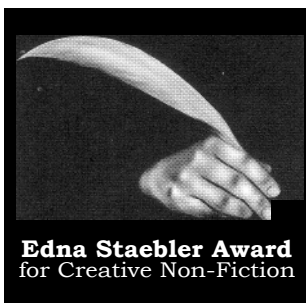


NEWS RELEASE

October 2, 1997
For Immediate Release



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kathryn Wardropper
(519)884-1970 Ext. 3109
Fax: (519) 884-8202
e-mail: kwardrop@mach1.w1u.ca

TIMELY DEATH WINS \$3,000

1997 EDNA STAEBLER AWARD FOR CREATIVE NON-FICTION

Waterloo, Ontario (October 2) — Wilfrid Laurier University announced today that ***Timely Death: Considering Our Last Rights by Anne Mullens*** (Knopf Canada) has won the 1997 Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction. Anne Mullen's thoughtful and well researched account of the right-to-die debate was considered by this year's panel of judges to be an outstanding example of the genre.

Three further titles were shortlisted for this year's award: *Starting from Porcupine* by William Aide (Oberon), *An Acre of Time* by Phil Jenkins (Macfarlane Walter & Ross) and *Stony Ground: The Making of a Canadian Garden*, by Douglas Chambers (Knopf Canada).

ABOUT THE BOOK

Timely Death: Considering Our Last Rights, by Anne Mullens informs us, moves us emotionally to greater sympathy with other people, and helps us to think our way to our own decision. This is a well-researched and comprehensive book, written with compassion and clarity. Debate over euthanasia is growing at a time when twentieth century medicine can keep us alive long past the point when life has any meaning.

Mullens, an Atkinson fellow in Public Policy, spent more than two years researching and writing the book, interviewing experts in the Netherlands, England, Scotland, Germany, the U.S. and Canada. She spent time with palliative care teams and held the hands of the dying. She interviewed more than 100 doctors, ethicists, lawyers, advocacy groups and lawmakers.

On its publication last year ***Timely Death*** garnered some outstanding reviews: June Callwood wrote "... ***Timely Death*** is a wonderful book. I didn't think I wanted to read it, but I will be forever grateful that I did." Dr. Gabor Mate, Palliative Care Unit of Vancouver Hospital feels "...Anne Mullens fair-minded and comprehensive reporting gives the reader an informed and intimate look at the issues and at the emotion-fraught situations involved in the right-to-die debate." *London Free Press* writer Gordon Sanderson said "...It offers a thoughtful and balanced look at the right-to-die debate.

More...



Office of the President, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3C5
Telephone: (519) 884-1970 Fax: (519) 746-2604

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anne Mullens is an award winning journalist. *Timely Death* was developed in response to the enthusiastic reception given to her eight part series in the *Toronto Star* which appeared in the fall of 1994 and for which she received the 1993 Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy. For nine years she was the science and medicine specialist for the *Vancouver Sun*. She is the author of *Missed Conceptions: Overcoming Infertility*. She lives in Victoria with her husband and two children. Anne is currently working on her third book.

THE EDNA STAEBLER AWARD FOR CREATIVE NON-FICTION

The Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction is a unique award -- the only one of its kind in Canada. The \$3,000 annual award was established by the writer and journalist Edna Staebler in 1991 to recognize works of creative non-fiction, a genre she believes had been much neglected by the literary establishment. The award also seeks to support the work of a new Canadian writer -- a first or second book -- set in Canada or with a particular Canadian significance.

Edna Staebler is a Member of the Order of Canada and an award-winning literary journalist. She has been a regular contributor to *Maclean 's*, *Saturday Night*, *The Toronto Star*, *Chatelaine* and many other newspapers and magazines. She is the author of *Cape Breton Harbour* and *Places I've Been and People I've Known* and the best-selling *Schmecks* cookbook series. Her most recent publication is *Haven't Any News: Ruby 's Letters from the Fifties* -- an edited collection of her sister's letters.

The Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction is sponsored and administered by Wilfrid Laurier University.