



## Kathryn Herbener

September 2, 1964 - February 14, 2010

The world lost some of its light when Kathy Herbener left it at 2:30 am on Feb. 14. Among those mourning her loss are her husband Steve, daughter Brynna, stepson Mike, parents Karen and Richard Weismehl, sisters Debby (Barry) Sattler and Elizabeth Weismehl. She also leaves behind loving aunts and uncles and in-laws. Kathryn Rae Weismehl was born September 2nd, 1964 in Chicago to Karen and Richard Weismehl. She grew up in Evanston, Illinois and attended Washington University in St. Louis graduating with a master's degree in electrical engineering. She went to work for Hewlett-Packard in the Pacific Northwest. In 1993 she married Stephen Richard Herbener and they moved to Fort Collins, Colorado. Their beautiful daughter Brynna was born in Fort Collins, June 8th, 1998. In 2005, Kathy decided to pursue a career change to the field of ecology and enrolled in a PhD program at CSU. Before her death, Kathy was working at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory under a grant for her PhD. Kathy had many interests and was particularly passionate about birds and singing. There was many a meal where a pair of binoculars served as the dinner table centerpiece just in case something interesting flew by. Kathy was also a fine musician with an unusually uplifting voice. She came from a musical family and had early training. Her solos as a member of the Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers thrilled audiences. In spite of her long illness and the devastating treatments, Kathy continued to care for her daughter and husband, to remain active in her groups, and to complete all the course work toward her Ph.D. in Ecology. Kathy fought her battle against

cancer with determination and grit. She was upbeat and accepting, witty and articulate. It was a joy to be with her, laughing at her jokes and planning adventures. Kathy was an active member of the Foothills Unitarian Church. A celebration of her life will take place Sunday afternoon, Feb. 21 at 2:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church at 1005 Stover St. Another passion of Kathy's was for the wonderful community supported agriculture farms in the Fort Collins area. She was actively involved in the operations of Cresset and Happy Heart farms. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to help out these farms or to the Feeding the Families Initiative which exists to provide the local farm produce to families in need. Cresset Farm can be contacted at [www.cressetcommunityfarm.com](http://www.cressetcommunityfarm.com), Happy Heart Farm and Feeding the Families Initiative can be contacted at [www.happyheartfarmcsa.com](http://www.happyheartfarmcsa.com), [info@happyheartfarmcsa.com](mailto:info@happyheartfarmcsa.com), or (970) 482-3448.

# Tribute Wall



“ Kathryn Herbener

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *What a gentle spirit Kathy was. Her kind heart made people feel at home with her, and she saw the funny side of life too. Her sparkly nature and warm smile made you feel happy to be around her, and her enthusiasm for learning and life was an inspiration.*

*Steve, Brynna, and Mike, as well as all the rest of the family, you are in our hearts.*

*Colleen, Bill, Emily, Ryan and Maria*

Colleen Hanna - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *I will miss Kathy along with so many of you that were also blessed by her friendship!*

*I was so very honored when Kathy became part of my life about 10 years ago. We were part of a very wonderful group in HP that we called the "Babblings." I think that the group was special because of Kathy's energy and love and joy! I have so many great memories of Kathy. To name a few - hiking with our daughters as she showed me the beauty of the area, laughing at Babbling luncheons, hearing her sing, going to the Rialto with her, having dinner at her house with the team, and of course a thousand geeky things from work that we all loved!*

*Kathy's life was truly an example of living life well. She inspired us all to be better people. Kathy - we love you very much and will miss you.*

Kelly Pracht - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Dear Kathy,

*I'm so sorry that I lost touch with you these past few years. I still remember eating dinner at your house the last time I came to Colorado. You made me feel so welcome. Just as you did that shy scared SEED intern at HP 15 years ago whom you helped to groom into the career woman she is today. You taught me so much about integrity and work life balance. Lessons I will never forget. I shall miss your presence on this earth and keep you forever in my thoughts.*

*love forever and my utter and complete respect,*

*Aastha Verma*

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**Aastha Verma** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ *What a privilege it was to perform with Kathy on Jan. 24 for the LOT afternoon...and what a shame that it had to be Kathy's last. Her voice was beautiful and her person even more so. She will be sorely missed. My sympathy and condolences to you, Steve, and to your family. May you find strength and courage through this difficult time.*

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**Leanne Griffey** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *It was always a positive experience to work and talk with Kathy. Her bright attitude made everyone around her feel good. I was sadden to hear of Kathy's passing, knowing it would leave a big void, but I also know her life made a positive difference to many.*

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**Jerry D'Amato** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ Dear Brynna, Steve and family,

*We are heartbroken for your, and our, loss. Kathy was a beautiful person, inside and out. She had such compassion for everything around her. So true to her beliefs, and so giving and caring to those around her. We feel truly blessed to have known her and to have shared many experiences as our children grew. Her heartwarming and glowing smile will remain etched in our hearts and minds. May you be comforted by all of the wonderful memories you created together.*

*Love,*

*Tracy, Steven, Aaron and Sophie Pickelner*

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**Tracy Tostowaryk** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *We send our care and condolences to Kathy's family and loved ones. Kathy was a delightful person to know. Her courage and commitment to what she cared about and believed in was a model for all of us to aspire to. We are honored to have known her. Indeed, our loss of her is a light gone out of the world.*

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**Jan Latona** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Steve and family,

*We were so shocked and saddened to hear about Kathy. All I could think about were the concerts and awesome trip to D.C. in '97, Kathy's voice (a 'lark'!) and many fond memories we had from my 5 yrs. with the Singers!  
May God comfort you and bless you.*

*Kindly,*

*Doug and Dee*

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**Doug and Dee Wyffels** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Steve,

*We're so sorry to hear of your great loss of Kathy. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Our deepest sympathy to all of you.*

*Dick & Carol*

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**Dick & Carol Boehm** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ To the Family of Kathy Herbener,

*We are so sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. She was a wonderful woman who approached life with enthusiasm, grace and courage. May your memories of Kathy bring you comfort at this difficult time.*

*With Sympathy,*

*Hope Lives! The Lydia Dody Breast Cancer Foundation*

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**Hope Lives!** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JU

“ I have thought so much about Kathy since I heard about her death. The world has truly lost a special person. Kathy always has had such a beautiful spirit, such a positive attitude and an energy and enthusiasm for life. I will truly miss her.

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**Joy Ungaretti** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Steve and Brynna,

*I have only just heard of Kathy's passing and am shocked and saddened by the news. Kathy was a wonderful person, sweet and gentle, and her passing is a loss for those of us who knew her. My own sister died of cancer in 2006, so I understand a little of what you went through and the devastation that cancer leaves in its wake. I will always remember the time spent with Kathy during graduate school in St. Louis and doing research in California. It was an honor to share those experiences with her. Kathy will be greatly missed.*

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**Jay R Hoinville** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ To the Weismehl and Herbener families, I wish to express my deepest condolences. Kathy and I were classmates through much of school together in Skokie/Evanston; our connections were through music and a number of classes we shared in high school. I was very saddened when another classmate contacted me with this information via Facebook.

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**Larry Perlman** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ I knew Kathy through Wendy Herbener Mehne, my girlfriend and Steve's sister. Kathy was a wonderful person. She was so warm and nice that, aside from her sporting a stocking cap, it was not apparent how dire her health situation was. My condolences go out to her parents, her two sisters, young daughter Brynna and stepson Mike, all of whom I met just two months ago, and to Steve, a great guy who drove to Winter Park to meet me for a ski day a couple of years back.

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**Brian (Fred) Danaher** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JZ

“ I loved volunteering with Kathy. She has had a huge influence on me. Kathy recruited me to be a girl scout leader with her in Corvallis when we were both young professionals. She was so wonderful with the middle school girls, and so committed to helping them make sense of their world, make good choices, and make the world a better place. She especially wanted to expose them to math and science as viable career opportunities. Because of her lead, I've been engaged with leading young girls, and introducing them to math and science for the past 20 years. I'm so sad to hear of her passing. She was a bright light for so many...her legacy will live on with those she touched.

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**Jason Zions** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Steve & Brynna - you and Kathy have been among my first friends at Foothills Unitarian. Through church and boardgames and Buckhorn you've all been part of that extended family I've come to love and hold so dear. I am sorry Kathy has left us, although I'm happy she had a good death. She truly was an exemplar of grace in the face of adversity. I will keep that near my heart for the rest of my days. May we all find such grace in our living and in our dying.

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**Lenny Scovel** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SY

“ I met Kathy on a backpacking trip in Rocky Mountain National Park several years ago. Three of us shared a snowy night out in tents and a hike the following day.

*The hike started out in a drizzel, then turned into hiking in the clouds and finally a hike above the clouds.*

*It was a magical time and made even better by Kathy's presence. She was the warmest, nicest person I've ever met.*

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**Sylvia** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Kathy inspired me to eat turnips! One day last fall, she left brochures for Cresset Family Farm's winter CSA in the break room here at NREL. We had been thinking of doing a summer CSA but didn't know about winter CSAs. Though we were skeptical of so much turnip and soured veggies, we decided to take the plunge. We made a pact that we would do our best to only eat CSA veggies this winter and to eat everything we received. Kathy and other members of the CSA have been inspirational and I'm happy to report that thanks to her, we've found new ways to eat turnip and met some veggies we'd never even heard of (a favorite being tatsoi). We're definitely hooked and we're going to do a summer CSA this year. Thanks Kathy!

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**Shawna McMahon** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *Kathy will be sorely missed. Our lives will be a little less full without her smile, her talent and her heart.*

*Our hearts go out to Steve and Brenna and we wish we were closer to help out.*

*Amy, Ananda, Zoe and Maya*

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**Amy Wimberger** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ *Hi Steve and Brynna,*

*I am so glad I got to know your Mom, she had such a golden aura. She was a wonderful friend and will be dearly miss. I always admired her courage and upbeat spirit when she was battling her cancer. Brynna you are such a lovely and strong person, your parents did a great job. My prayers are with you*  
*Love*

*Nicole, Ken and YAnn*

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**Nicole Butel** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *I will always remember and hold dear Kathy and her extreme love of life. She had an enthusiasm for life that you could not help but catch. She was a child in curiosity, an adult in knowledge but with some things many adults don't have - a constant desire to learn more and a way of speaking to anyone, of any age and being able to share her knowledge with them and make them feel empowered. Once you met Kathy once, you were a friend for life. She always remembered you, your family, your interests. She was a remarkable and wonderful lady. I miss her deeply and will continue to miss her all my days.*

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**Shawn Walter** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ Kathy's Family,

*I will miss Kathy. When they were passing our moxie, she got an extra dose.*

*I am wrapping you all in warmth and love. Losing someone as compassionate, courageous and wise as Kathy is especially sad. She touched so many hearts and so many lives.*

*I remember when we first met, at the Couples Facing Cancer workshop. Jay and I felt especially close to you and Kathy, Steve. We liked how optimistic you both were, in spite of facing such a difficult challenge. You inspired us.*

*Embrace your sweet love for Kathy, and always remember how lucky you are that she loved you, too.*

xxx,  
Michelle

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**Michelle Venus** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *I remember Kathy and Brynna coming to pick strawberries. Such fun! Kathy had a depth of knowledge and a width of interests that made the visit much too short. Every time I saw her she had a cheerful word and smile. Our community has lost a shining spirit.*

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**April** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ I only knew Kathy briefly from working with the vegetable distribution. When I had to call her on the phone recently to figure out where Cresset Farm was, she was most gracious and helpful. I was surprised to see if her death in the paper today, and am sorry I did not get to know her better.

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**Catherine Janonis** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ It was a pleasure and honor to work with Kathy. She was always such a positive bright person in spite of all the physical pressures she was going through. Allow those good memories of her to stay with you to keep you going when things are tough and also to keep you appreciative when things go well. Our thoughts are with you.

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**Jeff Ray** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Steve and Brynna:

*I realize that we were never terribly close, but Kathy's passing has really hit me.*

*I ask myself why and I realize it is because I always thought of her as such a good person. That word, "good," is so broad and weak that it doesn't capture it all but it's the word that comes to mind when I think of Kathy.*

*When I think of your family I see three smiling faces. You are all always smiling, and that's a great thing. Please let me know if there is anything you or Brynna need. I am happy to help.*

*Namaste to you all.*

*Kurt*

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**Kurt Wimberger** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *May Kathy's unfailing love and gentle spirit remain securely attached to Brynna's heart. We will miss you, Kathy.*

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**Sandy Posner** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ *Kathy and I met during our freshman year of college and became good friends. We shared our interest in music, we struggled together through many tough engineering classes, we shared an apartment in grad school, and we had many great laughs together. I will always remember Kathy as the person who smiled no matter what. She was always kind and set a great example for everyone around her. The world has definitely lost a great person.*

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**Gail Lalk** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Whether it was the nature walk at Camp Buckhorn or game nights at church, we will always remember Kathy's friendly smile and warm spirit. Our family has been in Fort Collins for only three years and Kathy, Steve, and Brynna was only one of two families to invite us over for Thanksgiving dinner (which we've had with the Herbeners the past two years). In 2008 when our friends from New Jersey unexpectedly came to visit us for the holidays we called Kathy at the last minute and her response was "bring them along...we have plenty to eat." Thanks you Steve and Brynna for sharing Kathy, your home, and great organic food with our family.  
Love,  
Richard, Deborah-Eve, Bevan and Lyndall

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**Richard Breaux** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Kathy was a wonderful friend and role model. She will be dearly miss. Steve and family, my prayers are with you all.  
Jerry Fremaint

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**Jerry Fremaint** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MH

“Kathy was my colleague and dear friend. I first met Kathy when I was training to be a naturalist for the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program. Kathy had been a naturalist for several years by then, and she was often asked to help with training. Afterwards, many commented on her talent and enthusiasm for interpretation. I got to know Kathy personally when she enrolled in the Graduate Ecology Program at CSU. I was so thrilled about that! In class she was conscientious, inquisitive, and never took anything she heard for granted. She wanted to thoroughly understand everything, and I was inspired by that. She seemed to be in her element studying Ecology; she enjoyed the process of learning and the people she met along the way. She was often thinking of ways to share what she learned with others. She also seemed to have a good balance between study time, family time, and taking time out just to enjoy a beautiful day. You'd always see Kathy leave at about the same time every day to pick up her daughter.

*Kathy and I also shared a love for birds. Kathy came into my office periodically to share her bird questions and stories. When I read in her obituary how binoculars were often a centerpiece on the dinner table, I couldn't hold back a big stream of tears. I am going to miss her so much!*

*Not only was Kathy a joy to spend time with, but she and Steve together were great. One evening after having dinner with them, I got home and had such a tremendously good feeling. I can't describe it well in words.*

*Their warmth, joy, genuineness, and love for each other just rubbed off on you! I cherish all the times I had with Kathy. Everyone who knows her seems to have a unique story about how Kathy touched their lives. I only regret that I never heard her sing! My heart goes out to her family, especially Steve and Brynna.*

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Melannie Hartman - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ I have only known you for a few months, but you have inspired me for a life time. You are truly a beautiful person and have changed the way that I will live the rest of my life because I was blessed with the opportunity to have met you. Thank you Kathy!

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**Rachel Page** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Steve and Brynna, I'm so honored that I got to meet your mother and be a witness to her gifts - those she exhibited as a mother, a lovely woman, a gentle human being, and as a talented musician. There are people you meet each day that just 'feel good' to be around, and she sure was one of them, even during these most-difficult times.

*I think it's fitting that she passed from this phase of her life on a day that we all celebrate as a day of love. I hope that it will be an anniversary which will eventually mostly remind you both of the great love that she shared with you both.*

*It goes without saying from most of the people you know, I'm sure, but "if there is ever anything I can do", please don't hesitate to ask.*

*Dru :)*

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**Dru Van Doren** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I first met Kathy in HP women's groups, and then later in the UU church. I can't ever remember seeing her without a warm smile on her face.

*When I first heard that she was gone, it felt like a bright light had been extinguished. And yet, she touched the hearts of so many people...instead I believe that light is not gone, but now dispersed amongst us all.*

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**Lisa Stroyan** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *Brynna and Steve: Running into Kathy and you, Steve, at the hospital just days before her passing, after so many years, has filled me with such grace and wonder. I am so glad I got to see her. Brynna, I have such fond memories of our time together in preschool. Remember when Mom took us on a Master Naturalist trip to Cathy Fromme Prairie? May all of the memories that the three of you have shared bring comfort during this difficult time. Know that I am thinking of you with so much love.*

*Lorie*

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**Lorie Federman** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ Steve, Brynna and Family, I will always treasure meeting and getting to know Kathy. What fond memories I have of Kathy from our prenatal water aerobics class bobbin' with excitement and anticipation. Once Brynna and Andre were born, we got to know and love Kathy more from our baby/mom playgroup. What a wonderful time we shared watching our babies grow, sharing their milestones and learning from each other. You were truly an amazing woman and an inspiration to us all. I will miss your love of life and enthusiastic spirit! My thoughts and prayers are with you all. XOXO, Penny, Andre and Nicolas.

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**Penny** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ A lovely voice and wonderful spirit. Thank you, Kathy, for all the beauty you gave us.

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**Jamie Folsom** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Dear Family of Kathy,  
My deepest sympathy to you as I just heard of Kathy's death. I first met Kathy working with her at Hewlett-Packard. There her smile and joy of life were present everytime I had the pleasure to visit with her. What a dear person. As the years went on our paths crossed many times, in my neighborhood, at CSU but the last time I saw her was at the Oncology clinic when I was taking my mother for chemo treatments. Even though Kathy was going through cancer treatments herself her smile and interest in what was going on in my life seemed far more important to her than worrying about her problems. She was a light in our world and will be greatly missed by many, many people she was involved with I am sure!  
Bless you all as you grieve for her and know that she will want you to live your life to the fullest as soon as you are able to do that in her honor.  
Rebecca Martin

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**Rebecca Martin** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

IA

“ My dear friend Kathy! You have been an inspiration to many of us in your fight against cancer, in your determination, in your strength. You have been generous with your friends with your love, passion, respect and understanding. You embraced and cherished multiculturalism, you have been an amazing humanitarian, caring for our children, environment, people and our planet. You have been sunshine in our lives, always optimistic, encouraging and supportive. You will live forever in our hearts! And we will forever miss you.

*Inna, Roger and Paulina Andrews*

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**Inna Andrews** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ I don't remember if I met Kathy first through church or Harris Elementary, but even before I got to know her I marveled at what a friendly, happy person she was. I am honored to have gotten to know her over the past 5 or so years. We shared a love of nature, biology, ecology, and things yarny. Despite her many friends, she still sought me out and convinced me to participate in things with her. I got to see her expertise as a naturalist when we cohosted a nature walk at Buckhorn (her idea) and her love of local organic food when we cohosted a dinner for the church services auction just a month ago (again, her idea). The time I will best remember, however, is sharing a room with her at the Estes Park Wool Market last year when we both signed up for workshops. I have never met anyone with more of a love for life than Kathy. She was so excited about learning to spin on a spinning wheel that she was glowing. I'll always remember her and cherish the example she set with her love of learning new things and her cheerful, happy nature. It seems to keep coming us that a light went out (or was dispersed - I like that!) when she died. She really was a brilliant soul who will be missed by so many, me included. Steve and Brynna, you are so lucky to have shared her life, but then, you already knew that! My heart goes out to you right now. Please call if I can do anything for either of you.

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**Shanna Henk** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ It was with great pleasure to have worked with Kathryn. She always had a beautiful smile to share and was always so willing to help in anyway she could.

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**Jo Huffaker** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ I can't think of Kathy without imagining her wonderful, constant smile. What a lovely person! Her enthusiasm for life and learning will always inspire me.

*I so enjoyed getting to know her over the last few years in many healthy, local food adventures--bread making, kefir and milk, CSA vegetable shares, and fermented foods.*

*Dear Steve and Brynna, thank you for sharing Kathy with the rest of us and for your wonderful family. You have all supported so many of us in many ways. I hope you can feel our love and support for you in your loss.*

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**Bonnie Thompson** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ When I last saw Kathy several years ago, early in her illness, I asked her how she was - inquiring, of course, about her health. Her reply was a big smile and a totally sincere "Wonderful!" In retrospect, things WERE wonderful - she had a daughter who was a pure delight to her, a terrific family, and was living a life she wanted to live.

*Although she will be missed by all who knew her, I suspect her close family will always feel her presence in their life in the years to come.*

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**Mercedes Gil** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FL

“ Working with you at HP was excellent.

*Daughter Anna and son John have been busy doing musical theater- you would have liked that.*

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**Frank Lettang** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Dear Steve and Brynna,

*We are so sorry for your loss of Kathy, a fabulous a wife and mother, and know she will always reside in your hearts and thoughts. She often spoke so lovingly of her family and was always so proud of you, Brynna. From all Iâ??ve read here in the caring words of others, she seemed to touch everyone with her positive and loving nature. I certainly witnessed her wonderful way-of-being firsthand.*

*I knew Kathy as a friend and colleague as she launched her new career in ecology. She expressed such joy not only about the quantitative aspects of ecology (math, models, spatial autocorrelation(!)) that she grasped so easily with her engineering background, but also the human and aesthetic parts (her strong interest in nature education and birds). With her colleagues, Kathy was so engaging, even effervescent â?? she clearly enjoyed her new career path, even as she battled her cancer. In her last conversation with me, she wanted to ensure a smooth transition of her project to those that can carry it forward â?? and I am more than happy to help with this in any way I can - for Kathy and her devotion to wetlands, birds, and the natural world around us all.*

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**Susan Skagen** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ My condolences to Kathy's family. Kathy and I became friends through our work with an HP intern named Aastha, where Kathy and I were her mentors and became like her family. Kathy was so warm and caring and intelligent, and always seemed to bring people together like a family. We really enjoyed the BBQ's at her family's home during that summer. She is in good hands with soul friends now.

Sat nam,  
Annette

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Annette Cormier - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ I initially met Kathy back at Hewlett-Packard in Corvallis before she moved to Fort Collins. Eventually, I and my family moved here also, and I would occasionally cross paths with her. Always my recollections are of a caring and enthusiastic person, willing to go the extra mile for whomever needed her.

So my condolences especially go to you, Steve, and your family. I cannot begin to imagine the vacuum left behind in all of your lives by such an inside-out beautiful person as Kathy.

Sincerely,  
Mike Gilsdorf

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Mike Gilsdorf - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ I will greatly miss Kathy. She always brought happiness where ever we were. At her desk, in the lab or tackling a large problem in a design. She was a joy to have in the group and made me feel lucky to able to work with her. She had tremendously good judgment to know what was important to the company and to herself. After she left the group her friendship continued with all of us and was a great inspiration. I am envious of her life insight.  
I will paraphrase something my mother told me when my father passed away. You will never ever get over missing Kathy. You will only get use to it.

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**Sam Babb** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ Steve and Brynna,  
What a blessing having known Kathy as a mom, friend, and classroom volunteer! Her joy, dedication and enthusiasm in everything she did impressed me the most. My heart aches at hearing of her death, but my faith convinces me that she is in a better place where she is healthy and looking after Brynna and Steve. I feel blessed having seen her last year at Brynna's graduation. I will see you two Sunday. Love, Miriam

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**Miriam Villegas-Negron** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dear family and friends of Kathy:

*Regrettably I had not met Kathy personally; I had been looking forward to making her acquaintance sometime soon.*

*We had been emailing recently about her playa wetland research project through RMBO/EPA, and I was wondering why I had not heard from her lately. Now I know the sad reason.*

*I greatly appreciated Kathy's interest in wetland and bird research and conservation in Colorado. CDOW has pledged matching funds for her project. Please rest assured that we will continue to support the project, and will use the resulting information to guide conservation efforts as Kathy would have wished.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with you as you mourn her passing, and celebrate her life.*

*Sincerely,*

*Brian Sullivan  
Wetlands Program Coordinator  
Colorado Division of Wildlife  
Denver, CO*

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**Brian Sullivan** - February 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM