



City of Cambridge

23.

IN CITY COUNCIL
April 26, 1999

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Ann M. (Grosso) Kirklys on April 2, 1999; and

WHEREAS: Ann was a secretary at Boston College for twenty years; and

WHEREAS: Ann was instrumental in establishing the Faculty and Alumni Admission Volunteer Program at Boston College; and

WHEREAS: Ann was the devoted daughter of Theresa (Limoli) and the late Joseph Grosso; and

WHEREAS: Ann's passing will leave a void in the lives of all her surviving family, her husband Albert; her daughters Karen and Jennifer; her son Stephen; her mother Theresa; and her brother Joseph Grosso, Jr.; and

WHEREAS: Ann will be sorely missed by all she touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Ann M. Kirklys at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Kirklys family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council April 26, 1999.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Councilman Sullivan
uma
tt. all

23

KIRKLYS-In Revere, April 2, 1999, Ann M. (Grosso), beloved wife of Albert, devoted mother of Karen of Boston, Stephen of L.A., Jennifer of Revere, loving daughter of Theresa (Limoli) and the late Joseph Grosso. Dear sister of Joseph Grosso Jr. of Saugus. Funeral from the Bruno Funeral Chapel, 291 Revere St., REVERE Tuesday April 6 at 8 a.m. Funeral Mass in St. Anthony's Church at 9 a.m. Relatives and friends most kindly invited. Visiting hours Monday 4-8 p.m. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. Former Secretary of Boston College. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

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BOSTON COLLEGE
CHESTNUT HILL, MASSACHUSETTS 02167-3809

ALUMNI ADMISSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION
(617) 552-3100 (800) 360-2522

ms see 4/14/99

April 7, 1999

Dear Alumni Admission Volunteer:

I am writing to share with you the sad news that my assistant Ann Kirklys, who had been battling cancer since November, passed away on Good Friday. A very private person regarding her personal life, and considerate of not upsetting her many friends, Ann had asked that I not share her condition with the volunteer network - a wish which I felt compelled to respect.

The loss of this wonderful woman will be felt deeply on the Boston College campus and its extended community. An employee of over twenty years, Ann touched the lives of numerous people as she helped to establish the Faculty and Alumni Admission Volunteer program. Ann was responsible in many ways for the success of our program.

I am enclosing the text of the eulogy delivered Tuesday by Admission Director John Mahoney. I believe that in so many ways it captures the essence of Ann Kirklys. Ann's family has requested that, in lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to The American Cancer Society.

Sincerely,

Howard Singer

Howard Singer

Associate Director Undergraduate Admission
Faculty and Alumni Admission Volunteer Program

Ann Kirklys
4-2-99

On behalf of so many people at Boston College who knew Ann Kirklys, I'd like to thank Al, Stephen, Karen, and Jennifer for allowing me a few minutes to pay tribute to a friend we loved and a colleague we valued.

Several years ago at a meeting I was attending, someone said that Boston College's prominence today was due in large measure to so many behind-the-scenes, almost invisible people, who had worked so hard because they believed in the ideals of the place and felt a special sense of community. Ann Kirklys was one of those individuals.

To countless alumni across the country who volunteer their time and talents to help the Admission Office present Boston College to prospective students and parents, Ann was the voice at the other end of the phone. She answered their questions, sent them materials, and kept them connected to alma mater. And they, in turn, fell in love with a voice hundreds, even thousands of miles away.

And when these alumni would venture to the campus for a conference we were hosting, or returning for a reunion or a football game, so frequently it was Ann they wanted to meet, or Ann they wanted to see. That tells you a lot about her.

We who worked with her knew she was different, pleasantly unorthodox, strangely amusing. At a staff meeting where we were brainstorming ways to improve our operation, Ann raised her hand and with sly assertiveness proposed replacing our walking tours of the campus with trolley rides for visitors. She cited the parents and even grandparents for whom the hills and sometimes inclement weather were just too much. Before I knew it, we were conjuring up hilarious images of one staff member driving the bus, another providing narration over a speaker system, and still another serving refreshments. Was Ann serious about the suggestion? In light of our perennial budget woes, I know she was not. Ann was just letting us know how life should be.

When I would take the staff out to lunch, it was truly a highlight for Ann. No sooner would the waiter arrive at our table than Ann was saying by all means we would like to try several appetizers before ordering, and by all means we would be interested in cocktails, and by all means she would have the most expensive entrée on the menu, and by all means she would be having dessert. And several times during the meal, Ann would make sure the waiter knew exactly who was to receive the bill. Ann savored these occasions, she made them fun, because this really was how life should be.

Ann always seemed happiest, most fully in her element, when there was a party. Whether planning a party or setting up for a party, Ann had the style and she knew the touches to make the atmosphere special for everyone. She loved to dress the part, she loved to enjoy the company of her friends, and she loved to eat the food. She led the way when staff members dressed in Halloween costumes, and she played Mrs. Claus to the delight of the children at Christmas. Whenever children visited the office, Ann was the first one to come and see them. When I first told my family of Ann's illness, I asked my daughter Alison if she remembered Ann. Without missing a beat she said, "Sure, she's the lady with all the dolls and toys around her desk."

So these images remain with us. In a workplace filled with pressure, deadlines, and demands, Ann reminded us there was always time for a party, always time for enjoying each other's company, always time for treasuring children. Ann reminded us of these things, because to her this really was how life should be.

Recently I read a story about a man who was dying. He was of Polish heritage. He had been hospitalized due to his weakened condition, and he slept most of the time. When he was awake, he expressed great fear about his impending death. He had loved life, and he did not know what to expect.

Then one night he had a dream. He was in a country he had never seen, though he thought perhaps it was Sweden. He was with a tour group on a great journey, and a large banquet table had been set for them with all kinds of delicious food and drink – it was lavish and elegant.

His only problem was that he did not know which direction to go in, since the group was about to split up. But there was a tour guide, a little man with a handlebar mustache who took him by the hand and pointed him in the right direction. "You're going to Poland," he told him. "You'll cross the Baltic Sea and your mother will be waiting there for you."

Today, hard as it is for Ann, and hard as it is for us, she leaves behind the banquet table and the party to go home. We know she has been released from pain, but we also know she would want us all to return again and again to that banquet table, to savor every day our lives and our friends, because this really is how life should be. And, so, thinking of Ann, this is what we all should do.

John Mahoney



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Consent Order #23

466R

Councillor Sullivan, Vice Mayor Galluccio and
entire membership re: resolution on the death
of Ann M. Kirklys.

In City Council April 26, 1999

ORDER ADOPTED