

Newsletter

Bulletin

BOLLETTINO

ASSOCIATION OF ITALIAN-CANADIAN WRITERS
L'ASSOCIATION DES ECRIVAIN(E)S ITALO-CANADIEN(NE)S
ASSOCIAZIONE SCRITTORI, SCRITTRICI ITALO-CANADESI

NUMERO 9

Luglio, 1989

DINO MINNI

1942 - 1989

Dino Minni passed away in his sleep shortly after midnight of Friday, July 14, 1989, in Vancouver, B.C. A much admired writer Dino will be missed by his many friends across Canada.

Dino was a short story writer, editor, translator and book reviewer. He published his first story in the Atlantic Advocate in 1964. The next 25 years saw his stories broadcast on CBC Radio, included in Queen's Quarterly, Journal of Canadian Fiction, Hints and Prods, Canadian Fiction Magazine, and in anthologies, New Worlds, ed. John Metcalf, Search For Identity, Macmillan, Between Two Worlds, ed. M. Charon, Italian Canadian Voices, ed. C. Di Giovanni. In 1985 his collection, Other Selves, appeared and recently Guernica editions brought out, Ricordi: Things Remembered, an anthology of stories edited by Dino.

In addition to his book reviews in the Vancouver Sun and the Canadian Author & Bookman, Dino contributed conference papers on Italian-Canadian writing. His essay, "The Short Story as an Ethnic Genre," is included in Contrasts: Comparative Essays on Italian-Canadian Writing and his interview with Frank Paci appeared in Canadian Literature 106 (1985).

One of the highlights of Dino's career was the conference of Italian-Canadian writers which he organized at the Italian Cultural Centre in Vancouver in September, 1986. The proceedings of this conference, Writers in Transition, are edited by Dino Minni and Anna Foschi Ciampolini and published by Guernica.

Constantino Dino Minni was born in Bagnoli del Trigno, Isernia, Molise region of Italy. He emigrated with his family to B.C. and grew up in Vancouver. When Dino was 8 he was struck by Muscular Dystrophy. Dino was a quadriplegiac confined to a powered wheelchair. Though he had limited use of his hands he was able to use a typewriter and to take some university courses. In recent months Dino was working on stories dealing with people with handicaps.

In the end Dino lost his long battle with MD. In addition to his parents he is survived by his brother, Jerry, 3 sisters and 6 nieces and nephews.

Dino's achievements as a writer and editor are extraordinary given his handicaps. His courage as a human being is an example to us all. He will be remembered for both qualities.

As a founding member of AICW he encouraged other writers across the country. The home address of the Minni family is: 2848 East Third Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5M 1H6

Thank you to Genni Gunn of White Rock, B. C.

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