



Lynne M. Niemiec

May 1, 2011

Lynne M. Niemiec, age 48, of Mt. Vernon, died early Sunday May 1, 2011 of natural causes. It was clear from a very early age that she loved animals. As an adult, Lynne spent her life advocating for lost, abandoned, and mistreated animals and was a loving friend and devoted caretaker to countless stray and rescue dogs and cats. Lynne was preceded in death by infant daughter, Kayla Mae in 1993. Lynne is survived by her husband of 30 years, Andy Niemiec, who loves her more than words can express. She is also survived by many close friends and colleagues especially the "Usual Suspects" and her beloved pets. Lynne gave the gift of life through organ and tissue donation. At Lynn's request there will be no visitation or funeral service. In Lynn's memory contributions may be made to Dogs Deserve Better, Central Ohio Chapter, P.O. Box 23, Tipton, PA 16684 or a Spay and Neuter Organization of your choice. Please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com to send on-line condolences.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lynne M. Niemiec*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Andy, we are almost as stunned as you are with the loss of Lynne. I just can't take it in. We are here for you to lean on any time. We are so lucky to have known her humor, her passion for animals, her love of funny videos, and her clear-eyed view of the world. The rain suits my mood just fine--reminds me of God weeping for untimely loss, and for this unwelcome new journey.*

Kristina & Timothy Sullivan - May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *We were so sorry to hear of Lynne's passing. She was so much fun and so talented. We are blessed to have known her. Please accept our heartfelt condolences during this difficult time.*

Mark and Susie Noland - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I don't know what to say, except for that I am so thankful that I knew Lynne. She was such a kind, genuine person and she will be greatly missed.*

Emma Wampler - May 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Uncle Andy-Over the past couple of days I have been flooded with the wonderful memories that I am lucky enough to have of my Aunty Lynne, & you too of course :), and while I've been extremely sad I find comfort in knowing that she spent her remaining years living her life the way she wanted and enjoyed it. I am also grateful because she taught me one final thing-To enjoy my life and live it for me as she did for herself. It was because of her that I rescued 6 puppies from a shelter and kept 3 for myself, it was because of her that I LOVE Halloween, and homemade Christmas Ornaments, and Terminator 2 and Ghost. I could go on and on....So Thank You Aunty Lynne for those wonderful memories that I have and will continue to cherish...With Love-Lynnie's Mouse....

Kymberly Bielecki - May 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ I am so sorry for the loss of Lynne whom I never met in person, but communicated with via email regarding a black tom cat Lynne befriended and brought home from the Kenyon campus. Lynne told me that she and kitty came to love each other; he was lucky she took him in, and he, in turn, gave happiness. Toni Kindel

Toni Kindel - May 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Dear Andy- I was so sorry to learn of Lynne's passing. Please let me know if there is anything I can do. Darcy

Darcy - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AB

“Lynne was a major part of what made my time at Kenyon so special. Her humor, warmth, and concern were evident in every interaction. I cherish so many memories: popping into her office between classes to chat, laughing and joking over pizza at Friday Guitar, side-yard jam sessions during Summer Science, running into her and Andy walking a small squadron of westies on campus the evening of my 21st birthday... this was a woman who was totally unembarrassed, dare I say bemused, to be accosted in public by a girl in a feather boa and deely-bopper headband squealing about how she had had 1/3 of a Mudslide at Ruby Tuesdays in Mt. Vernon and was now totally feeling it. She was also in on the Valentine's scheme of '04 to assist my now-husband in getting flowers delivered to me in lab. (I should've known something when Hewlet kept smirking and giggling for no reason all week, but Lynne was a pro and never cracked.) A vital part of my Kenyon family is gone now, but her influence has gone beyond that small place and will be associated with it in my mind forever. Andy, I am so sorry for your loss.

Alaina Baker - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PC

“Andy, I'm so sad at the loss of your, and our, beloved Lynne. Words are not adequate to express our sorrow. I know you will find your way through it, but I know this is a very difficult time. We are thinking of you constantly. Kate will attend Lynne's memorial service, and we will try to be there as well. Warmest regards, Preston Calvert and Meg Guerin-Calvert

Preston Calvert - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ It came to me that every time I lose a dog they take a piece of my heart with them. And every new dog who comes into my life, gifts me with a piece of their heart. If I live long enough, all the components of my heart will be dog, and I will become as generous and loving as they are. ~Unknown I think all the components of Lynnes' heart were dog (or cat, or bird) and that she was a generous and loving as they are. And that is her legacy.

Linda Michaels - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ I actually think online condolences are tacky but I'm unable to do anything else at this time. I am so overwhelmed with grief, as I know you are. Lynne was so special, as are you, and at the risk of being heard as a cliché I will say the world is a much less beautiful place without her in it. I hope you will agree to some kind of memorial when we can all pull ourselves together to do it. Here for you if you need us. Linda and Peter

Linda Michaels - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Dearest Andy, Andrew and I were so saddened to hear about Lynne's passing...I have missed the fun times we would have with both of you. Andrew, Todd and Katie especially remember those times and Lynne's kind heart. We will always remember when we first met, another Andy and Lynne...and so many things in common! You will be in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time, I know how much you love her as she, you!

Lynne Ricard - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

IL

“ Andy, I was so very fond of Lynne and am so very thankful that I got to know her. She was so compassionate, funny, and helpful. I feel her loss every time I walk into my office. I hold you in my thoughts and prayers, and wish you much peace during this difficult time.
Most warmly, Irene

Irene Lopez - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Andy, I will always remember the great times I had with you and Lynne, from Guitar Circle on Fridays to spending time with you both and your animals at your house to all manner of adventures around Ohio. Lynne was such a wonderful, loving, compassionate person and she will be deeply missed by all of her friends in the Kenyon community and beyond. She made me a better person.

Kate Guerin - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ I am pam sheasby's sister, I am so sorry for your loss, Patty

Patty Woods - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Dear Andy, I am so sorry about your Lynne. She was such a joy to work with and always cared deeply about her friends and beloved animals. She will be greatly missed. My sincere sympathy goes out to you and your family.

Cathy Riel - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Dear Andy, As you know, we are broken-hearted over Lynne's passing. She was one of the warmest, kindest, funnest people we have ever met. She will be missed every day. We are so glad, though, that we had the honor of knowing her these last 17 years.
With love, Sarah & John

Sarah Blick & John Pepple - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ I have so many happy memories of playing guitar with Lynne, Andy, and other friends on Friday nights at Kenyon (and on Wednesdays during the summer). Yesterday I put on all of our guitar circle songs that reminded me of her. I'll always associate Lynne with saving animals, with music, and with wonderful friends. I'm grateful that I met her, and that we shared so many good times.

Allyson Whipple - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dear Andy, I am so sorry for your loss! Lynne was an awesome person and great friend. Her stories of all the strays were always amusing, she was such a caring person. Some of my best memories were the class we took together...poor Pat! The study nights with Mayan glyphs and pizza were the best. Lynne will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

April Farmer - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Dear Andy, I am so very sorry. Lynne was such an advocate for animals and is the reason I have my dearly loved Dusey. I know Lynne was also a great resource and comfort for many Kenyon students over the years. I cannot begin to fathom your loss, but the Kenyon Community's and the animal community's loss is great. My thoughts are with you. Jami and Dusey

Jami Peelle - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ I did not leave you I am not gone I was reborn beyond the veil in a new body whole and hale I could not leave you in life ~ or in death please try to believe that I did not leave Animal Lovers Poem If you cannot see me do not despair please believe that I am still there I'll be with you when you dream and when you wake I'll be your angel do not mistake or wonder why you do not sink in grief so long that with me you die I will not let you that is why you'll wonder why you have good luck I'll bring it to you for loving so much please sing to me and talk to me I need to know you believe that I did not leave I pray you live a long, full life and don't be afraid to die one day for i am here no need to fear my new body is free of pain no needles, no pills for ills, man-made only love and songs and angels live here among flowers and butterflies where we play in the soft green grass all day look for me with different eyes and you may see me to your surprise til your last breath you cling to the thought that death is the end it is not I did not leave you I am not gone I was reborn beyond the veil in a new body whole and hale if you cannot see me do not despair please believe me I am still there Good Bye my sister, Rest in peace ... Now you and Dad can catch up ...

Lee Bielecki - May 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

J(

“ Oh Lynne, Kenyon students and alums will miss you so much. You've only been gone 1 day, and already this sad news has traveled through so many states and people. Thinking of you fondly. Many condolences to Prof Niemiec. Your wife was a sweetheart and a riot -- the best combination. Jen

Jen Underwood ('05) - May 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM