

### *Editorial*

O, Henry, that teller of tales, conjured up *The gift of the Magi* - or its title in a text-book I saw in China *The Gift of Maggie* - as a simple tribute to love. I am moved by this example to consider the range of skills and abilities that foreign teachers of English in China bring to their chosen task.



**MICHAEL VINCENT O'CARRIGAN** was such a one.

When Michael died in April at the age of 87 years (*see picture left*), he had spent two stints in China, finishing at the age of 76, after bringing all his teaching experience to bear on the students. With a zest that was his hallmark, he taught grammar, encouraged conversation, had them singing and play-acting, and cooked the occasional meal - in short, he won their confidence and friendship. He was, moreover, a talented artist and samples of his work are to be

found in his apartments in China.

Thus do so many others, each in their own way, bring a gift, an influence beyond their dreams, and a bond is forged beyond measuring.

As Confucius would say, "Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart."

*Brian Jeffers*