

Huguette remembers their friendship

(translation)

I met Claire in early 1954 at the time of her departure for India. I see her again in 1956 to the General Assembly where Geo is elected as president, replacing Yvonne Poncelet just died tragically.

In 1958, I am attending a meeting in Polambakkam where our friendship is developing. Geo in Brussels, myself in Palestine and Claire in India, but all three close-knitted. Almost meeting each other every year, for holidays in Palestine. All three together, we are laughing and our friendship is strengthening.

The mystery is that both of us, we were so different both in character and in everything and I think that it is what brought us closer.

When accompanying Geo in her last months, we had a year together in Belgium, then we decided to go each one 'home'. Despite the distance between us, we share everything, our worries and our difficulties but also our joys.

She came to visit me almost every year because I was unable to travel because of my disability.

She was part of my family here. She liked to come to Mauritius because it was a bit like India.

On the occasion of her 80th anniversary, I still could join her to celebrate Belgium and we stayed together at Jacques' home.

And in 2011, during her last visit to Mauritius, she said goodbye and this was our last time together. We phoned each other every day of the week ..., one supporting the other, especially in recent months.

On the morning of her death, we spoke on the phone and enquiring about her, she answered me "I embrace you as ever".

Huguette Boullé
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