

Margaret Wade Labarge
1916-2009



Margaret Wade Labarge was born in New York City and was educated at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Noroton, Connecticut. She then received her B.A. degree from Radcliffe College in 1937. She attended Oxford University where she earned a Bachelor of Literature degree in 1939.

She taught language courses in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec from 1943-44. She was a part-time lecturer at Carleton University in 1952-53 and 1961-62. She was also a part-time lecturer at Notre Dame College at the University of Ottawa, 1941-42, 1950-52, and 1954-58.

She wrote nine books including: *Simon de Montfort*, 1962, reprinted 1972, *A Baronial Household of the Thirteenth Century*, 1965, *Saint Louis*, 1968 and *Henry V*, 1975. She wrote a number of articles in publications such as *History Today*, *Parliamentary Affairs* and *Commonweal*.

A medieval scholar, Margaret was best known for her work in bringing to a wider public a better understanding of the medieval roots of Western civilization.

She was an active member of the community serving on the boards of the Royal Ottawa Hospital, the Catholic Family Services, the Rehabilitation Institute, and the St. Vincent Hospital. She was the first public director of the Canadian Nurses Association and she worked with the Council on Aging and chaired an important committee on elder abuse.

She received an honorary degree from Carleton University in 1976. She also received honorary degrees from Mount St. Vincent University and the University of Waterloo. She was named to the Order of Canada in 1982 both for her work as an historian and a volunteer on behalf of nurses and the aged.

In 1940 Margaret married Raymond C. Labarge and moved to Ottawa where she had four children and six grandchildren. She passed away at the age of 93 on August 31, 2009.