



**Dr. Elizabeth J. Hittle**  
*Sandy Auburn Ph.D.*

Dr. Elizabeth J. Hittle, known as B. J., established and grew the Speech Pathology and Audiology program at The University of Akron for more than thirty years. A program accredited by The American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association, a national association and accrediting body, under B. J.'s direction, hundreds of students became professionals who serve the communication disabled in our region, state, and nation. Under recent leadership led by Dr. Sharon Lessner, the program established the clinical doctorate in audiology, the Au.D., one of the few such degrees in the US.

B. J. was my professor, mentor, and friend. I would not have earned a Ph.D. in Speech Pathology had it not been for her encouragement and support.