

# Anne Morgan Stadler



March 7, 1931 - October 28, 2023

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# MEMORIAL PICTURES & MESSAGES

*PLEASE ADD YOUR STORIES, PICTURES, AND LINKS TO VIDEOS*

## Photos from Anil Sachdev



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From **Sue Stadler**:



A Photo of Anne and me (Linda Roman), Anne is wearing a knit scarf that with hand dyed in her colors. I hope someone can turn this right-side up. I can't figure it out.



Mom singing "When I'm 64" which Jan Grey mentions in her [note](#).



Song for Anne Stadler's 64th birthday, music by Beatles

When we first met you, working for peace  
Many years ago  
You were a powerhouse of leadership  
Fever-pitch energy, cracking your whip

Anne Morgan Stadler, you're in your prime  
Like Miss Brodie before  
We will still need you, we will still feed you  
Now you're 64

#####

We leafleted movies, marched on the town  
Preached but were never a bore  
Rammed our message down unwilling throats  
While the rest of you were sowing your oats

That was the hey-day of all the great songs  
Pete was the one we adored  
We still embrace them, none can replace them  
They're all 64


#####

In matters of ping-pong, playing charades  
Staying up until dawn  
Dancing on beaches and the forest floor  
Hiking the Death March, and ready for more

You are the tops, the gal of the year  
No one will ever ignore  
All of us need you, none can exceed you  
Now you're 64

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Talofa and Aloha Ann, in the traditions of my people, you are without equal. Good leaders lead, Great leaders heal. The winds of grace have filled your sails home. Aloha, aloha, aloha. Papalii **dr. tusi avegalio**



**O le manusina e le soa.**  
*The sea tern flies alone ancient metaphor*  
Ancient Samoans believed that the manu sina (The white fairy tern, *Gygis alba*) mates for life. When its partner dies, it will no longer seek another but fly alone until its time has come. The ancient Samoans interpreted the sight of a solitary sea tern as a sign that an Alii has died. The other use of the metaphor references greatness, associated with nobility of achievement that transcends all others, of having no peer in that regard. Hence the manu sina that flies alone also signifies one who is peerless or without equal.

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Photos from **Esther Ritman**. In her words:

I was so happy that you shared the [video of Anne's spontaneous reading of E.E. Cummings' beautiful and life-affirming poem](#) during our celebration of her 92nd birthday at La Push. Attached are some more photos of that magical moment.





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February 2019 at Emory Bundy's home. We loved getting together years after our time together at KING-TV.

Anne believed in television as a critical link with organizations and individuals - so people could work towards building a better community, a better nation and better world. She and Emory were many times the conscience of the station – since she found it easy to speak truth to power. She encouraged me to do the same – a skill I appreciated learning and utilizing to this day.

The Public Affairs Department members were often invited to your home in Lake Forest Park. Many times, Mike, Sue, Aaron, and Matt were around – coming and going while we would enjoy dinner and a night of conversation about our work - or the world in general. Your dining room table had us tightly packed and cozy – then we'd sit in your warm living room with Dave keeping the fire going. It always amazed me how Anne and David could cover so many bases – and engage us in so many ways. Their two minds – the scientist and the activist - always engaged and inviting.

In recent years when I took KING's historic programs to the University of Washington to get them digitized before they disintegrated - I thought my work was done until I was told I needed to **fund raise** – Anne met with me at the Burke Museum – being strategic – and positive and saying I could handle fundraising when I was sure it was **NOT in my wheelhouse!** Success did come – but the confidence building from Anne was priceless.



A portion of the group in this photo were together at the end of April of this year – some traveled great distances to be together. On that day Anne shared her positive approach to life. She will be missed - indeed – but her outlook on the world can/should live on in all of us. I know she's counting on us.

Best,

**Sue Stewart**

KING-TV Production-Public Affairs 1971-84

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My favorite picture of Anne and me was taken by Andrew DeVigal at a Journalism That Matters convening in Portland, Oregon. **Peggy Holman**



## My reflections on Anne Stadler

Peggy Holman

*I spoke these words during both memorial celebrations, minus the words in brown. I was aware I took a lot of time as it was so the words in brown are just in writing.*

When I met Anne Stadler in 1996 it was love at first sight. **Harrison Owen**, creator of **Open Space Technology**, nagged us both to meet until we set up lunch. We never stopped meeting after that. Just in case you are not familiar with OST, it is a practice for groups to self-organize around what matters to them. And putting it to work was central to my bond with Anne.

Perhaps one of the earliest and most important lessons I learned from Anne was when I called her my **mentor**. After all, she was 65 and I was almost 41 – around the age of her children. She stopped me and said “I am not your mentor. We are **learning partners**.” She said it so fiercely that I still hear her voice! I don’t think I fully appreciated what a gift that was until years later when I understood that she set us up as equals, each with things to learn and things to teach. Now, at age 68, it is my offering when working with younger people. As learning partners, Anne gave me the gift of the freedom and fun of a partner who saw the world from a different perspective. We’d listen to each other, offer our opinions, no doubt it would sound to others like fighting. We just kept at it until we had an approach that satisfied us both.

As I’ve been thinking about what to say today, I have been asking myself what made Anne so special? It wasn’t just her brilliance and creativity. Or her courage to be her own person. Or her ability to laugh and play and bring others with her. What I realized is that she was the one who connected me to so many of the people I know, love, and work with. She was the best connector I’ve ever met....

My best story about that comes from **Spirited Work**, an open space community of practice that Anne shepherded into being. Spirited Work met at the Whidbey Institute 4 times/year for 7 years. It was a place where we explored being spiritual beings in a material world. Not in an intellectual way. But in a beautiful place with music, dancing, and art. Where we played together as we explored life. Not just intellectually but sharing our struggles and the big, existential questions of our lives.

To the story...we were in our second day of the weekend and Anne and I crossed paths. And she was so excited as she said, I just met these new folks...who have you met?

It stopped me in my tracks. While I had hung out with people I knew, Anne had spent her time talking with strangers, drawing out their stories, finding out who joined us. Anne was so gifted...**at making you feel like you were a vital, interesting person with something to contribute**. It made her one of the impactful people I know. It’s a gift that I suspect has touched virtually everyone here.

I have struggled for a word to describe that. And then I heard the 2023 Oxford English Dictionary word of the year and it hit me: Anne had “rizz.” It’s a Gen Z word that is used in social media and is a derivative from charisma.

With Anne, rizz was part of something much larger: Cultivating the **Radiant Network**. I’ll say more about that in a moment but I want to put it in context. When we ran the **Practice of Peace** in 2003, I think it was Anne who coined that term. Practice of Peace as a conference was an Anne-Peggy brain-child hosted by Spirited Work and inspired by Harrison Owen, who had been running a workshop by that name. We brought together 130 people from 25 countries, many from high conflict zones, like Bosnia, Northern Ireland, Burundi, and Israel and the Palestinian territories. People connected in ways that have ripples to this day.

We became a Radiant Network. It’s the idea that we are all connected. When our hearts are open, we can feel it. By giving it a name, I, and I suspect others, came to trust its presence even in those times when our hearts are closed.

When I think about the through line of the 27 years of knowing and playing with Anne, what I see now is that everything she said and did cultivated the conscious knowing that we are a **RADIANT NETWORK**.

There’s so much more I could say. So many lessons that shaped my work and my life came from things Anne said and did.

I can't resist sharing a few of them...

She consciously sought out **disruptions** because that is where the action was. I think I took to following her around at Spirited Work for a while, much to her annoyance, I suspect. I did it because wherever she went, interesting things happened. I don't know how she did it but laughter and play always followed her in untangling whatever was broken.

With Spirited Work, Open Space went from a meeting methodology to a life practice for several of us. Mark Jones spoke it as "What does it mean to live your life in Open Space?" It was Anne that saw the heart of Open Space as **taking responsibility for what you love**. What we discovered through Spirited Work was that by doing so, it sparked a way of living that brought *heart and spirit centered presence* to how people organized to get things done. And it wasn't that there were no obstacles. There were plenty – budget shortfalls, being good stewards, handling differences.... We learned to be generous with each other as we laughed, cried, and created. We discovered the value of **silence** to recenter on what matters. And that when we showed up authentically, being willing to speak what was true for each of us, we would find our way through together. It gave us a glimpse of how humans can organize to get stuff done that drew on the best each person had to offer and led to creative responses to whatever we faced. It gave me the confidence to move past the linear sequential approach to project management that had been my default. It taught me that creative work always starts with **purpose**. And when you lose your way, remembering purpose provides a compass to find your way.

Over the years, Anne and I did many convenings together: Women's Ways of leading in 1996, a gathering in Iona, Scotland (2001), the Radiant Network with Arun Wakhlu, in Panchgani, India (2004), the StoryField Conference (2007), Leadership in a Self-Organizing World with Harrison Owen at Sleeping Lady in Leavenworth, WA (2009). We were both instrumental in forming the Open Space Institute-US in 1997-ish when Harrison came visiting with the idea. Journalism That Matters, work I've done since 1999, all grew out of what we learned together. And so much more.

If I were to sum it up, Anne had a gift for brilliant, creative ideas, deep insight into cultivating community, the ability to draw out the **YES** from those she met, and a way of bringing laughter, music, and dance to whatever we did. What I realize now is that it is all part of the secret sauce of growing a **radiant network**.

Next to my parents, she shaped me more than anyone else I've known. I have told several people that my conversation with her continues. I expect she'll be my learning partner for the rest of my days.

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### **The Anam Caras Sorrel North**

Anne was my mother Lucy's "Anam Cara" (soul friend) and my own life-long friend and mentor. Anne and Lucy met in 1958 while working for the American Friends Service Committee in Seattle. Both were pregnant with their youngest children (one of them, me). Our families became inseparable, sharing holidays, hikes, parties and adventures. Anne and Lucy were deeply involved in the anti-war movement and collaborated on multiple projects over the years. Despite the serious nature of their work, what I remember most about those two was their constant laughter; one might say they "shrieked" with laughter over the slightest thing. Anne and Lucy infused mischief and humor into their work and play--be it a protest parade, a parody on local politics or a wild game of charades, complete with costumes and crazy antics.

Anne loved to sing! Our families grew up singing the folk and protest songs of the era, and music was an integral part of our lives. Anne & Lucy, who were always cooking up some new scheme, decided to invite Pete Seeger to put on a concert for peace in Seattle. He responded with a kind note, informing them he was currently being investigated by the House Un-American Activities Committee, but would get back to them. A year later, Anne picked up Pete at the Seattle Greyhound station, where he emerged from the bus with a banjo slung over his back. He put on a terrific benefit concert for a crowd of locals, including us kids, then got back on the bus for his 3-day journey home.

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When I was young, Anne was charming, fun, gregarious and sometimes quite intimidating! She was always a powerhouse, and my mom often teased her with, "Aye Aye, Captain, will there be anything else?" Sometime in the late 1960s, Anne began to meditate. As I grew into young adulthood, I noticed a change come over Anne. She began to be more self-aware, more tuned in to her own behavior, more spiritual and thoughtful. By the time I reached my 20s, Anne had fully transitioned onto a spiritual path. Our own adult friendship began to deepen and grow. Anne and Mom regularly visited me on Lopez Island, laden with groceries and gifts, and the three of us developed a close kinship.

Although there are many ways that Anne inspired me, the most profound one was my witnessing her own personal transformation. Anne devoted her life to learning how to give and receive love. Her motto, "A world that works for all is a world of love made visible" was the essence of Anne's life path. My relationship with her was not based in the work of the world but rather the work of the self and spirit. Anne was the mentor I turned to when I faced some personal difficulty, and she always provided me with wisdom, inspiration and love. As she did for so many, Anne gave of herself unsparingly. Her love for her family, friends and colleagues knew no bounds. Whenever she shared news about her latest or ongoing projects, Anne's first and foremost words were always of praise and gratitude for the people in her life. For Anne, love was everything.

Among their many shared interests, Anne and Lucy had the exact same taste in colors (blues and purples) and often wore matching clothing. Several years ago, I bought them identical periwinkle fleece jackets. On Halloween, 2021, my mom lay on her bed at home, having been felled by a stroke a few days earlier. Anne appeared, wearing Lucy's matching jacket, and sat down next to her soul friend. She whispered in her ear, "Your Anam Cara is here, it's okay to go, sweetie." 20 minutes later, Mom passed peacefully from this world. Two years later, almost to the day, Anne told her children that she felt Lucy's spirit near. And wrapped in her fleece jacket, she too slipped peacefully through the veil.

Even hours before her death, Anne inspired community in others. A nurse told the family that Anne had shared the story of her friendship with Lucy. The nurse was so moved, she called her own circle of friends and they made a pact to be each other's Anam Caras. I take great comfort in thinking of Anne and Lucy together again, spreading love and laughter--and likely making mischief--in the vast, unfathomable realm of spirit.









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# LINKS TO VIDEOS WITH ANNE

- [Anne Reciting ee cummings poem at La Push on the Olympic Peninsula, March 2023](#)
  - See the [photos](#) from Esther Ritman of that magical moment.
- [Anne Stadler: What's So Great about Open Space Technology?](#)
- [Open Space Livingroom Episode 3 - Beginnings with Anne Stadler & Anil Sachdev](#)
- [Welcome Disturbance with Anne Stadler and Peggy Holman](#)  
An interview with Sheri Herndon for her Awakening Together Podcast
- Opening Space Series with Annick Coriveau
  - [Opening Space Series - Episode 1 with Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)
  - [Opening Space Series: The 3 circles of belonging in Life with special guest: Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)
  - [Opening Space Series: A Commitment to Love with special guest Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)
  - [Opening Space Series: Open Space as a way of life, with special guest Anne M. Stadler. - YouTube](#)

# MESSAGES IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNE'S PASSING

Sourced Silence holds ceaselessly the echo of your Eternal Presence. In Heart and Mind I carry our shared, everlasting Love of Life's magnificent orchestration.

Until we meet again Dear One,

I bow deeply, in Gratitude.

## **Marilyn Overcast**

+++++

You shine brightly Anne, and have done so for decades.  
Your contagious compassion continues to seep along  
the roots and branches of society, into infinity.  
The trees and animals and the spirits of those you love  
and talk to are with you.  
I am sad, and glad to have spent time with you.

**Malcolm Best**

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Anne has been an ever-present beacon for everyone who has been fortunate to know her. I don't think Anne ever had a "bad day", and she was so generous within her abundant lifting up for all of us.

With deep love **Barry Owen**

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Dear Anne,

I will always remember the very first second we first met. We sat down at a table with a dozen other people in Seattle to help plan a 2008 Seeds of Compassion event. You threw a

gigantic grin at me with your sparkling blue eyes and I grinned back, already helplessly in thrall to you. We both said something or other during the meeting, and as it ended you came around the table, gave me a great hug, and said, "We've never met, but I'm quite certain we've known each other for years. Now I just have to find out who you actually are!" That was the beginning of one of the richest friendships of my life. You have been my mentor, my connector, my supporter, my older sister, my aunt, my grandmother, a source for me of wisdom, compassion, poetry, community, appreciative inquiry, and lovingkindness. When I heard that you had passed, I told my friend Anthony — who had never known you — what an astounding human you were and much you had meant to me. He replied, "Oh, you must miss her a lot!" To my own surprise, I said, "Why, no, I don't think I'll miss her at all! I feel like she's with me all the time, every day, and when I grow up, I want to be just like Anne!"

It's true, you know. We'll all carry you with us for all our lives. Many, many thanks, my beloved.

— **Andrew Himes**

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I met Anne only once, but that was enough to leave a deep impression on me. People like her are very rare , hence even if one wants, one can't forget them. She lived a full and fulfilled life. While separations are painful at the same time her life needs to be celebrated.

Anne sheds her current clothing to don a new one, which I am sure will be an even better version!

Anne, wish you peace and tranquility in your new abode 🙏

**Rakesh Jinsi**

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Dear Anne, thank you... I speak to you, knowing that you are now between the worlds... my heart so grateful, for the gift of your full and authentic presence, your delightful openness to life, your willingness to share your wisdom through stories... So honored to have met you in person, at our Elders and Fellows gatherings; I've rejoiced in your irrepressible spirit ever since, via your FB posts... and am deeply moved right now, by all of this wonderful testimony to how much you have meant, to so many.

Travel well, knowing you live on in all our hearts...

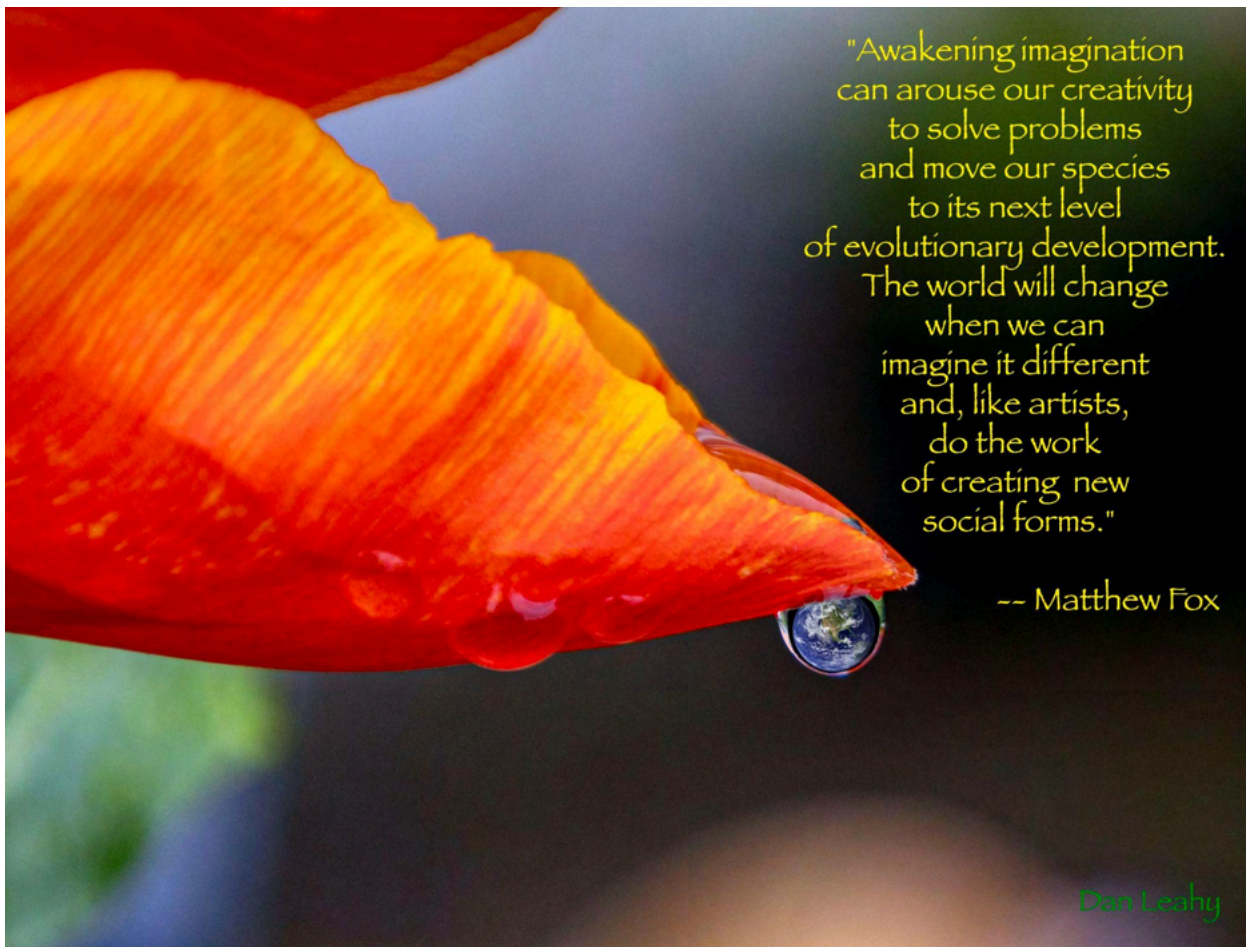
**Rosa Zubizarreta**

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I think of Anne as a sister of great curiosity and love of serving the whole doing good and wondrous work. **Joy Moulton**

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Dear "Soul on Deck",



Anne, you embodied this saying for me. I will forever be grateful. To be continued...  
Love, **Dan Leahy**

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BEAUTIFUL ANNE

This is my love letter to you  
You my dearest friend, my confidante, my angel.  
Yes I know it is a reciprocal thing....(you hate it when I say it is one way only!)  
I am always there for you too BUT and it's a huge BUT, since a young age, in fact since Ben and I got married, you lit something inside me that was always there but no one in my life had ever seen it...  
I had felt it from a small child, but no one in my family knew it to recognise it...you did!  
You woke something in me that was my deepest essence,  
you gave it an identity,  
you showed me by the way you lived and learned, how to nurture it, love it, grow it and live by it.  
We all know that IT is the life force that runs through us all.  
IT is what connects us all together and makes the world turn.  
you taught me how to listen to it.  
I am so grateful, so grateful there is little I can say that really expresses how grateful I am.  
Once I had used you as my mirror to see and feel it, then I watched and greedily absorbed the form, the words, the actions that were needed to mature this essence.  
You inspired me to meditate and now I have been meditating every morning for almost 15 years.  
I listened to your wisdom  
I followed up every generous offering  
I watched how you spoke your truth in public  
and slowly slowly threw off the baggage of my past and centred myself like I had watched you do.  
I wondered if I would ever get to the point where I didn't seek continual reassurance that this way was the right way...  
but then that magical time arrived and now....I don't seek that anymore, I know for myself what it feels like inside, how to be the grounded me that has taken all these years to find.  
I don't need your guidance anymore like I did when I was younger but I always cherish it.  
I have watched you inspire so many people of all ages.  
I have watched how you grew older in such a beautiful way and I say to Ben, that's how I am going to grow older, like Anne: loving, open, always seeking and always listening.  
You have been my inspiration since I was 25 and continue to be now that I am 58!!!  
I love you and I see your beautiful bright blue twinkling eyes but I also know now that even though we won't hold each other again, I feel you all the way across the cosmos , you will never be gone because your spirit is in me.  
Your energy will live on forever through the thousands of people that you have loved and inspired, and that will ripple and ripple for eternity.

**Polly (UK)**

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My Dear Anne,

You and I met in 1995 while I was attending the Graduate Management Program at Antioch. By far you had the greatest influence on me. You were patient, clear, and you opened many doors of understanding systems and group dynamics. I remain incredibly fortunate to have met you. Our continued conversations here and there over the years, and your subtle and not so subtle directness, have greatly informed my personal and professional life. I am eternally grateful for your wisdom. Thank you!

The ancients viewed this next aspect of your journey as a caravan route of sorts. I imagine you now traveling this route encountering fellow travelers at various oases along the way where you brighten their souls and continue to impart wisdom. To paraphrase O'Donohue's unfinished poem, may your spirit live [on] as "a river flows surprised by its [very] unfolding"

Deep bow and love to you dear one, with thanksgiving,

Michael Seely  
Portland, Oregon

**From Anil and Neera Sachdev:**

Dearest Mike, Aaron, Matt and Sue and all members of your wonderful family,

Anne was our best friend and well wisher!!

She spread happiness wherever she went!!

We became better persons by experiencing her energy and by emulating her!!

Every moment on her Presence was full of learning!!

She inspired us to live a life of Compassion, inclusiveness, integrity and serve the highest common good for the well being of all!!

She will live in our hearts forever!!!

Lots of love and hugs from all of us in India

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Anne Morgan Stadler, the news of your passing is not surprising having lived a very impactful and fulfilling life. It was a blessing knowing you. The number of circles, the positive vibrations, your motherly care and encouragements will live with me. My heartfelt condolences to the family.

**Dr Joel Bisina**, Nigeria

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I loved her very much. Many people in the world loved her so much. She was a pure reflection of love. She always brought life to unexpected dark places. When she died, there was a lunar eclipse. I think the moon winked at her as she passed by.

**Tova Averbuch**

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**From Prasad Kaipa:**

Dear Mike, Aaron, Matt and Sue: my heart goes out to you and your families. I am blessed to have her as my American mom and nurture me all this time. Here is my Ode to Anne.

In the Wake of Gentle Waves: Anne's Legacy

In a realm oft clouded by transient mist,  
Anne arose, a beacon of serene grace,  
With a lens, she captured tales of lore,  
Her gentle waves embraced the human race.

On a dawn kissed by March's tender chill,

Her journey began, a narrative unfurled,  
Of care and love, spun with tender skill,  
A saga of the human heart, unfurled.

With wisdom flowing like a gentle stream,  
She guided hearts along life's winding road,  
At KING 5-TV, her stories did gleam,  
A soothing balm, a healing ode.

In circles of trust, she shared her sage advice,  
Her life, an open book, a treasure trove,  
A mother to Aaron, Mike, Matt, and Sue,  
A loving wife to David, her truest love.

"What Could Possibly Go Right?" she'd muse,  
With love, she'd say, there's naught to lose,  
Her questions sparked my weary heart,  
Urging me to seek, to explore, to restart.

With child-like quest and curious mind,  
She invested in every soul she did find,  
Her abode, a haven of endless muse,  
Where my first tale penned, the blues I did lose.

Her nurturing heart, a balm to my woes,  
In the warmth of her smile, my spirit rose,  
Her legacy, a river wide and deep,  
An odyssey of love, where solace I keep.

Her spirit, a beacon in love's calm tide,  
Guiding me gently, forever by my side,  
Now as she rests in the cosmos' hold,  
Her smile, a memory, forever gold.

Her essence, a melody in my soul,  
In the gentle waves of Anne, I find solace, I am whole.



Here are two recent photos of Anne



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To Anne's beloved family, my love to you as you enter this time of mourning. Your mother was and will continue to be an inspiration in my life. I was blessed to have her as a friend for thirty years. She was an inspiration and teacher to large numbers of people in the world and her life mattered to the evolution of

humanity. Yet, in her conversations, what mattered most was her love of you, her family, and your love for her. Blessings to you.

**Birgitt Williams**, North Carolina, USA

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To life's mentor and always spiritual guide with greatest love and admiration...**Ron Thomas**

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We'll miss you greatly, dear Anne. My heart is with your family and friends. I'm out of words to express the sadness and the gratitude. Thank you for shining your light on us.

**Annick Corriveau**, Québec, Canada

Here are links to videos of Anne:

[Opening Space Series - Episode 1 with Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)

[Opening Space Series: The 3 circles of belonging in Life with special guest: Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)

[Opening Space Series: A Commitment to Love with special guest Anne M. Stadler - YouTube](#)

[Opening Space Series: Open Space as a way of life, with special guest Anne M. Stadler. - YouTube](#)

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Thank you for giving me the opportunity to tell Anne and her family how much I valued her friendship and her impact on my life. We first met when my husband Ken and I and Ron Sher were all board members at the Little School. Our paths crossed again when I was a grad student at Antioch University and she was a board member.

Anne introduced me to the Whidbey Institute where we spent years of inspiring weekends together with fascinating people from all over the world. We also traveled to Scotland and enjoyed two unforgettable weeks on the island of Iona with a group of truly amazing women.

Anne has a wonderful, authentic spirit. She added a whole new dimension to my life. I am so grateful that I met her at a time when I was ready hear what she had to say. I am sure that you will hear many stories like mine, because for many of us, knowing Anne was transformational experience.

With warm regard,

**Margie and Ken Bloch**

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It says in the Talmud that every blade of grass has an angel resting on it, whispering "grow, grow." Anne was that angel who helped all of us to continue to grow.

### Jan Levy

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Sending love to all who have loved Anne, and a commitment to carry as much of the generosity of Anne's spirit I can in my work/life. Deep gratitude to Peggy who brought Anne into my life.

### Nancy White

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Dear Sue, Aaron Matt & Mike, and all Anne's cherished grandchildren and great grand children...may the memories of your endless adventures and good times bring you solace as you grieve her absence. Thank you for sharing your mom with us, and the wide community. We were all made better for knowing her. I will miss her immensely. I'll share a poem from John O'Donaghue, whom we both admired. ~ **Fidelma McGinn**

Though we need to weep your loss,  
You dwell in that safe place in our hearts,  
Where no storm or night or pain can reach you.

Your love was like the dawn  
Brightening over our lives  
Awakening beneath the dark  
A further adventure of colour.

The sound of your voice  
Found for us  
A new music  
That brightened everything.

Whatever you enfolded in your gaze  
Quickened in the joy of its being;  
You placed smiles like flowers  
On the altar of the heart.  
Your mind always sparkled  
With wonder at things.

Though your days here were brief,  
Your spirit was live, awake, complete.

We look towards each other no longer  
From the old distance of our names;  
Now you dwell inside the rhythm of breath,  
As close to us as we are to ourselves.

Though we cannot see you with outward eyes,  
We know our soul's gaze is upon your face,  
Smiling back at us from within everything  
To which we bring our best refinement.

Let us not look for you only in memory,  
Where we would grow lonely without you.  
You would want us to find you in presence,  
Beside us when beauty brightens,  
When kindness glows  
And music echoes eternal tones.

When orchids brighten the earth,  
Darkest winter has turned to spring;  
May this dark grief flower with hope  
In every heart that loves you.

May you continue to inspire us:

To enter each day with a generous heart.  
To serve the call of courage and love  
Until we see your beautiful face again  
In that land where there is no more separation,  
Where all tears will be wiped from our mind,  
And where we will never lose you again.

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Beloved Anne at Butterfly Farm near Asheville, NC She loved sitting and being with nature and staying in touch with the world through her phone!

I Sit in the Silence of my Knowing

For you are the first to pass over.  
and by first, I mean, of the ones  
whom I have chosen to walk with spiritually this time;  
The ones who share the knowledge  
of our eternal Divinity,  
knowing there is no death -  
only comings and goings

For me there had been so few  
to walk with in that knowing  
when I flew, so thirstily, from Virginia  
into Spirited Work  
Into your open arms  
Into a Welcoming Love I had not known before.

For all of this Knowing I have,  
the world seems emptier today -  
I think because you lived your Godessness so immensely  
in my presence,  
in our presence,  
Always upliftingly present to who or what was before you.

And so I shed a few tears at your departure  
knowing they are tears of love  
that will join all the other tears of love  
being shed for you  
in order to create a beautiful river of love  
from which you will gleefully flow away from us  
back to the Glowing Golden from which we come.

But, I will seek out a night to howl to the moon -  
To sing my Joy at  
how you forever led and inspired me

to grow my life  
over and over and  
over again.

To sing my gratitude  
for adopting the two of us  
and holding space for us to  
find our way together  
more fully through your counsel.

I will stare at the moon's fullness -  
not a speck of shadow in it -  
and see it as the sameness  
of the way you always magically appeared.

And, I will howl a long arc of sadness  
at your physical absence  
for while it is the least important gesture,  
when I know how to find you always  
within me -  
It is important, that I let the world know,  
how much you meant to me.

It will be one howl among thousands -  
and I rejoice in that. Just as I rejoice  
in the Unrepeatable You.

As I sit in the silence of my Knowing.

**Cha'e (AKA Charlie Kouns)**



Nothing to say here!!!



Dear Anne and her family,

Anne, you have always been one to listen well to others and inspire us to “go for it!” Now you are “going for it” on your next adventure, which may be how you see it, since you always saw possibilities in everything, from Russia to everywhere else!

With much love and admiration,

**Greg Tuke**

\*\*\*

Dear family of Ann,

My heart is enchanted by the Peace and Love that is streaming to and all around Anne.

What Ann seems to have emphasized time and again, is that Open Space (and likely life in general) is about what we LOVE. Not just what we are passionate about or what is meaningful to us. But she intentionally and boldly kept using the word LOVE.

I take this with me as part of her legacy. To serve, with OST (and beyond), what we LOVE.

With gratitude and celebration,

Marai

\*

**Oh, Anne!! A beacon of Big Joy!** A truly great one – touching so many. Not afraid to take on so much. A radiant role model. A singer of songs. A teller of stories that matter. A charging changer of the world.

It’s hard to measure the impact she had on me and so many others.

How many times did I sit in circle with her, knowing she was holding more than her share of the “container.” How many times did we drink tea, literally and figuratively, taking in the wonders of humankind? How many times did she prod me – mostly in my own direction, sometimes in hers.

So many times I drove into the Stadlers’ circular driveway, knowing I would drive out a richer person. How many ideas sown and nurtured in Stadlers’ living room, rebounding and redounding around this crazy planet? How many people met through her? How much Spirit can one person hold?

I first encountered Anne when I joined the CityFair project, shortly after moving to Seattle. She and Emory Bundy led a small, forceful public affairs crew at KING television rife with ideas and manifestations of building community, calling out creativity, affirming democracy, and remaking a world better for all.

Having worked at the World Without War Council, Anne knew how to take on big challenges in the midst of countless setbacks. She forged ahead. With her reporter's notebook always at bay, she figured out who needed to meet who, how to leverage sick situations into healing, what ideas to follow up on.

She dove into CityFair's celebration of citizens' brightest ideas for solving problems in housing, health, energy, food, and the environment. Not aloof like some journalists, she rolled up her sleeves with groups of citizens and figured out how best to communicate those solutions. She scoured the community for people who want positive change, and put them together so their work would get stronger.

For me, Anne was a mentor, a friend, a co-worker, a co-player, a truly seasoned lifelong learner. She encouraged my craziest visions, nurtured my inner artist, calmed my fears. She freely gave so many gifts – and knew when to say no (at least in her latter decades).

When I got overwhelmed with the enormity of my job as communications director for CityFair, she jumped in and co-produced the opening ceremony. She advised me on who to contact to get our messages of civic engagement and you-can-do-it out most effectively. She had a gift for organizing and inspiring ~ and she brought me those skills where I was busy writing news releases and wrestling media folk who suddenly became more interested in Mt St Helens' eruption than in the potential eruption of citizen action in solving problems both cosmic and close-to-home.

With Emory Bundy at KING, Anne inspired Seattle to consider a "New Birth of Freedom" around the U.S. Bicentennial. She ploughed familiar territory when she co-created Target Seattle, a wide-ranging and visionary community teach-in about how to prevent nuclear war in the 1980s. It included a "spacebridge" through which folks from the Soviet Union and from Seattle spoke with each other, in steps toward "Getting to Yes."

Anne introduced me to so many people who've changed my life like she has. She convened circles of unlikely collaborators in her living room. Most powerfully, she brought Peggy Holman to my house on Vashon, beginning a 20-year journey into the depths and heights of Journalism That Matters, a think-and-do tank on the future of journalism.

I copied many of Anne's great ideas. One of my favorites: When her grandchildren turned 13, she took them on a trip with her. I did that with my sister's children, and it strengthened our family to this day.

She created community in so many ways, notably the Spirited Work community that met quarterly over many years to explore inner and outer archetypes identified in all indigenous cultures by her friend Angeles Arrien – the warrior, the visionary, the teacher, the healer. She was all four, in spades.

Anne knew how to walk between worlds, so I'm sure she's skipping lightly as she makes her transition.

Certainly her wisdom and caring will ring circles around me and my reverberations for as long as I'm around. Gratitude, Gratitude, Gratitude.

~ **Stephen Silha**

=====

Dear Mike, Sue, Aaron and Mathew and Grands, Your Mom was my dear friend since 1985 and I will miss her so much! She was an amazing gift to my life including wonderful stories about you.

Our meager contribution was Kerry's and the Beatles "Will you still need me..." at her 64th birthday. Such a gift to have so many more wonderful memories.

Thank you Anne.  
Thank you all.

Jan Gray

[janicemgray@gmail.com](mailto:janicemgray@gmail.com)

See pictures [here](#).

=====

# MESSAGES TO ANNE AND FAMILY

SENT BEFORE SHE PASSED

\*\*\*\*\*

Dearest Anne, you are - and always have been - a light, love and laughter being in the world and in my life. Your commitment to action, “yes,” and caring compassion have been a blessing to all. To the Creator in you. 🙏🙏🙏

**David**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dearest Anne,

Your life has left an indelible mark on those fortunate enough to know you, and your wisdom has been a guiding light for many. Your legacy will live on in our hearts, and your spirit will continue to inspire us.

Thank you for the precious moments we've shared together, and may your path be gentle and serene. You will always be remembered with fondness and gratitude. You are not alone; our love and thoughts surround you, providing warmth and support during this profound transition 🙏🙏🙏

**From Carol Daniel- Kasbari**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne, May you be blessed with divine grace and strength. Hope the light within you illuminates everyone around you and fills you with joy and peace.

Lots of love,

Now and Forever,

**Pragya, SOIL, India**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne

My heart is with you as you are returning to the origin.

May you travel in a good way to join the ancestors and the love supreme.

With love, respect and much appreciation for you as one of my elders

- for who you are and the gifts you have offered while alive of this beautiful planet Earth



Toke - from Denmark

\*\*\*\*\*

My dear Anne,

Jan and I have been trying to get to you this week at Kline Galland but your PT cancelled our proposed visits. We will try again next week.

I am sending my prayers for your full recovery so that we can resume our lunches and my visits “up North” to your lovely cottage where I always felt welcomed.

I humbly display and treasure my *Beloved Community* card that you gave us after you observed our Seattle Limbe Sister City Association’s cross-cultural work in Seattle and our work to help African school girls remain in school during their menstrual cycles. I so appreciate your support in that work.

I am also forever grateful for your tutelage in *Open Space*. I recall with humor my resistance to the concept when Jan introduced us and asked me to give it a try at Leadership Tomorrow. I was in awe as the *OpenSpace* unfolded and I immediately became an Anne Stadler (and OS) groupie. I so appreciate not only your introduction to OS, but also for the many kindnesses you have shown me, our deep conversations through the years as we worked to solve all the problems of the world, your willingness to drive into the city for our lunches, your invitations to me to come to lunch at your home and your acceptance to dine at mine, and your invitation to join you at Third Place Books down the street from your home for book readings. I’ve never had a dull moment with you.

I look forward to many more conversations with you because, despite the myriads of people who know and love you, we both know that **I am your favorite.**

With much love & affection,

**LueRachelle**

\*\*\*



**By Mili from India**

Dear Anne, you breathe life in life, purpose in passion, humor in rigour and style in excellence. Your love for everyone's dreams and ease of being is truly inspiring. Let's make it to 100..a bigger party then.

From Nazneen Karmali in Mumbai:

The radiance of your spirit has lit up countless lives, mine among them. The adventures began with a bumpy bus ride in Goa. Your unconditional love throughout this three decades-plus journey was offered so freely, so generously. This gift, this lesson in living is cherished deeply in my heart, where I hold you close. Closer now. Forever.

\*\*\*

Dear Anne, you are one of the most affectionate and loving person that I have come across in my life. Just being around you has been a very soothing feeling. May God bless you.

**Krishan Kumar Chopra**, Eicher  
Gurgaon India

\*\*\*

My dear Anne, you mean the world to a whole lot of us. You radiate love and peace. I have personally gained insights just by hearing you talk. I will forever cherish our time together! Thinking of you and your family with love, anguish and blessings. **Aabha Nanda**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne.

Yours was the first Open Space I ever entered back in 1995 and it changed my life. You have Eldered so many of us for so many years, your sweet gentle touch on our shoulders holding a fierce invitation to always keep the dignity of humans front and centre. Through your guidance and wisdom and challenge and love we have become compassionate facilitators of the human journey, our own and those we work with.

You are so loved.

May you now enter the biggest space of life itself, an invitation to the deepest field of love and belonging from which we all come and from which we all return. And may you go into it prepared to be surprised.

A new journey awaits. Thank you for walking with me for a while on this one.

**Chris Corrigan.**

\*\*\*\*

Beautiful Anne

We are sending lots of love and light to you in your journey, and know that you are already so full of both, and so clearly connected to the big source of both.

I have sweet memories of sitting with you at your kitchen table with our now grown kids running around, good conversation and such a deep and pure sense of welcome and support you shared with us.

Your spirit and name travel with us woven into our work in the world and the magic that happens when we host and share Open Space.

So many gifts. Thank you. Go well.

Love **Caitlin Frost**

\*\*\*\*\*

Anne...My love is a thread in this beautiful fabric, the net Sue requested, for you "to float" on at this time.

Closely with you, **Sarah-Jane**

\*\*\*

Dearest Anne,



You have been the most loving, compassionate and giving person in our lives for 34 years! You are always connected to the Radiant Network of the Divine!

We are praying with you with all our hearts as you seek a permanent place in the home of the Lord and are freed from the cycle of births and deaths!!

Lots of love and hugs!!

**Anil, Neera, Sahil, Mehek, Devyani, Karan, Siya, Tara, Jaiveer, Taarini and all your friends in Eicher, Eicher Consultancy Services, Grow Talent and Soil**

\*\*\*

**From Peggy Holman**

It was love at first sight. In 1996, Harrison Owen insisted that we meet. We laughed about it. I guess he nagged us both. Glad he did.

Sending YES! to the journey...wherever it takes you...and us.



(Toni Petrinovich - in purple and holding the "S" - can be found at [www.youaresacred.com](http://www.youaresacred.com))

\*\*\*

**From Bob Stilger**

I remember the first time I called you, more than 20 years ago. Back in the day when we just called.. In a gruff voice you said something like *who is this and why are you calling me?* I responded and said I was Bob Stilger, blah, blah and you spoke back with a soft voice something like *oh, it's you, I wondered when you would finally call.* You've been kicking ass and taking names for a long time now. You've been showing up as a fierce warrior for your friends for more decades than most of us have been alive. No idea what your next adventure will bring

or what it will be. Whatever it is, I know you'll take this amazing spirit you have and shine. With big love and big joy.

\*\*\*

**From Mark R. Jones**

Good Night My Beloved:

"May flights of Angels sing thee to thy rest," (Shakespeare: Act 5 Scene 2)

\*\*\*

**\*From Kathy Minardi\*\***

Dear Anne, I am so grateful that Peggy Holman introduced me to you and you became such a loving and brilliant friend and advisor. You have always been there for me when I needed you. I miss you and hope that your journey leads to peace and radiance and healing. Much love,  
Kathy c.

\*\*\*

**From Paul Lippert**

Dear, sweet Anne,  
Delight, joy, curiosity, enthusiasm, passion, fearlessness, Light and Love – all these are yours, forever.

\*\*\*

Anne you are vibrating at the center of the brilliant radiant net of love that you have cast and woven in connecting and bringing us all back together in honoring your life and legacy. I hope you are basking in the glow and floating into new realms of universal love and consciousness.

**Mark and Candi**

\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Lots of love and light to you - your wise Open Space lady 🙏

**Eva from Sweden**

\*\*\*\*

**From Toni Aspin**

Dearest Anne,

You have and will continue to be an inspiration to my life. I am forever grateful for your influence. You are in my heart. Love and light to you as you embark on your next adventure. Please send some signs of what you're up to.

Enormous love,

**Toni**

\*\*\*\*\*

Beloved birthday buddy

Thank you for seeing me when I showed up at spirited work. You have been a gift in my life ever since. May you travel to your next adventure with ease and grace.



**Tracy Robinson**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne, you have been such a positive influence to so many. Yours is a life lived well. - **Dave Wolf**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Sending you lots of love and light. We met at the Fetzer institute a couple of light years ago and what a radiance you were!! I remember our conversation still !

Blessings always,

**Mark Yeoll**

\*\*\*

**From Christine Whitney Sanchez**

You are a ✨Light✨, dear Anne. That will never change.

With love...

Namaste, Christine

\*\*\*

Dear Anne

I vividly remember the Open Space programme that I attended in India and the subsequent meetings we have had. I remember the time my wife and I went for a play with you at Seattle.

Lots of love and hugs.

**Sandilya**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

I always remember the first time we met, OSONOS4 in Dulles. You and Lisa Kimball brought in a pile of foam toys. We made hats and other silly things. On my way out, I met you and Lisa at the elevator. You said something about my hat and asked how the days had been for me. "This has been the most amazing experience," I said, "I think I'll have to wear this hat forever."

And I ALWAYS remember you and the LIGHT of your reply: "You know, it might have something to do with the guy underneath the hat!" Light as love and compassion. Light as brilliant and clear and inviting. Light as spark and learning. Light as power and peace.

Thank you for all you've been and done with me and so many others, and all the ways we'll always be together. With you now. **Michael Herman**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne, sending you love on your journey now. So many memories from visits with you on Whidbey, Iona, UK, Point Reyes and in Seattle. Such an inspiration to so many of us. I have sent a message to our mutual friend Liz Campbell. On your way and see you over there. Love, always, **Susan Brayton**. Inverness, California

\*\*\*

Angel, watching over me. Forever. Watching over me. Always!  
Love You,  
**Dan Joyner**

\*\*\*

Dearest Anne,


You walked into our lives with love, compassion and friendship and with a powerful invitation to live life to its fullest. We drew a Tarot card for you just now, from the Osho deck - the Creator, one who has persistently worked upon themselves to be the masterpiece they are meant to be. You once wrote to us, "I am so grateful that we are dancing on the same planet, even if on the opposite ends of it."

Journey on Anne, if you must. We will still dance together, as part of the same consciousness.

Love, prayer, peace  
**Janaki & Mahesh**

\*\*\*

Dearest Anne! Thank you dear friend, for all the tea and cookies and chats, all the many cozy circles and celebrations you hosted in your beautiful living room and gardens, for your heart to heart guidance and profound curious questions and soulful listening. The beautiful

blues you surrounded yourself with that made your clear kind eyes shine even brighter, your championing of young people, your family stories so full of love and pride, your joy in making a beeline for wherever the trouble was. For being a living exclamation mark! For loving so many so well and so long. Sending you easy breathing on this bright blue sky day. I love you dear one, **Christy** 

\*\*\*

Dear Anne, I am deeply grateful for the privilege of having known you. I will always cherish our time at Neemrana, our walks in the forest behind your lovely home, and how you made me feel special and loved. You've inspired me and countless others. You are and have been a radiant light in this world. May our paths cross again, in another universe or in the light of the stars, wherever our souls live. Sending you all my love. - **Taruna**

\*\*\*

Anne, Space is ever-opening. Wishing you glorious surprise, love, light and warmth from the always-enlivening spirit.

**Paul Levy**, Brighton, UK

\*\*\*

My dear Anne:

From the time you came and sat with me in Goa for lunch on Sept 27th, 1989, you have become a very important part of my life. By end of 4 days, we bonded liked I have never connected with anybody else. We both left our jobs at the end of December. I came to your house in early 1990 for the open space in SEattle with Harrison and Dave became close to me as well. Since then you and Dave have been my American parents and I wrote my first article 'bicycle built for two' in your house. I wrote the first draft of Discontinuous Learning with your encouragement.

You are kind, gentle, clear and inspired human being that has the most influence on my life. I am not alone and unique in feeling that way. You radiate love and light and transmit to the entire world. You are love in human form. When we talked three weeks ago and you invited me to come and spend some time, I have been

planning but am sad that I did not immediately get on a flight to see you. I will pray and do distant Reiki and pray that you have ease and joy while you are with us.

With lots of love,

**Prasad Kaipa**, San Jose

Aaron, Sue, Matt, Mike – my heart goes out to you and I am thinking of you and love to all of you. Do let me know when she is able to talk if possible.

\*\*\*

Lovey Anne,

I sing the beauty of your ever-expanding being. More and more light and exquisitely beautiful..... the gorgeous colors of your Heartful Love is eternally caressing~ hugging your Precious being ~ into eternity.

.....bathing each of us ~ in your magnificent gift.....of Vision and generous love.....

Thank you for your courage, strength and acknowledgement.....your pure gentle love.

You are forever with me, Anne.

I'll be watching for you - resonating with your forever love..... Seeing you.....feeling you.....in all the ways you come.....to lift us up ~ higher than we could have imagined.....into that harmonious Beloved Community ~ of ONE.

Thank you, great one.....

You will keep on giving~ forever.

We know.

We open.

So much beauty!

So Much Magnificence 

So much LOVE~

**Norma Jean**



To the family~

I would be honored to come sing by her bedside. (Before, during, after) if you so chose. 425-770-4120

\*\*\*

Thinking of you Anne and your beautiful spirit! Hope you're 100% soon. Much love, **Jake**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

From the moment you believed in me and changed the course of my life, you have been in my heart with gratitude and love. I know I am one of countless who can say this. We join all those in sending you our love and aloha today and always,

James James Morrison Morrison and **Robert**

\*\*\*

Darling Anne –

From our first meeting we knew we were connected. From planning that first Open Space for United Way to expanding Leadership Tomorrow's horizons with so many Open Space gatherings since then, to your insistence that I join Spirited Work, you have been my mentor, my friend, and my guide through this life. I have loved all our conversations, all our time together and all the ways you have been so present in my life. I am sending you love and light as you prepare for your next adventure. **Jan Levy**

\*\*\*

My cherished friend,

The universe knew exactly what it was doing when it guided me like a beacon to the Spirited Work community – and you were a big, beautiful part of that. Through so many moments of profound insight and profound joy, so many lovely meals and cups of tea, you have always inspired me, nurtured the best parts of me, and invited the rest of me to step up. Always in my heart and my circle of guidance, I love you from here to wherever...forever. Leslye

\*\*\*

Thanks for your wisdom and guidance. **Ulrika** in Sweden

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Where does the time go? Such good memories to hold dear. Seeing you and Liz Campbell in Point Reyes was a special treat.

And all the open spaces - Whidbey, Seabeck, Yachats, Olympia, others, grand invitations to see the lands and the good people who gathered around with you.

Your radiant heart shines so bright.

Love,

**Jeff Aitken**

\*\*\*

Dearest Anne,

Thank you for listening to your heart, the vision of the greatest good for all. For bringing us along on the journey to our best selves, to beloved community through love, spirited living and work.

We can't enter this next journey with you dear, and you are not alone, you will know the way my darling as you always have.

Breathe sweetly, feel us around you holding vigil, holding your hand, rubbing your sweet feet. As I always say, whatever Anne Says...Listen, and so many others tell me the same thing. Now I listen to the bells ring, the skies opening for your great star to shine in the Great Beloved Community and upon us always and always.

Love,

**Kate Thompson**

\*\*\*

Anne,

In this time of transition - one of the most sacred moments we can experience in this lifetime - I wish you consciousness and curiosity, awareness and no pain. You have given so much to so many of us. Relax into this time and receive the abundance of love and appreciation that you have called forward in this life, simply by being who you are. You are Light.

All Love,

**Amy (Lenzo)**

P.S. I carry the love of my mates at World Cafe for you, too.

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

You opened my mind and expanded my heart. You helped me, over and over, find clarity and renew my commitment to our shared purpose, I am forever grateful for your mentorship and friendship.

Love and light,

**Laura (Lo Forti)**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Wishing you love, grace, and blessings. You are gift to the world. So grateful that I know you. Thank you for all that you have done and for inspiring so many.

**Sue Kraemer**

\*\*\*

Dear Anne,



Thank you for your guidance and mentoring about Open Space and our learning community. I'm so grateful for your hospitality that time over ten years ago now. You will remain in thoughts and heart.

### Harold Shinsato

\*\*\*

From Peggy Taylor

Dear Anne, you have been a beloved mentor to me for so many years. A true elder. You always shined so brightly and brought out the genius in everyone you met. One of my favorite memories was when you brought your three astonishingly wonderful grand daughters to Power of Hope camp and you stayed on as a camper as well. You have touched lives in so many generations. I will miss you and hope to see

you in the next chapter dear one.

Healing blessings, **peggy**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne, our conversations, their depth, the messages we listened to from the field we are connected to, our ability to be in genuine contact with one another, are not yet done. I will pay attention for your presence showing up in my life, in whatever ways I am able to notice. We are connected. We remain in a commitment to help each other grow. This connection is most precious to me. Thirty years ago at the first Open Space on Open Space, you walked across the circle to me and said that you would like to get to know me. I would like to think you were attracted by the light in me, however you clarified that it was my wide black hat that attracted you. And so our long friendship began in a journey of getting to know each other. A year or two later at the Open Space on Open Space, we were two of the people who were locked out of a room (Harrison had the key) in which we had expected to have a grand party with lots of dancing. You declared that this would not do. And so you drew a Tarot card to represent Harrison...the Priestess and asked me to take him through a ceremony the following morning in which he was slowly, slowly invited into the wider circle of the many of us present. Your care of co-creation of community without one person being at the hub was one of your many, many beautiful traits. I have so many stories, some in which we conspired, breathing together. The stories run through the gambit of emotions, always real. I love you Anne and add myself to this web of love that is supporting you and surrounding you. You are beloved.

### Birgitt Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

Anne ~ Dear heart. Brave. Heart. Noble heart. May you continue to soar. Always!! On angel's wings! {{{o/}}}

Love & deep gratitude, ~ **Gloria**  Pass It On!

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne ~ May the music of the spheres soothe your soul and give you peace. I can picture us together humming, intoning, creating a most marvelous and heavenly song. Thank you for who you are and for giving yourself in service to others!

**John**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dearest Anne

Adwaita here.  
Lots and lots of love and a bear hug.  
I feel you as I write this.

You are the best human being I have ever met and this is from the deepest core of my heart.

Love

**Adwaita**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear beloved Anne

Oh I am so not ready for this... yet knowing and loving you I imagine you are ready to welcome this next journey with all the zest and humor and passion that you've greeted all of life with I relish so many fond memories of times at spirited work and various open space gatherings and cozy cups of tea or lunches with great conversation, your great laughter and your wise counsel What a legacy you have left us with You have touched so many lives, and brought so much joy and love and healing and wisdom. Tears are flowing. I love you I will always hold you in my heart.

**Susan (Partnow)**

\*\*\*



My Dearest Anne,

I find it hard to put into words the depth of gratitude and love that fills my heart as I sit down to write this letter. You have been not just a guide, but a friend, a co-conspirator in life's grand journey, a radiant networker, and, above all, a beloved presence in my life. Together, we have woven the threads of our experiences into a beautiful tapestry of shared moments, laughter, and profound meaning.

Our adventures together have spanned the realms of Spirited Work, Radiant Networking, the profound Practice of Peace, and the ever-inspiring Service Space. Through it all, your unwavering support, wisdom, and boundless enthusiasm have been a guiding light that has illuminated my path, helping me find my way when the road was obscured by shadows.

As I reflect on our shared journey, I am filled with a sense of deep appreciation for the incredible moments we have experienced together. Your presence has been a constant source of inspiration and a reminder of the beauty of selfless service and the power of genuine connection. The way you effortlessly weave people and ideas together is a true gift, and the impact you have had on those around you is immeasurable.

Now, as we part ways on this particular chapter of our lives, I am sending you my heartfelt wishes for your continued well-being and happiness. May the boundless realms of Emptiness, Awareness, Silence, and Enthusiasm grant you an EASE peace that transcends all dis-ease. May your journey be filled with love and grace, and may the path ahead be illuminated by the brilliance of your spirit.

I have no doubt that the next chapter of your adventures will be as transformative and meaningful as all the chapters that have come before. Your boundless love, dedication, and the light you bring into the world are powerful forces that will continue to touch the lives of many.

Sending you all the love and blessings that my heart can hold, dear Anne. Please know that you are cherished beyond measure and that your impact on this world is immeasurable.

With much love and gratitude from Arun, Anu, Nitya, Pragnya, Khema, and Omkar. Speaking of Omkar, he eagerly awaits the next opportunity to dance with you, his eyes shining with the joy of your company.

Your radiant presence has left an indelible mark on all of us, and we look forward to the day when our paths cross again. Having said that, I remember clearly that your deepest SELF of Infinite Silence, Emptiness, Love and Freedom is who we all are right now.

So while the body is onto another journey, YOU Remain Eternally Present as Infinite Love and Peace.

Go well sweetheart, and dance on!

With all our hugs, love and admiration,

Arun, Anu

**Arun Wakhlu**  
Srinagar, Kashmir

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Madam Anne,

I join so many of your well wishers as above and pray for your being. I am one of many who had the pleasure of meeting with you, when you happened to be in India with EICHER Co.Delhi.

Though ours was a fleeting meeting yet I do remember that fondly.

May God bless you,

**Satyamurty, S. Dr**  
Hyderabad, India

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

We only met once but you served me the BEST pumpkin pie ever!! I am grateful to Arun for taking me to your home.

Your service to others as a community builder has so inspired me and confirmed the importance of continuing the work. Clearly, you have planted the seeds of compassion that now sprout in the many hearts you have touched. Thank you for being an example to all of us and the next generation who will carry forward your life's work.

With much love,

**Etch Haring**

Kirkland Washington

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Dearest Anne ~

Good morning from Rishikesh, where I have just heard the news that your spirit may be preparing for a very great adventure. I am going to offer prayers and marigolds for you at the Ganga today.

I am infinitely grateful for our many collaborations, co-inspirations, and communions since we met in 2010. We have traveled, worked, celebrated, and of course sourced together in India, Canada, and the UK, as well as around the USA. What a divine journey this has been!

It would be difficult to overstate the joy and upliftment that you have brought to my life, and to so many lives around the world. You are love made visible and shared abundantly. One of your profound gifts was introducing me to the practice of sourcing, which became a spiritual path and a Source-led business that is now thriving. Your guidance changed the direction of my life in the best possible way, and your spirit continues to inspire and influence all that I do, and all that I am.

During our conversation two weeks ago, we explored being Source ever more fully. Now you are leading the way, once again, and taking our conversation to a new level by merging into the Infinite. I know in my heart, and through sourcing, that your soul is liberated. May you delight in Source as Source. May you know the Radiant Net in fullness. May your light shine eternally and omnipresently. May you sing and dance as you voyage across the ocean of YOU.

The upcoming retreat in Mexico is titled "Being Source," and it shall be in your honor. Your presence remains as the form of our connection evolves. We are always connected. We are always One. We are always THIS, because THIS is IT! Feel free to stay in touch and drop by any time.

Endless love,

**Jeff Vander Clute**

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Dear Anne,

It is so heartwarming to see this outpouring of love from your friends and admirers in the open space community. Thank you so much for blazing this trail for all of us. Your life's work is an inspiration to all of us.

Sincerely,  
**Lucas Cioffi**

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Dear Anne,


On the eve of my high school graduation, more than 25 years ago, we sat in Birgitt's dining room and I told you what I wanted to do with my life and how I felt lost in knowing how to get started. Before the weekend was over, you'd opened your home to me and made the introduction for an internship that set me on the path that's led to where I am today. It was an early lesson in following what has heart and meaning, even when it takes a tremendous amount of courage and a leap of faith...and for sharing an intention and then being prepared to be surprised.

I'm thinking of that heart, faith, and courage this evening, and sending you and yours love, lightness for the journey, and ease of heart.

**Rachel Bolton**

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Dearest Anne,

We haven't known each other long and we saw each other only a few times and only online. But I want to thank you for supporting my vision and helping me make it bigger. I'm sending you Love and Light, from me and my Light Beings. We all bow to you and wish you large and fluffy wings to fly easily and gracefully into this next adventure. 

**ZaHaVa Sherez**

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Dear Anne,

I learnt about Open Space workshop first time. I never imagined that such a large workshop can happen with our agenda. You influenced my thinking and my journey.

You have contributed to humanity a little better, the true daughter of the Mother Earth.

**Arun Jain**

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Dearest Anne,

You have gifted me with light and love and the best cheerleading for my adventures. The planet is all the better for your care and concern... May we all continue your mission of love and light and peace every day....

Much love,

**Sue McNab**

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You are a brave person Anne, can't forget the smiling face during our SOIL days. I know you'll come out strongly. I pray to Sita Ram, trust him.

**Akshat Kant**

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Dear Anne ( to me, you will forever be Annie bananie ollie - when we met at the Radiant network, this is how you introduced yourself to me) ...

You have been the light and joy of the many lives you touched with your incredible spirit and generosity. Those of us who knew you, came away changed and infused with that same spirit.

Love to you, for your onward journey as you continue to BE the light in the truest sense of the word.

As you always believed... What could possibly go right?

Love - heaps and heaps of it 

**Pallavi Vetury-Iyer**

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Our dearest Anne-

Ever since I met you at the Storyfield conference in 2007, I have aspired to become another Anne throughout the later decades of my life: full of vitality and deep wisdom, fully present to each person and opportunity in the moment; master networker; fearless, honest, curious, compassionate. And deeply spiritual and connected to Source. Earlier tonight I felt the sudden urge to email our mutual friend, Jeff. In it I mentioned that both Michael Dowd—who died unexpectedly 3 weeks ago—and you, from whom I was waiting to get a response to a recent email—both live life so fully that you carry a “Today is a Good Day to Die” presence. Another quality I aspire to embody. Within a couple hours, Jeff sent me news that you may, indeed, be embarking on your journey to the other side. Behold the mystery of our interconnectedness.

Know you are being held in reverence and love by Steve and me. The veil is particularly thin this time of year. Your presence will continue to be perceived and integrated into our lives, no matter where you are.

Gratitude, Grace, Peace.

**Karen and Steve Kudebeh**

Denver, CO

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Dearest Anne,

Sending love from the seaside in Deal, UK. I've been thinking about you in the past week, thinking I wanted to text you. I understand now that we have been connected beyond the everyday realms.

A mentor, friend, sourcing partner, elder, and lover of mankind, your light is everlasting. I send your spirit and soul love and nourishment for your journey, wherever it may take you.

A 'mover & shaker', your warmth and wisdom for the betterment of spirit-kind continue to shine bright. Asking Source to share a message, I'm getting: "Life's truest form shows up in the here and now. Among the thoughts, hearts, and spirits wandering the Planet, we are all One."

I cherish the time we have spent together over the years, and especially our city break in Venice.



Sending much love to you and your family!

**Maria Baeck, UK**

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Dearest Anne, my anam cara..I'm holding you in my heart and sending much love to all the Stadlers as they sit with you. I'm so grateful for the special gift of your friendship and cherish all the wonderful memories of our adventures together over the years. Always happy to be your co-conspirator in creating beloved community. Gra galore, **Fidelma**

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Dear Anne, we only met a few years ago, and afterwards I got a greeting from you on Facebook, which felt really good. Warmth to you, **Thomas Perret**

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Dear Ann

I am seeing you with sparks of love and humor surrounding you. I remember the way I «met » you : through a long story shared by Peggy. I had been struggling till this moment to understand what « opening space » in onés life meant and suddenly I had a story of you inviting whoever had the passion to come and live whatever was there to be lived. I wished I could have been part of this. It is a great teaching you are giving to the world and I thank you for this. Whatever Whatever comes, you will show your light around ane we will be with you.

**Christine Koehler from Paris**

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Dear Anne,  
sending love and my best regards from Berlin, Germany and remember you as a wise person who had done a lot for our community. I will remember this. Thank you  
**Jo Toepfer** from Berlin

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Anne,  
Sending love and gratitude for your wisdom, generosity and spirit. Thank you.  
From **Lee** at Improbable

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Dear Anne,  
You have been an amazing mentor and role model in our world of open space. Know that I am sending you love, light and angels to bring ease to your journey. With gratitude for the learning, and support that I have received directly and indirectly over the last 25 years that I have been involved in the community.

**Michelle Cooper** - Dundas, Ontario Canada



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Warmest greetings Anne,  
So much love and gratitude my dear friend for a life well lived and for all that you have brought to our world. You are a shining light, a compassionate warrior, peace bridge builder and an amazing activist for the Common Good.

Thank you for your constant generosity and for taking me under your wing in 1986 when I moved to the Puget Sound with my family from the Findhorn Community in Scotland to take up a position at Antioch University. So many fond memories over the years in a multiplicity of settings – from Lake Forest Park to Dharamsala, India and points between.

Godspeed, blessings and Happy Trails as you journey back into the subtle realms. Say 'hi' to Dave – I expect he is enjoying the Mariner's recent run of form compared to those Kingdome days!

With brotherly love and deep appreciation, **Michael** (Lindfield)

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Dear Anne,  
I am thinking of teaching stories that reflect a good life that include "you lived well and you died well". And other stories that talk about if a person has uplifted even

one other human being, they have lived a good life. Anne, you lived a good life, to the fullest. In the afterlife dimension, you are likely continuing your community work, being curious, asking questions, giving sage advice, and laughing a lot including mention to not necessarily take your sage advice.

I have enjoyed over thirty years of friendship with you, your playfulness, your curiosity and willingness to learn and to go deeply into ever so many topics. Our conversations, not prescribed in any way, always landed in surprising twists, turns and what was uncovered, much to our mutual delight. I learned a great deal from your mentoring, from how you modeled Eldership, and from simply being with you.

When I came to visit, you always organized a gathering in your home, encouraging our co-creativity, innovations, friendships and taking action. You had a lot of patience for the conversations and yet your yearning for action, for something to be different than it was and for those gathered to take that action was strong.

You are precious to me. I continue to have conversations with you, appreciating that you were and are a gift in my life and how I live it.

With love and appreciation dear Anne,  
Birgitt Williams  
Etowah, North Carolina



“Cure yourself, with the light of the sun and the rays of the moon.  
With the sound of the river and the waterfall.  
With the swaying of the sea and the fluttering of birds.  
Heal yourself, with the mint and mint leaves, with neem and eucalyptus.  
Sweeten yourself with lavender, rosemary, and chamomile.  
Hug yourself with the cocoa bean and a touch of cinnamon.  
Put love in tea instead of sugar and take it looking at the stars.  
Heal yourself, with the kisses that the wind gives you and the hugs of the  
rain.  
Get strong with bare feet on the ground and with everything that is born  
from it.  
Get smarter every day by listening to your intuition, looking at the world  
with the eye of your forehead.  
Jump, dance, sing, so that you live happier.  
Heal yourself, with beautiful love, and always remember... you are the  
medicine.”

***Maria Sabina, Mexican/Oaxacan Native Medicine Wise Woman, Curandera and Poet.***

You were and still are an Alchemist, and Divine messenger in my life dearest Anne, a loving friend, guardian angel, wise counsel and a steady love stream.  
You continue to teach without teaching, always an example of loving service and open-hearted joy and appreciation of the gift of life. Strong and steady with a naughty twinkle in the eye! You were healing by your presence - I always felt great relief, like a healing in your presence no matter what we were discussing or doing. Life fell into place through your non-judgemental love.  
Looking back through our messages, mails, meetings and conversations there is just beautiful non-judgmental communication and all is punctuated with positivity, joy and love of life and community, how to be inclusive, how to form community, how to share love – as I look back through mails and messages, hoorays, yippies, yay, yay and whoeeees abound and your bright being lights me up.

Our travel adventures together were packed with meaning and loads of fun. I learned to have more fun with you! At the same time Nothing felt superfluous. – even our shopping trips and your discerning taste. Every moment was precious to me. I marveled at your fortitude, resilience, curiosity and appreciation of diversity. I treasure the times you welcomed me so to stay with you in your cozy home and you lovingly cooked me a meal.

I love the photo of you standing on the rocks in Pondicherry, the wind so strong it could blow us into the sea – you would not take no for an answer when I tried to dissuade you! You let the elements wash over you with such glee.

I thank the Divine for your fleeting meeting with Steven on a street in Portland Oregon way back in 1996, when one intense look, a few strong words from you and our lives were transformed forever, catapulted back into India for an amazing journey alongside your dear friend Anil Sachdev and onward. I only met you many years later.

The love you so openly gave continues to guide and serve as the inspiration to do good.  
Love you Anne!

Susie



Pondicherry 2013





Dharamsala with the Soil team





Orinda California August 2019 - my last in person hugs! Love you Anne!! Thank you Dearest, Beloved Anne –



No one has been so large in my life. A continuous presence whether in the physical or not, you were here, inside. You are here. Like oxygen, a soul essence. A source of inspiration and wisdom of lightness and constancy. It all arose from the moment you looked in my eyes back in 1998, during a women's Open Space in Boston, and asked "who **are** you"?

Thereupon I entered your enchanted world and the magic began. It grew, deepened and transformed my life in direct and invisible ways. I moved for a

time back to the West Coast – to beautiful Whidbey. I met my beloved, Cha'e at Spirited Work and a beautiful community of souls whose friendships I cherish to this day. We traveled, we gathered, we workshopped, we cooked, we shopped, we sat in circle, we dined, we sweat-lodged, we discussed, we laughed and learned. The "small" actions as memorable and impactful as the "grand" experiences of being in your enormous creative flow. I witnessed your insatiable curiosity, your generosity of spirit, your open welcome and invitation to anyone who entered your space, your profound care for and nourishment of community, your boundless energy, your fierce and courageous stand for Truth – unwavering, immediate and public.



You are here Now. Your unique, indescribable Presence continues to emanate nourishment and inspiration to so, so many of us. You are cherished and precious and I know you are receiving all of our love letters whether written here or in our hearts, ongoing !





**Stella Humphries**, Butterfly Farm, North Carolina



Dear Dave, Sue, Matthew and Aaron,

I was so sad to miss the events for Anne and I'm writing to share my condolences and my hope that you all are finding warmth and comfort in all of these beautiful contributions.

Jerry and I visited Anne out in the cottage several times this year, and I had a couple of recent magnificent phone calls with her. My last, in mid October, was about "Burnished with Love" and our conversation ranged through our friendship, her gifts and my gratitude to her for taking me under her wing. I was so lucky that she and your Dad were in my life. I remember Gary sitting with Dave when we'd go out caroling and now I think of Anne and Jerry laughing, their heads tossed back.

Anne taught me about doing inner work, turning towards fear and hardship, and letting love take us where we need to go. I'll never forget how she and Lucy were our only students in that class we taught, Matthew, and how kind they were to us as we "taught" them. Wow. Sometimes the best gifts come to you in the weirdest ways. I'm forever grateful for that.

Love to all of you. Sue, please know that I met Jerry on the Sheepshead. I remember talking to you about the great walks you had there. Thank you!

Love

Franny McCue

So many messages, so much love, about a life wonderfully lived. I always remember Anne as a champion of rights, of the values that help us create and sustain a community that embraces everyone.

To the end, on Facebook and other ways, she fought for all the DEI values and global peace hopes we share. I knew Anne from a distance, from her years at KING Broadcasting, in emails and online. She was always the one - a mentor to so many - with a generous and insightful answer to questions about policy, but also about life itself.

If there is immortality, it will be in remembrances of Anne's example to each of us.

All best to everyone in Anne's family,  
Mike James