



KATIE GALLAGHER

Sept 8, 1953 – June 26, 2011

Obituary

Page 2

Published in the "Westport Minuteman"; excerpted in the "Westport News"

Messages of Condolence

Pages 3-36

Reproduced from messages on cards and at/after the Memorial Service, and from e-mails to Steve and others in the family

Memorial Service program

Page 37

Unitarian Church, Westport, Connecticut
Friday, 8 July 2011, 3:00-4:00 pm

A video recording of the service is at
www.KatieGallagherTribute.com.

July 14, 2011

Katie Gallagher



Catherine Farrington Gallagher, 57, died at home in Westport on Sunday 26 June, from brain cancer. Katie was born September 8, 1953 in Forest Hills New York and attended Forest Hills High School. She received her BA in Elementary Education in 1975 from Emerson College, Boston and her Master's in Applied Linguistics from Columbia University School of Education in 1984. Katie began her professional career in 1975 as a primary school teacher in local schools in Monrovia Liberia, following her future husband Steve Glovinsky who worked there for the United Nations. Her passion was teaching young children, and over their twelve years living outside of the US she also taught in local and international schools in Nepal, US Virgin Islands and Ghana. Returning to the States in 1987 she signed on as one of the original educational sales representatives, grades K to 6, for Wright Group Publishing, a family-owned company and proponent of the "whole language" approach to literacy that, by stressing passion and motivation of teachers and students over technical skills ("learn to read by reading"), closely matched Katie's own philosophy and aptitude. Over the next 23 years Katie's work helped make readers out of a large proportion of the children of Connecticut, Rhode Island and the lower Hudson Valley, her territories. When Wright Group was sold – to Tribune Publishing and from there to McGraw Hill – she stayed on, and continued to exceed sales quotas and win top sales awards throughout. As her reading programs became more mainstream, she picked up innovative math lines, and became just as enthusiastic and successful.

In 2007 Katie applied her talents to a jewelry venture with her daughter Joanna, "Surya Gems", where they connected with a major Indian retailer of traditional jewelry and "repurposed" it for American tastes. They began to be as successful at that as Katie was with her other job. The business closed when Joanna found other work after college and Katie's publishing company began asking for too much of her time.

Throughout her life Katie also found time for reading, gardening, cooking, entertaining, making new friends, and as Steve's occasional crew for his sailboat races. She and Steve also continued to travel widely to various exotic locations around the world.

Katie and Steve married in June 1979 and raised two children – Mac Alexander (age 28) and Joanna Lara (25) who are also inveterate travelers and beginning very promising careers, Mac with UNICEF in Pakistan and Joanna working on social development in Guatemala. After returning from overseas in 1987 the family lived in Ossining New York and moved to Westport in 1993. They spent many weekends and summer days in the house they built in 2000 in Shady Harbor, Charlestown, Rhode Island.

Katie is also survived by her father Richard, her sister Cynthia, and hundreds of close friends.

A memorial service will be held for Katie at 3:00 pm on Friday, July 8 at the Unitarian Church in Westport. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to a literacy initiative of your choice, such as Reading is Fundamental (www.rif.org), or Pencils of Promise (www.PencilsOfPromise.org).

Condolence Cards

Dear Steve, Mac, and Joanna:

You might not remember me although we've met a few times over the years. Katie and I were hired at the same time by the Wright Group. We became fast friends in a new, dynamic educational venture.

I have such fond memories of our time together at sales meetings, theater and dinner dates, and other social occasions. Smart, full of fun, leading such an exciting and productive life with a loving family.

Of course, your memories are much richer. Embrace them and celebrate her life. My sympathy is with you,

Best regards,
Carol Allen

Wright Group friend, Melville NY

Dear Friends –

Please accept our sympathy on the loss of Katie. She was a delightful person who lit up the office. I will treasure my memories.

Sally

Sally Bergwerk, MD

Katie's primary care physician, Wilton CT

Dear Steve,

I always looked forward to Thursdays with Katie. Her beautiful spirit, winsome smile, and willingness to work inspires me. Grace under pressure in its truest form! We really do choose our path and we chose to see life with gratitude and love. The last time I saw Katie was on my birthday in April. What a gift.

Thank you for sharing her with me.

Deb Murray

Vision Therapist, Vision Works, Norwalk CT

Katie,

You will always be alive in my heart

Ozzie

Flowers from Ozzie (Frank Osmunden, Katie's step-dad), Naples FL

To Steven and Family:

With love and deepest sympathy at this difficult time.

Dottie Osmundsen

Sister of Ozzie (Frank Osmundsen, Katie's step-dad), New Port Richey FL

Dear Steven, Mac, and Joanna:

As dear friends of Ozzie, we met Katie on several occasions over the past several years., both in New York and Florida. With happy memories of these meetings, we celebrate the wonderful life you shared with her as wife and mother. May you find comfort in the joy she brought to so many other people.

Fondly,
Dan and Irene

The Broveys, Glen Cove NY

Steve:

Sorry to hear about Katie. We are thinking of you. She will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.

Bruce and Lois Washburn

Friends of Steve's parents, Southborough MA

Dear Steve, Joanna and Mac,

So sorry to learn of Kate's passing, especially when we are out of town. We'll see you upon our return. You're in our thoughts and prayers.

Love,
Robin, Pete, Christen, and Mary Kate

Flowers from the Tauk & Romano family, Westport friends, Weston CT

Dear Steve, Joanna, and Mac:

Thinking of you and all the good times with our mom.

Colleen

Flowers from Colleen Leth (Robin's daughter and Joanna's friend), New York NY

Dear Steve, Jo, Mac, and all the Gallaghers,

My deepest sympathy and a heart filled with love goes out to all of you during this difficult time. I have loved Katie since (before?) kindergarten and although I haven't lived near her for many years, I still feel an enormous hollow in my life. I can't imagine what you all are feeling now, but please know that you are in my prayers and my thoughts always. I send you all a circle of love, light, and protection. I leave for Europe in two hours, but if the service is between July eleventh and fifteenth, I'll be in the city for those days. I'll keep in touch with Patty.

Gail

Gail Smedley, lifelong friend, Bellingham WA

So sorry to lose one of the most wonderful people ever! I'll cherish our memories.

Getting on a plane for Madrid – will touch base in three weeks.
Thinking of all of you!

Cindy, Jake, Shawn and Patrick

Cindy Holley and family, Wright Group friend, Charlotte NC

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time.

Bob

I'll miss seeing her smiling face around Shady Harbor. She was a delightful woman.

Kathe

The Gables, Shady Harbor friends

Dear Steven, Mac, and Joanna:

Whatever soothes the spirit, comforts the soul, and brings peace, that's what's wished for you at this time.

With love from Erika.

Erika Spelman, daughter of Jill (Katie's step-mom), Jackson Heights NY

To Steve, Mac, Joanna and Family, and Tucker,

Our prayers are with you and Katie.

Sincerely,
Dawn and Bob Gildae
Brian and Alex and Kerrin

Westport friends and Tucker's dog walker and family, Norwalk CT

Richard called to tell us sad news. Bob and I have memories of spending time with you and Katie and Mac at Fire Island.

God bless you.

JoAnne and Bob Spencer (*friends of Katie's dad*), New York NY

Also enrolled Katie in the "St. Patrick's Cathedral Mass Enrollment Society"

Dear Steve & Family

It is with great sadness that I heard the news of Katie. She was a free spirit.

God's blessings in this time of grief.

Sincerely
Dr. Philip Stieg

I cannot express how sorry I am for your great loss. Katie had a way of touching everyone she came in contact with, even under such straining circumstances. Such a loving & giving person cannot be forgotten. She will always remain dear to my heart. I hope that you all find peace in this difficult time. You remain in my thoughts and prayers.

All my love,
Amanda

Katie's neuro-surgery team at Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York NY

Dear Steve and the whole Glovinsky-Gallagher Family

We are so sorry to her bout the loss of Catherine. She was very dear to us. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you. Thank you for allowing us to participate in her care.

Sincerely,
Dr. Pannullo, Heather, and staff

Katie's neuro-oncology team at Weill Cornell Medical Center

Steve – We will all miss our friend Katie so very much. It was your love an support that grounded her and allowed her the wings to fly, heart to be so generous, and soul to sweeten our lives so very, very much.

Love and hugs,
Pam

Pam Miles, Westport friend, Ridgefield CT

To Steve and Family,

I was so saddened to hear of Katie's passing – my deepest sympathy to you all at this very difficult time. I had the privilege of working with Katie for physical therapy at the outpatient clinic on West Avenue. She constantly amazed me with her courage and positive spirit – what an incredible lady she truly was! I wish I could have known her under different circumstances. She touched my heart and I will never forget her. I hope the memories of her wonderful life will give you some comfort at this time and in the future.

From Elizabeth Klumac

Katie's Physical Therapist at Norwalk Rehabilitation Center

Steve,

We will surely miss Katie, her love of life, her great personality, and her sense of humor have definitely touched our lives in a very special way.

Dick and I will remember her fondly for her infectious smile and the joy she brought to all of us.

We hope to see a lot of you, Steve, if not sail, then stopping by for a beer and a bite, or just to hang out!

In the days, weeks, and months ahead we will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers as you gain strength and savor the memories that are yours.

With love and deepest sympathy,
Marge and Dick

The Newtons, Shady Harbor friends

Steve and family,

We were very sad to hear the news of Katie's passing. Hopefully you can all find comfort in knowing she is at peace now.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.
Kim, Peter, Jessica and Michael Di Franco (Newton)

And a separate card sent from Rick, Leanne, Lauren and Ryan Newton

Shady Harbor friends (Dick and Marge Newton's family)

Dear Steve, Mac and Joanna,

Katie had the most beautiful heart and touched my heart forever.

All my love and prayers,
Lorraine

Lorraine Groff, Wright Group friend, Westtown NY

Dear Steve, Mac and Joanna,

Our hearts are with you in this time of sorrow. Katie was a wonderful person and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Our sincerest sympathies.
Janet, Ramsay and Ian

The Merriss', Westport friends

Steve, Joanna and Mac,

Katie was an unforgettable woman. We feel truly blessed to have known her – and to have had her be a part of our lives. She gave things that we know no one else would be able to give – including you all, and we are grateful to have been able to share in that.

We love you,
Alanna and Jane Beckman

Westport friends (Joanna's friend and mom)

Dear Steven, Mac & Joanna,

You lost a beautiful spirit, Katie. As I sat in your living room, listening to family and friends sharing memories with Katie of her interests and love of family and friends, I learned how special a person Katie was to all that were lucky enough to know her. My heart goes to you, Katie's family

Jeannine Job (Ozzie's friend) , Holt MI

Dear Steve, Mac and Joanna,

This card resonated Katie's life. "A life well-lived" – how true! Katie lived life to the fullest and enjoyed her family time. It is sad that Katie cannot be present in all our lives; however she lives in each of you and will always be with us in spirit. I am sorry I cannot attend the Memorial Service but please know my thoughts and prayers will be with you.

Love,
Fran and Edd Romans

Wright Group/McGraw Hill friend & husband, Bayside WI

Jo, Mac and Uncle Steve

We are so truly sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you. Sorry we couldn't all be there with you, but at your request we made a donation to PencilsOfPromise.org, and will continue to contribute in the future as she will forever remain in our memories. We love you guys and are here if you need anything!

Our greatest sympathies,
Reid, Isadora and Evala

Steve's niece and family, Durango CO

We were so saddened to hear of Katie's death. She was such a vivid personality – not to mention also being incredibly smart! We hope that your many fond memories will be a comfort to you. We are sorry that we were away in Maine at the time of the service.

Please accept our sincere condolences.

Sandy and Don Schwarz

*Katie's accountant and wife (and former teacher/Wright Group client),
Mamaroneck NY*

Steve, Mac & Joanna

Words are tough...

I'm so sorry! You had the most wonderful wife, mother! I'm so glad I got to know her! I hope to be able to stay in touch with you all.

Peace,
Val

Valerie Cumpata, Wright Group/McGraw Hill friend, Elgin IL

We're so sorry to learn of your loss. Katie had a zest for life and set an example for all of us.

Sincerely,
Robin Rothe

Sorry for your loss,

Love & fond memories,
Tom Wright

The Wright Group

Kirkland WA

We will never forget our wonderful Katie

Trudy

Trudy Larson, Wright Group friend, Fairfax Station VA

Cards to Richard and Jill, Katie's dad and step-mom

Dear Richard,

Pardon my typing this letter, but I can no longer handwrite.

Erika told me about Katie. I know you are stricken. I haven't seen Katie in many years, but I always remember that in personality she inherited and reminded me of your jovial personage, and I always admired her and felt completely happy and comfortable in her presence.

You have my sincerest consolation and condolences.

Sincerely,
Larry

Laurence Spelman was a partner in our West 96th Street, Manhattan, co-op, and a fine friend, for many years.

Dear Richard and Jill:

Oh, God, Carol told me the very bad news.

I can still hear Katie on speakerphone trying so hard to talk. She was such a brave soldier. It really broke my heart.

Before the tumor Katie had a good life and best not to prolong pain. The pain is for all of us left behind.

I wish I could be of help to you and Katie's family, as you were to me at this terrible time.

Love,
Vivian

Vivian Landsman is a friend of four decades. Her husband, Leonard, recently passed away.

Richard,

Just a note to let you know I am very sorry to hear the sad news about Katie.

To lose a child, one who still had many years to live, is especially hard,

But perhaps knowing that she lived her life to the fullest may give some solace. -- being successful in business, marriage, and motherhood, exploring and enjoying the wide world, and doing her best – with medical help and a loving family to lick the big “C.”

Many people live much longer and do not do one-third of the things Katie accomplished. nor as well.

It is a sad occasion but you should be proud of Katie’s life and your part in it.

Much love,
Pat Gilman

Patricia Gilman has been another friend for decades. Pat and Katie conversed often about education, teaching, Katie’s academic progress, travel, etc. Pat has also taught overseas, in just about as many places as Katie did.

Cards were also received from:

Rex Anku and family, *Westport friend (and driving service owner), Trumbull CT*

Kathy Gwozdz, *Shady Harbor friend*

Erika Spelman, *daughter of Jill (Richard's wife)*

Amy Robertshaw and family *Westport friend (Joanna's friend)*

Enrolled Katie in a Prayer Remembrance Program of the Franciscan Friars

Jack, Mary Lou, Kate and the whole family *Friends of Ozzie in Naples, FL*

Sent a contribution to "Reading is Fundamental"

Jo Sheridan, *Friend of Ozzie in CT*

Sylvia Perweiler, Gary, Alex & Teddy, *Katie's nephews, their grandmother & father*

Enrolled Katie in a Prayer Remembrance Program of the Franciscan Friars

Toby & Stan Rubel, *Friends of Steve's parents in Denver CO*

Sent a contribution to the American Cancer Society

Lois and Sandy Wohl, *Friends of Steve's parents in Englewood CO*

Sent a contribution to the American Cancer Society

Mark Walter, *former colleague of Richard Gallagher at the Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen in downtown Manhattan*, and his wife Jezebel.

Bob Kivelson, *another companion volunteer at the soup kitchen*, and his wife Adrienne

And...

Flowers were also sent from Katie's friends in Delhi –

Meghendra Banerjee, Victor Ghose, Tina Mathur, Nupur Bahl, Nupur Arora & Manu Gupta, TN Anuradha, Sarika Dhawan, 'Sarah & Arif Hussain, Anjum Khalidi & Aftab Asghar, Ramya Gopalan, Gopi Ghosh, G Padmanabhan.

Emerson College, Katie's undergraduate college ('75), is placing a book *Ex Libris* on the shelves of the library in her honor.

Condolence e-Mails

Steve and family,

We are very sorry to hear of Katie's passing. She made a huge impression on us all with her sense of humor, ever-present smile and love of life. We are all better for knowing her and will miss her dearly. In memory of Katie, we should all try to live each day to its fullest with smiles on our faces.

Lovingly,
Glenn and Linda

Glenn and Linda Hedman, Shady Harbor Friends

Steve, Joanna and Mac, my deepest sympathy to each of you on the loss of our dear and so loved Katie. She was such a fighter throughout this entire time. I will so miss our telephone chats especially on Sunday mornings. She was so very proud of each of you for all you have accomplished in your lives and I know that she is looking down on you smiling and saying "a job well done". My love to each of you. Joanna and Mac please remember that your mom always wanted you to know that you had Aunt Fran and Aunt Trudy out here ready to hear from you. You will be in my thoughts and prayers during your grieving period.

Love,

Fran Romans

Wright Group friend, Milwaukee WI

Dear Steve. As I only sporadically go to my computer, and that is usually at night, I just this minute received the sad but expected news about Katie. She was a wonderful person and I enjoyed the times that I got to spend with her. They actually were all too few. It must be very hard for you and for the girls as well. I'm terribly sorry for all of you but I do know that all of your happy thoughts and memories of Kate will always be with you. I hope that they will help you all to get through this in time. Please give my fondest regards and best wishes and my sympathy to the girls as well.

I am thinking of all of you at this time.

Rita Fredricks Salzman

Katie's friend through Connie & Michael Erlanger, New York NY

Dear Steve,

This is a beautiful story of Katie's life and I am sure was hard to write - it could be a book!

Thank you for the details-- and hope you are finding love coming to you in many ways. I am wondering by reading-- if (wonderful) Frank Hall will be presiding over her service? Colleen has "felt" the loss so deeply for all of you-- especially Joanna-- too reminding her of her Dad -- five years ago. It doesn't go away - yet the Unitarian Church is such a peaceful, happy and nature-like setting; it will be just right. We are with you Steve and your family. I wrote to Joanna; how these tall and strong and serene Austrian Alps surround us now; how much we speak of you all. Our hearts are with you. With LOVE Robin and Colleen

Robin Tauck and her daughter Colleen Leth, Westport friends, Weston CT/New York NY

Hi Steve,

I spoke with Patty and Cynthia right before we left for Europe, where we are now. I won't be back in America, so I won't be able to attend the memorial. I will be thinking of you all. Katie is my sister and one of the loves of my life. You are lucky to have had such a beautiful spirit as your partner in life. I am sending you lots of love and energy during this difficult time.

Blessings,
Gail

Gail Smedley, lifelong friend, Bellingham WA

Steve, Mac, and Joanna,

What a wonderful job you did in capturing the essence of your wife, and mom did.

Thank you, as I know how difficult it is to put in words one's life's work.

Well done! See you on the 8th!

Dan and Fran

Dan Treible, Sr. Sales Representative, Western NY, McGraw Hill School Education Group, Hilton NY

Dear Steve

Thanks for letting me know.

It was an honor to work with Katie during her illness; now reading about her enthusiasm in everything she did in her life I understand how she was able to keep upbeat through it all; I am sure it gave her many more months than it would have been otherwise.

Regards

Silvia Knoploch, M.D

Katie's Rehabilitation Physician, Norwalk

Dear Steve,

We're sad to hear this news. Our hearts go out to you. I hope you and Joanna and Mac are coping as well as can be expected.
sending our love to all of you,

Zoya

Zoya Kocur, Shady Harbor friend

Steve , I am stunned , I am so very sorry ,I spoke with her a few weeks ago when I called the house and she sounded strong and vibrant .my heart goes out to you and your family . please accept my sympathy for your loss . Donald

Donald Schwarz, Katie's Tax Accountant, Mamaroneck NY

Steve: What a lovely tribute to Katie. Not only was Katie devoted to the written word, she shared my philosophy that knowledge is imparted by telling stories. I was lucky to have known her. Yours, Sally

Dr. Sally Bergwerk, Katie's primary care physician, Wilton CT

Dear Steve:

Curt and I loved Kathy. We were so sad to hear of her passing. She brought much joy and love into our world. We are deeply saddened.

Janet and Curt

Janet Davis and Curt Tetrault, Westport friends

Hi Steve,

What a beautiful obituary. Thank you for sending. I hope you're doing okay. I miss our Katie, it's very hard for all of us even knowing that she is at peace. She was so lucky to have such a wonderful, supportive husband by her side every step of the way. Please, please, please let me know if you need ANYTHING! I am always available to help with Tucker, if you're going away or even if you just want me to bring him to the park for an hour or so. Lily would love it too!! Call me or email anytime.

Warm regards,

Amala

Amy Robertshaw, Westport friend

Steve-

My thoughts and prayers are with you, Joanna, and Mac.

Katie had such a joy of life, rich in spirit and generous in friendship. She had a heart of gold and of course a wonderful sense of humor.

I feel fortunate to have known her.

Take good care,

Elena

*Elena Waite, District Manager, West, McGraw-Hill, School Education Group,
Seattle WA*

Hi Steve,

Please see attached condolence messages from the extended Solution Exchange group. In all there are 10 messages.

The messages show just how much Katie was loved and admired by everyone.

Take care

Arif

Arif Hussain and Sarah Figge Hussain are colleagues of Steve in India, who both worked on Steve's "Solution Exchange" project (Sarah still does) and met Katie during her visits in 2005-2008.

Dear Steve,

It was extreme sorrow and pained heart that we learnt about the sad passing away of dear Katie from this world. I had known Katie through some get togethers held at your Delhi residence and had found her a jovial and warm person, full of joy for life. She had a personality that exuded warmth and she had the wonderful ability to make everyone feel at ease with her. While my interactions with her were not very long they have left an everlasting impression on my mind and heart.

Vijaya and I are with you and your family in this hour of extreme grief and sorrow. We pray to the Lord to grant peace to her soul. Her memory will forever remain fresh in our hearts. We will always cherish and remember the good times that we spent with her.

We are with you sharing the sorrow,

Alok and Vijaya Srivastava

Alok is a former Solution Exchange Facilitator and now Principal Secretary Madhya Pradesh State

Dear Sarah and Arif,

Please let Steve know that we are there with him and others in the family with prayers.
May Almighty give him the strength to withstand this difficult time.

Nabeel

Dr. Nabeel MK, Solution Exchange Facilitator, UNAIDS Delhi

Dear Steve,

May we say how sorry we are to hear of your loss. Our thoughts are with you and your family at this time.

Lolomas, from your friends in the Pacific

Jennifer Namgyal

Knowledge Management Officer UNDP Pacific Centre, Suva

Dear Steve,

I am very sorry to hear about your wife's demise. My heartfelt condolence to you and your family. Please do take care.

Mamta Katwal,

Solution Exchange Bhutan Facilitator UNDP Bhutan, Thimpu

Dear Steve,

I am pained to hear of Katie's sad demise. I had briefly heard of her illness, almost a year ago, and had assumed that the disease had been managed. Now, comes this sad news.

I knew her rather briefly - we met at a party at your place in late 2007. Nonetheless, even during this brief interaction, I found her to be an extremely warm, kind and vivacious person. I especially remember, how she had mastered several of the Bollywood dance moves.

This must be an extremely tough time for you and the family. May God give you the strength to bear this loss. My prayers are with you, in this moment of trial.

I also pray to God to grant peace to Katie.

With warm regards.

Anand

Anand Kumar, former Solution Exchange India National Coordinator

Dear Steve,

Deeply saddened by your loss!

My heart goes out to you and your family in your time of sorrow. May God provide you enough strength to face the difficult time.

Your family is in my prayers.

With heavy heart

Gayatri

Gayatri Maheshwary, former Solution Exchange India colleague

Dear Steve,

Heartfelt condolences in this period of loss and grief.

With regards

Joy

Joy Elamon, former Solution Exchange India Facilitator

Dear Steve,

What sad news. Sorry to hear. Can so understand the sadness when health deteriorates of loved ones and one is so helpless.

Deepika

Deepika Naruka, Former Solution Exchange India Research Associate

Dear Steve,

We will always remember Katie as one strong person, and the only one who could be such a lovely host. We all will surely miss her. She was such a wonderful person too. May her soul rest in peace and the Almighty give the strength and courage to Steve and the family to bear with this loss.

With best regards,

Rafique

PS: I still remember how we used to fight over her cookies, whenever you brought them for our meetings, or if we happened to go over when she was in town.

Dr. E. Mohamed Rafique, Former Solution Exchange India Facilitator

Dear Steve:

Please accept my heartfelt condolences. I am deeply shocked and so disturbed to hear the news.

It was always such a pleasure to meet Katie, when she came down to Delhi, to be with you. Her warmth, energy and enthusiasm were so contagious and it was always a wonderfully enjoyable time to be with her.

Steve, I just do not know what to say, just to let you know that you, Joanna and Mac are in my thoughts.

With fond regards

Monica

Monica Raina, former Solution Exchange India Deputy Coordinator

Dear Steve,

I was shocked and deeply saddened to hear about Katie. I have some beautiful memories of warm, loving and generous Katie. I am glad I had the opportunity to know her. I met her last just before I left SE. She had invite all RAs for an all girls Lunch. She was sitting next to me and we talked a lot.

May God give you and your family strength to bear this immense loss, Steve.

Warm regards,

Rituu

Rituu Nanda, former Solution Exchange India Research Associate

Steve,

We deeply mourn. May her soul rest in peace. Pray God will give you all strength to bear with this loss.

Gopi

Gopi Ghosh, Deputy Representative FAO India, Delhi

Dear Steve,

Although no words can really help to ease the pain. I am really sorry to hear about Katie. Please stay strong for her sake and the family.

She will be in our prayers and thoughts.

Warm regards,

Sarika

Sarika Dhawan, UNICEF India, Delhi

Steve / Mac, greetings from Bangkok. I just learned of the very sad news of Katie's passing and wanted to express my sincere condolences to you and your family – times like these are never easy and I just wanted to let you know that all of you are in thought.

Please do let me know if there is anything that I can do at this time.

Best of wishes,

Johan

Johan Arvling, ILO Bangkok

Dear Steve, am so sorry to hear.. my heartfelt condolences! We will miss her terribly. I know only too well what it feels like to lose a loved one.

Pls don't return to work anytime soon, spend time with Mac & Jo.

Sorry once again, may her soul rest in peace.

Take care, Ramya

Ramya Gopalan, Solution Exchange and UNDP Bangkok

Dear Steve,

Our hearts go out to you. Katie was an amazing women and will truly be missed... please know we are thinking of you, Joanna and Mac...

Sarah & Arif

Sarah Figge Hussain and Arif Hussain, Solution Exchange colleagues

Dear Steve,

We are with you in this time of grief. Sincere heartfelt prayers for Katie. Please give a warm hug to joanna.

Warm regards

Nupur & Manu

Nupur Arora, UNDP Solution Exchange Facilitator, and husband

Dear Steve,

Ramya informed me that you lost your wife, Katie, yesterday. You had mentioned the ordeals that she had been through, but I guess, being an eternal optimist, that I assumed that things were more or less in hand. So this news caught me off-guard.

I am so sorry for this loss, and sure that it will redefine your life.

I wish you strength and composure, both of which you have in abundance, during this difficult time, and look forward to seeing you back in Thailand.

With best wishes and a heavy heart,

Sandy

Norman Sanders, former UNDP colleague

Steve – I heard from Ramya that Katie passed away. I just want to offer you my support and condolences for you and the family. Tough times I know but I really hope all is well and we see each other soon.

All my best,

David

David Galipeau, UNDP Bangkok colleague

Dear Steve,

We just received an email from Ramya via Robert informing us of your wife, Katie, passing away. I am so sorry for your loss. My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. May you have the strength to get through this difficult time.

My prayers are with you.

Shahana

*Shahana Siddiqui, Community Facilitation Coordinator (Urban Poverty)
Solution Exchange UNDP Bangladesh*

Dear Steve, my deepest sympathies to you and your family on Katie's passing. Wishing you peace of mind and strength to keep on doing all the good things you do despite her absence from your side. Robert

Robert Juhkam, Deputy Country Director UNDP Bangladesh, Dhaka

Dear Steve, Mac & Joanna,

The three of us have been in Cambodia for the past week to finalise the adoption of our second daughter. She is 3-years old, her name is Thida, and personality wise she seems a lot like Elija. A spunky girl, as Katie called Elija when she met her in Delhi.

We received the very sad news about Katie yesterday, the same day we signed the final adoption papers for Thida. It is a strange mix of feelings, also knowing that Katie would have loved to meet Thida.

Our heartfelt condolences, we are thinking of all of you, and we will remember Katie forever as someone who always lit up the room.

Love,

Melinda, Jo, Elija and Thida

Jo and Melinda Scheuer, UNDP friends

Dear Steve

Greetings from Tarrytown. I was very sorry to hear today the news that Katie has passed away. I still remember her from the short time I knew her in Ghana – somehow she made a lasting impression on me.

I would like to express my sympathies to you and all your family. My thoughts are with you and I wish you the strength to go through these difficult times.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help

With deepest condolences

Nicholas

Nicholas Rosellini, Director UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Centre, Bangkok

Dear Steve,
Please accept my heartfelt condolence on your wife's demise! We know she has been suffering for quite sometime now. May Allah rest her soul in peace!

*Dilruba Haider, Community Facilitation Coordinator
Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction Community, Solution Exchange Bangladesh*

Hi Steve,

I am really sorry to hear about your loss. Katie was a very special person and I am glad that I had the opportunity to know her. She will be in our prayers.

Best,
Nupur Bahl

Former UNDP Solution Exchange Research Associate

Dear Steve,

I am very sorry to hear about the passing of your wife. May God have mercy on her soul. You have my deepest of condolences. It must be very hard for you right now. I hope you are able to stay strong and pray for the departed soul.

Best

Shibaab

*Shibaab Rahman, Community Research Associate (Urban Poverty)
Solution Exchange UNDP Bangladesh*

Dear Steve,

I am sorry to hear about your loss.

Your family is in our prayers.

Take care,
Isaac

Isaac Vivek, friend from India

Dear Steve,

Please accept my condolences. I heard that Kate passed away today morning. This is a very sad moment for all of us. Thank you for being so helpful while you were going through this difficult moment.

Manoj

Manoj Basnyat, Country Director UNDP Afghanistan, Kabul

Dear Steve,

I feel so terrible having received the information on Katie. My heart goes out to you and the kids and I pray for you all.

With warmest regards.

Alvaro

Alvaro Rodriguez, Country Director UNDP Somalia, Nairobi

Dear Steve – I would like to express my sincerest condolences for the passing away of your wife. I wish you a lot of strength in this difficult time and hope to be seeing you in the near future. Stefan

Stefan Priesner, Country Director UNDP Bangladesh, Dhaka

Dear Steve:

It is with deep regret that I learned of Katie's passing. Katie and your entire family were always so kind and welcoming to us all, and we remember and very much appreciated the gifts of time, kindness, and good humour that she shared with us. I understand she had been ill recently, and so it is good that her suffering has come to an end. I wish you and the children sincerest condolences and courage and peace as you cope in the coming days, months, and years.

Know you have lots of support, and take good care of yourself.

Michelle

Michelle Gyles-Mcdonough, UN Resident Coordinator Barbados and the OECS

Dear Steve,

I have just learnt about the passing of your wife Katie. I am so sorry, shocked really, because I was just thinking recently that it would be nice to get in touch again. I remember her well when she entertained us at your home, and the stories and pictures from your early days in Asia. Please accept, from my family and myself, our heartfelt condolences to you and your children. I wish strength and peace during this time of mourning that you will be comforted by the knowledge that you were given an opportunity to share a big part of your life together and have the children, not only to be there for, but also to remind you of Katie.

May her soul rest in peace

Warmly

Joseph

Joseph Mugore, former UNDP staff member

Dear Sir,

This is really a very bad news. Pls accept my sincere condolences. I can pray to god to give you and your family the strength and courage to cope with this loss.

Regards,
Munuswami Naidu
House person in Delhi

Hi Steve,

I realize these are difficult times for you. I am very sorry for your loss. Katie will always have a very sunny spot in my memory.

My best to Mac and Joanne.

Take care of yourself.

Warm regards,

Martin

Martin Backlund, former UN colleague

Dear Steve,

There is no easy way to say it but to express our deep solidarity with you and your son and daughter in this difficult pass. Like in the mountains it took a long time to master the way to get to the other side. I know how unique your family was and how special it will have to be. Katie was bigger than life and those of us who witness her generosity will cherish and remember her friendliness.

Take care my brother. Carlos

Carlos Lopes, Associate Administrator/Director UN Staff College Turin

Dear Steve,

What can I say my friend? Whatever said is not enough. Please accept our condolences and count us as many of your friends who are so saddened by this great tragedy. Katie was a great woman and she will be missed by many.

Our love to you and the kids.

On behalf of my family and all of the colleagues in Turin.

Jafar

Jafar Javan, Deputy Director UN System Staff College Turin

Dear Steve,

It is always difficult to find words to express sympathy when we learn about a friend's suffering. Although I did not know you wife, having met you and listened to the affection and admiration you always showed when referring to her during our short time together, I can imagine what a wonderful person the world and your family has lost.

I'll pray for her, your family and yourself, so that you may find the strength to overcome this blow and continue inspiring those who get the pleasure of meeting you.

With warm regards,
Miguel Panadero

Learning and Training Specialist, UN Staff College Turin

Dear Steve,

Am glad to hear you all are doing okay. I was so very sad to learn about Katie's health but am sure she is now in peace. You and Katie are actually an inspiration for Aftab and I as we saw you both as an energetic couple leading very active and fulfilling lives. We are always here for you and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

With love,
Aftab, Anjum and Umeed

Anjum Khalidi and family, former Solution Exchange Facilitator

Dear Steve,

I just recently learned of your family's loss and wanted to convey my deepest condolences. I cannot begin to imagine what you must be going through now but I hope, in time, you will find solace.

Take care
Tam

Tam Pham, UNDP colleague

Dear Steve, just learnt from Manoj about your tragedy, my whole heartfelt condolences.

You had such a bright soul next to you, and her departure should be very painful, let God bless her

Warmly, David

David Akopyan, Deputy Country Director UNDP Kabul

Dear Steve,

I came to know from Nupur Arora about your wife's demise. I pray for smooth merger of her soul with the supreme soul. I am sure that God will give you strength to bear the loss. Please take care.

Warm regards, Navin

Navin Anand, Solution Exchange Facilitator UNDP Delhi

Dear Steve,

I am very sorry to hear about your loss. I spent several wonderful moments with Katie during our SE social outings and have fond memories, i will always remember her as a loving and caring person with a lot of positive energy. My thoughts are with you and your family.

I still remember the delicious brownies and cookies you used to bring back from the US.

Best regards,
Gitanjali

Gitanjali Sah, former Solution Exchange India Research Associate

Dear Steve, Joanna and Mac,

It is with such sadness I received the news of Katie's passing. She was a very special person and lived her life with such passion. She never hesitated to let us know how much she loved the three of you and the joy and pride you brought to her life. We worked together as part of the original group of "Gary's girls" and shared many discussions of our ups and downs of work, family and friends. She never ran out of stories about Mac and Joanna and of course Steve. Although, I was not able to see Katie during her illness, much of her advice and that wonderful laugh would come to my mind quite often. While I know there is nothing I can say to ease what you are feeling...I would just like you to know what a great lady I thought she was.

Please accept my heartfelt condolences and know Katie will hold a special place in my heart always.

Wishing you all God's blessings and peace in your memories.

She is missed.
Judy

Judy Thau, Wright Group friend

More e-mails... (to Richard and Joanna)

Dear Joanna.

I feel very much for Katie. She was such a wonderful person. We all will keep good memories of her.

Please say my regards for your dad.

Love

Filinto Moraes *The Moraes' family, Westport friends now in Brazil*

Dear Richard

My deepest condolences to you on the passing of your daughter Kate. Losing a child is a grievous time for a parent. May she rest in Peace

Milt

Miton Schiffman, Richard's accountant, who Richard knew and worked with in publishing for years and years, now retired and living in Florida

Dear Richard- please accept Marj and my condolences. We cannot adequately express our sympathy at your loss. The loss of a child is terrible and cancer is a terrible way to go. If there is a fund or favorite charity please let us know.

Walter & Marj *Walter Tolub is in Richard's book reading club*

Richard, hi. Ricki and I are so sad to hear your news. We were touched to hear your reports as you and Jill travelled with Kate and made so much time to be with her and family in Connecticut this past year.

Our hearts are with all of you,

Dick & Ricki *Dick Burgheim is another book group member*

Richard and family:

Our thoughts go out to you. We are all so vulnerable, always.

Tom Ashton, *Richard's gym buddy*

Messages added at/after the Memorial Service (8 July)

To Steve and Family

Katie and I were business friends and became good friends in Westport. Curt & I will miss her delightful personality and warm heart!

Sincerely
Janet Davis and Curt Tetrault

Westport friends

Dear Steve & Family

Katie was and is missed by all.

I was a friend through business and I will miss her "bigger than life" personality and caring nature!

Beth Lathrop

Wright Group friend

(Condolence cards received after the service)

It was a privilege to be at Katie's memorial service. What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful woman.

Thinking of you all.

Ted and Ellen

The See's, Shady Harbor friends

Dear Steve and Mac and Joanna

Sending all of you peace and love in this difficult time. We all loved Katie and will think of her always

Zoya, Julian, George

Zoya Kacur, George Brown and son Julian, Shady Harbor friends

Steve,

I hope everything has calmed down for you and you are able to enjoy some peace on your own. I was able to see Mac and Jo before they left and they mentioned to me that you were compiling a book of writings for Katie and I wanted to share what I had wrote but wasn't able to share at the service.

As a friend of Mac's, I got to meet Katie at a very early age in my life and she quite quickly became my other mother. She bestowed upon me sage words of wisdom like "less is more" or "that's none of your business!", she would praise me when it was earned and even at times she would air me on the side of caution as any good mother would. Katie was one of the smartest people I have ever met. She knew what was important in her life and never hesitated to achieve it, while at the same time pushing others to do the same for themselves (maybe even forcefully). I will miss the times that I could come to her, to explain to me how life works. In return I felt I could offer her a bit of my youthfulness. So all though Katie is no longer here for us to enjoy in person we can all reminisce in our memories of her as a loving person that seemed to always have time for the ones she loved, and those memories will live within us all forever.

Sincerely,

Dylan

Dylan Fitzpatrick, friend of Mac, New York NY

Dear Steve

I am so sorry for your loss. The one thing I keep thinking is – how wonderful it is that you and Katie lived such a full life together. Katie brought so much openness and joy to those around her, and that is a beautiful gift to give the world.

I am thinking of you and your family and sending you all my love

Andrea

Andrea Papan, Steve's former UNDP colleague, Halifax NS

To Steve, Mac, Joanna, Richard Gallagher and families:

I share your pain in losing Katie. Katie was a remarkable and amazing woman whom we loved dearly. We treasured our friendship. We shall miss her greatly and she will not ever be forgotten. I, too, lost an adult son, Donny, many years ago and the pain continues to linger. Though Donny was bed ridden for many years with Multiple Sclerosis, he was an intelligent, compassionate person and was an inspiration to all who knew him. He took what God gave him with grace and dignity and never asked, why. He dictated to me many beautiful poems which he composed and which I collected for him. I compiled a book of his poetry, but found the following verse elsewhere which I felt was so appropriate and so much of how Donny felt, that I included it at the end of his book. I'd like to share it with you all, hoping it gives you the comfort and peace that it has given me through these past years.

"Death is nothing at all...."

Death is nothing at all - I have only slipped away into the next room. I am I, and you are you. Whatever we were to each other, that we still are. Call me by my old familiar name, Speak to me in the easy way you always used. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without the ghost of a shadow upon it. Life means all that it ever meant ... There is absolutely unbroken continuity.

What is death but a negligible accident? Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am waiting for you - for an interval - somewhere near just around the corner. All is well.

(by Henry Scott Holland)

May God grant you all peace and understanding through these difficult times.

Your friend,
Zippi Keil

Shady Harbor friend

Memorial Service for Katie Gallagher

Unitarian Church, Westport

Friday 8 July 2011

3:00-4:00 pm

"A Celebration of the Circle of Light and Love"

PROGRAM

Prelude Music selection (guests are seated)

Opening Reading and Welcome Reverend Frank Hall

Readings Leslie Berkowitz
Kathy Jamison (read by Pamela Einarsen)
Mary McDowell

Silent Meditation and Shared Reflection

Memorial Statements Steve Glovinsky
Richard Gallagher and Cynthia Gallagher
Patricia Apoian
Dan Treible
Connie and Michael Erlanger
Dana Hollis

Invitation to share personal remembrances
(Please keep statements to 2 minutes each)

Closing Reading Reverend Hall

Postlude "Give a Little", Nicolette Larson (1979)

Reception in the foyer after the service