her witness. Over the past 83 years, waves upon waves of international students came to her home and many found Christ as their Savior. A Spanish-speaking church was founded many years ago in the Northern Virginia area out of Sheila’s living room!

When I asked her how a lady “her age” can continue to reach out and be able to relate to young international students and future leaders of the world, she looked at me a little strangely for even asking the question. *“I care about them, and they know that”* was her reply. Simply stated, profoundly put.

We all want godly heroes and heroines. We ISIers in the Great Lakes and Southeast areas of the USA have ours in Sheila Hargreaves. We share her with you. There is a lot of Sheila love to go around!

Ed Germann

President

Sheila Hargreaves Fan Club