

# In Memoriam

## Dianne Robitaille



These are poems by **Dianne Robitaille (June 1956 to August 2021)** co-founder of the Ibbetson Street Press. Robitaille has been the secretary of the New England Poetry Club and has been published in such venues as the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Bellowing Ark*, and others. She was an accomplished nurse, working for years at Mt. Auburn Hospital and Mass General.

### Writer's Block

If only the  
curtain would  
lift,  
that bars me  
from my words

If so, my  
pen would

Speak for a  
hundred years  
and then  
a  
hundred more.

Of what,  
I don't  
really  
know -  
but  
it  
does.

## **Cat Portrait**

Penciled within  
a frame  
Sleek with short,  
gray hair  
the un-named  
cat lies crouched  
casting a rigor,  
focused  
glare.  
As if in a final stage  
of a hunt, his  
fierce stance is  
notorious of  
a predator  
about to  
pounce  
with  
wild  
prodigious  
flair!

## **Celebrate**

My bald head and  
me are free!  
Liberation rings!  
Flags sweep high  
in waves of  
breeze!

Today, a day  
of brisk air.  
Inhaling a cool,  
snappy Canadian  
front  
exhaling a  
cleansing breath.  
I pass my hand  
over my head  
thinking I still  
have hair, then  
laugh to find  
my scalp so  
small and bare!  
A darling of a  
head, no hiding,  
no fluff,  
No longer  
dictated by  
hairs  
coercive  
needs!