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Sherin Bowen - a Legacy of Leadership - Here and Abroad

This past year, we lost our alumni sister Sherin Bowen, WRLP Group 1. Husband Bob Bowen, shared that WRLP was a huge part of Sherin's life. It gave her the confidence she needed to excel. Her life and accomplishments will continue to be celebrated by the people she affected here in Wisconsin and in Nicaragua.

Sherin became interested in WRLP while listening to Wisconsin Public Radio. She was delighted when then UWSP Chancellor Lee Dreyfus wrote her letter of reference and became her mentor for the program. Sherin told us in a previous conversation, "Little did I



know that my life would be heading in a complete turn of direction as the result of these decisions. New thoughts and new ways of doing things began to enter into my life. I spent three weeks in Jamaica while in WRLP, and it was there that I was bitten by the international bug. Other international experiences followed, almost completely in developed countries, but I never forgot the impact

of working in a 3rd world country."

After WRLP, her active personal and community life took her into arenas never planned. Sherin accompanied her husband Bob, UWSP Director of International Programs, on numerous site visits to the UK, Europe and South Pacific. She went to Argentina as leader of a 4-week Rotary International

Group Study Team. She traveled with Group 3 to China, arriving 100 days after the Tienemann Square incident. Sherin remembered, "Meeting community leaders, realizing the long tentacles of communism, and the constraints that the local citizens were under was a real eye opener."

More recently, over the last ten years, Sherin served as Executive Director of Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas, Inc. No doubt, Sherin made a difference, positively affecting thousands of people's lives. And those of us who knew Sherin Bowen are better for having known her.

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