

Linda Chase Broda

1941 - 2011



Photo: Garth Williams



Generally, when producing this magazine, I try to take a step back and temporarily suspend my own personal viewpoint, in the hope of producing a balanced, non-prejudiced magazine. In this instance I must declare a personal interest, Linda was a very dear friend to me, and, as you will see, to many others.

Over these pages we have included a series of testaments from a range of people who wanted to show their appreciation for Linda's life and work.

Whilst working on this piece I have an over-riding sense of how Linda would have liked it to be, both from a personal and editorial point of view. It is also evident that, in many ways, she not only touched, but had a lasting influence, on many of those who she was in contact with.

The I first time I met Linda was in the early 80's and, although I didn't know it at the time, she'd already had an influence on my life....

My first sight of Linda was in the early 1980's when, early one Saturday morning, whilst seated in my car, I saw someone looking lost. Soon I realised that she'd arrived early to teach our tai chi workshop in the park, having travelled from Manchester to Glasgow.

Later I discovered that she had started an alternative health & arts magazine in Manchester, (Cahoots) a forerunner to Connections magazine which I went on to produce in Scotland for nearly 20 years (which, in turn, provided me with the skills to produce this publication). Although we didn't have much contact then, I was aware of the connection between both publications and the subsequent exhibitions we both went on to create, around the field of health & arts.

Over the years we became tai chi colleagues and very close friends. In tai chi terms Linda expressed many of the qualities we aspire to in this work: She was certainly grounded, very firmly centred, relaxed, open and constantly in dialogue. This quality of engagement led her to implement a number of initiatives: Linda was a founder Member of the Tai Chi Union for Great Britain, where her involvement was instrumental in encouraging many others to participate, thereby helping to create a more balanced approach to the promotion of these arts in the UK and beyond.

Through the Village Hall Tai Chi she played host to a number of eminent teachers and her door was open to students and teachers from many backgrounds and approaches to the art. When Zheng Chen Lei was in town I asked Linda if we could host a meeting in the Village Hall and she not only graciously invited him to showcase his skills but also encouraged many others to attend.

Her pioneering work with the Special Needs Forum inspired many others to apply tai chi as a practical tool for helping those with often physical or mental limitations, where she also created a practical handbook and video and ultimately helped to create what became the Tai Chi & Chi Kung Health Forum.

In the early days of the Taijiquan & Qigong Federation for Europe she helped to create a space where our European friends were able to talk openly and she actively participated in a number of events across Europe. At a Conference in Bulgaria, where I raised the idea of creating the ill-fated European Internal Arts Journal she immediately offered her support and sent a lengthy article for our first publication.

When we launched Tai Chi Caledonia in Scotland Linda travelled to the highlands to share her skills and actively helped to promote the event.

As a member of the Editorial Board of this magazine, provided an open ear, a balanced viewpoint and creative, considered solutions to potentially difficult situations, exercising considerably more diplomatic skills than I.

Although in her later life she became more involved in her poetry work she maintained an active interest in tai chi, becoming a student of Wang Haijun, training in the more physically demanding Chen style.

When Adrian Murray founded Pushing Hands UK Meeting last year, Linda actively participated where; I think for the first time, she became my student for a short while. She was deeply interested in the approaches of all the teachers there, working with all students in her usual open manner.

For a number of years my communications with Linda had considerably less to do with tai chi but we remained very close friends. We shared a love of Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan and attended his concert together in Glasgow, although I found it hard to share her enthusiasm for his dreadful Christmas Album. I came to Manchester to see Journey to the West with her and oftentimes I stayed both in her lovely house in Manchester, and in her London apartment, where our last time there together we shared croissants and strawberries on her sunny balcony.

The last time I stayed at her place in Manchester, over breakfast she told me the house was going to be 150 years old the following year. I suggested she had a party for it. The party drew 200+ people from all walks of Linda's life. I guess it was her swansong. She loved playing hostess and her zest for life, and its varied interests, were never more evident than they were at that party.

In writing this piece I realised that I'd known Linda for nearly 30 years. Over the course of our lives we come into contact with many people, but only a handful stay close to each us for such duration. To be able to share in the joy, passion and colour that Linda offered was a precious and lasting pleasure, one which I'm sure those of us who knew her, will continue to keep close to our hearts.

As we get older we get increasing opportunities to mourn those who pass away. When Cleo, her daughter, sent out invitations to her funeral, she announced that people should dress brightly as the event was intended to be a celebration of Linda's life. Strangely enough I have no sense of mourning of Linda's passing but an overall sense of the light and vividness she brought to every encounter – a delight to experience and one that continues to shine!

Ronnie Robinson



I first met Linda many years ago when we lived in Edinburgh and Tai Chi was in its infancy. The one thing that always struck me was her wonderful openness and zest. In all the years those aspects of Linda never diminished. She was definitely one of life's great enthusiasts. We often met at Tai Chi classes and had some lovely times practicing together. She was serious about Tai Chi, but all was done with great good humour. When she moved to Manchester we kept in touch and I was invited to teach at the "Village Hall" a delightful hall situated in her garden. Linda had a big heart, which was shown by her involvement in Tai Chi for special needs. Which has grown over time thanks to her initial enthusiasm.

Ian Cameron



When I was Director of "Tian Tan", a magazine for alternative and holistic arts. I wanted to include an interview with Linda Chase Broda, because of her special way of using Taijiquan with people with special needs.

In my introduction I wrote, "Linda and I first met under a blanket". It was just

a silly joke for creating suspense, and then I added: "Yes, we meditated, and since it was quite cold outside, we had a blanket on to keep warm". In the 1990's we had just met and she invited me to join an impromptu early morning meditation session in the heart of the Cairngorm Scottish National Park the morning after. From under the blanket, in a cold summer early morning, we could see deer and birds appearing, and witness an amazing sunrise. This was my first introduction to meditation. This encounter was at the first Tai Chi Caledonia where Linda and I were teaching.

The first thing I noticed of this charming lady was her brilliant intelligence, her clear spirit and her fiery temperament, soft and gentle but strong when needed. Her beautiful eyes, blue and deep, where quite difficult to avoid during conversation, and it was easy to get gently hypnotized by her smiling attitude and her enthusiasm when talking about almost everything.

I can hardly affirm that Linda and I were "friends" in the best meaning of the word, since we did not meet that often. But if we consider that every relationship has a special history and a unique way of being, I would say that we enjoyed a sound friendship, based on values and priorities we shared instinctively, and a broader vision of Taijiquan as an multi-faceted art.

I can still recognize her "style and touch" just by the description she gave to one of her workshops- "Sharing the Essence. - Most of the activities will be done with partners or in small groups. Participants will identify various principles of Tai Chi and then create new movement patterns by adhering to the principles, but not being limited by traditional Tai Chi forms. The workshop will be light in spirit, but profound in its ramifications - Tai Chi can be shared by all, regardless of ability".

I remember one instance she told me about. She was attending a workshop, and feeling that not everything was quite right she decided to leave. The problem was, her bags were at one end of the hall, and she at the other. She said laughing "I don't know how I got out of there, but I found myself standing outside with my bags and coat bundled up in my arms."

Latterly Linda concentrated on her poetry, was published and was very well respected in that field. I took great delight in reading one of her poems that was published in the Guardian. Typical of Linda, she said that she was privileged to be in the company of the other poets also published in that edition. I thought at the time, they were in good company too.

We will all miss Linda, but she will not be forgotten for all that she accomplished, and for the love she gave.

Linda had a special depth, or "thickness" and that came from her background in the theatre world and - from personal life. She was a talented and inspiring poet and teacher.

The last time we talked, was on the phone few months ago, when I was planning a seminar near Manchester and I thought about visiting Linda during this trip. She opened her house to me, and said I could stay as long as I wished. Unfortunately, the seminar was revoked, and I had no chance to visit her. But her invitation was very warm and welcoming, she had a delicate tone in her voice, which made me feel like I really had to see her.

I still conserve a letter she wrote to me sharing the joy of being in mutual good company, and I really felt happy and honoured because of this. I always appreciated this direct and simple way of giving value to the moment you share with a person you like. The sad news of Linda arrived as a shock, she was still young and she had so much to say still. I felt we all missed a special soul, a special presence, that had helped silently so many people, doing her job - as she intended to do - taking care of so much suffering. Sufferance is a key word of Linda's workbook and poems, but she managed her life through the waves in a brave, indomitable way. There are people who cannot be forgotten, Linda is one of them.

The last image I have of Linda comes from her texts. She used a style of writing that reminded me of haiku, the ability to describe things with evocative images.

Writer

I am hardly awake
Before I begin
To begrudge you my time.
One eye opened, already
I think of fresh coffee,
Hot milk and my desk
At the window,
The cherry tree.
Two weeks,
Maybe three
For blossoms.

This was Linda. And I love to remember the way she smiled. Thanks again - and for a long time, Linda.

Luigi Zanini



Playing Tai Chi



Linda's 'send-off' in her garden



'Still pushing' - September 2010

It is with considerable sadness that I address this tribute to the tai chi community. Linda's name will be known to a good many of you, not only because she was one of the earlier players in the UK (1974) but also because she was a very popular person. I think that I can say that I was a close friend to Linda, we visited often & we travelled together a fair bit. I have the pleasure of knowing her children but soon gave up trying to keep track of the many other people in the mix. During our time spent together there was a constant reminder of her wide ranging interests & associations, the phone ringing, always mail, many many emails. She was usually up at 7.00 am to meditate a while & practise & she was often up until 3.00 or 4.00 am emailing & writing.

Linda was really 'out there'. Linda's life was one full of art & appreciation, the walls of the house covered in pictures. The kitchen, practical & well used for entertaining, full of hand-made things. Her office a large room packed with the equipment of word craft. About the house ample evidence of writing, poetry, music, social politics, Tai Chi, her family & society.

Latterly Linda's main occupation was poetry. Linda wrote a lot of words - many rather elegantly strung together. I wonder how she would describe her own being in the world? This might well be one of those moments when I'd call her for help. It's quite a challenge to be suitably brief about someone who had done such a lot!

Except for her own practise, Linda began to wind down her 'external' tai chi activities over the last 10 years. She stopped classes in Manchester & most of her international teaching. About 4 years ago she resigned from the Special Needs forum that she created. Of late she was notably absent from the pushing hands collective called 'The Movable Feast' that she conceived. Though as recently as summer 2009 she could still be discovered teaching the poetry component of a Tai Chi & Poetry week at Cortijo Romero. Then, just last year, she started up again. She was a welcome attendee at Pushing Hands UK inaugural event & took up Chen style - too exciting to miss! She was quite fired up about it & loved being a tai chi student again. She relayed to me some

very amusing moments when it dawned upon other class attendees that she had started before they were born. Even after 35 years of Tai Chi Linda knew how to be a student of the art, to further her skills & broaden her horizons.

The last weekend I stayed with Linda was a kind of archetype. We went to the movies twice, ate in & out, took in the Manchester Art Gallery, went shopping for technical stuff, practised Tai Chi together, talked all the while, friends from afar showed up for a visit, Linda stayed up until 4.00 am working on poems & writing emails. On that visit we didn't visit her children & grandchildren - but that would have been normal too.

Her funeral was conducted by her ex-husband, children & best friend - it was very heartfelt. The reception afterwards was held in her beautiful garden in it's prime spring condition - she was proud of her garden & liked to host events there. During the day you'd be hard pressed to find a more diverse gathering. Family, friends, 'her' women's group, her colleagues from charity work, poets, publishers, Tai chi pals, students, actors & musicians. She would truly loved to have been there.

Ever glad to meet a new person, always eager in a project, open, communicative & caring, very caring. There's a big gap in our community now but it will serve to remind us how much to miss her.

Adrian Murray

For Linda

Linda - my friend
my surrogate sister
my soul mate

I watched you fly and grow
and infiltrate my creativity
with your unique artistic styles

We shared our Edinburgh days
our babes, their births
we shared much more
throughout the years
Your willingness to share
Your open spirit
is overwhelming
You gave me strength at times
to carry on

I watch you fly again
to unknown places
where old friends meet
where souls unite

Make sure you call to me
I need you in my life

Rosalind Thomas-Clark



Linda was my first T'ai Chi teacher. I count myself so lucky to have been living just down the road from Linda, and working just around the corner, but my greatest good fortune was that Linda came, as a student, to the beginners' computing class I ran in 1985. Whatever she may have learned in my class, she shared her enthusiasm about T'ai Chi with me, and about eighteen months later I was intrigued enough to give it a go.

It was wonderful! The classes were such fun, and so interesting. Linda's Form was so beautiful, and, best of all, I was able to walk without pain the next day (quite different from my previous experience of classes involving physical exercise). So I was hooked on T'ai Chi from the first moment, but also, gradually, I came to understand more and more clearly how special Linda's teaching was. She invited many internationally renowned teachers to her school, and I was privileged to be a student in a considerable number of the seminars that she organised, but none offered more caring, love and respect in their teaching than Linda. And that was important to me as a woman. I was frightened of being 'beaten up' in partner practice, but was also impatient with myself about this. Through her gentle, kind, attention, Linda allowed me to start to overcome my fears and value my own abilities at a pace that I could manage.

So thank you, Linda, for the strength and generosity with which you offered me your 'soft' T'ai Chi. I will always remember you as one of the most profoundly empowering people in my life.

Brenda Howlett



It's been hard to recognise that Linda really is no longer with us, particularly as I no longer live in Manchester and therefore recently only managed to meet annually. The impact of her loss is almost ethereal and, as a result, I can easily forget that fact.

I was among Linda's earliest group of students, 1980 I think. I also accompanied her at her old folks' sessions in the hospital. I still practise Tai Chi daily.

Linda was the most charismatic teacher I have ever experienced. She led us patiently, with calm but enthusiastic authority; her sessions

were full of concern, compassion and also laughter. As she corrected minor details each and every one of us felt carefully guided and of importance to her, as did the whole group.

She was there to support us in the process of learning, with no grasping/driving pressure. She created an atmosphere whereby it felt fully safe and unthreatening to put ourselves into her hands, where every small step forward was an achievement, and cause for hope and joy.

Liz Lankester Coyne



I would like to make a personal tribute to Linda Chase Broda as I consider myself very lucky that our paths crossed on my tai chi journey some ten years ago.

Linda came along to do a course in Glasgow and into my life just at the right time for me. I was very keen to try and make the connection between my own tai chi practice and weaving it into my work as a Community Physiotherapist with the elderly especially, but also taking tai chi and chi kung into the healthcare setting in general – but I was lacking in confidence and expertise at that time as to how to introduce, somehow adapt and then teach those less able-bodied people the joy of tai chi and chi kung movements and their benefits with all the principles and philosophies that I had been taught.

As soon as Linda began talking and teaching that day about the tai chi and chi kung work she was doing, with those with special health needs, it was obvious that here was a truly unique teacher from whom I could learn so much. I was drawn like a moth to the flame! She exuded such huge energy and enthusiasm with a deep understanding and connection with the art of tai chi and chi kung. I admired her easy fun style of communicating this to us all both in theory and practice. Her demonstrations of how to be creative and inventive with movements without compromising tai chi principles were truly inspirational and none more so than when we worked with some elderly in-patients who had kindly agreed to participate in the course which was held in a geriatric hospital. I shall never forget the transformation that Linda achieved with these patients as she led them in a spontaneous seated tai chi session. Their expressionless faces, from probable lack of stimulation, became animated, they laughed, spoke out and contributed, invented their own movements so that normally inactive arms and legs, no doubt from sitting all the time, were moving in all directions! It was very humbling and moving to see this happening, both as a health professional and personally; to realise what elderly people or anyone with health needs or compromised mobility can achieve. I owe a great deal to Linda for showing me the way.

Linda told us about the Tai Chi and Chi Kung Forum for Special Needs – TCCKF (now for Health) that she had set up in Manchester and invited course participants to join her for their first May Gathering at the Village Hall as she called it, at her home. Of course I just had to go and the rest as they say is history! I am still going and in doing so have made wonderful friendships and connections with fellow tai chi players working with people with a huge variety of health needs. I have learned so much over the years from being associated with the TCCKF including gaining a Teaching Certificate, which has empowered and inspired me to continue on my tai chi journey and with my teaching the elderly. Thank you Linda – you are my heroine! May your light always shine brightly in the Universe.

Marna Howie



with Dr Tao



1st TCFE Forum, Italy



First I met Linda in the 1990's at a workshop she offered on her specialist subject "Taiji for People with Special Needs." Inspired by both her work and her personality and I subsequently invited her to lead further workshops in Hamburg. Since that time we became friends and Linda invited me to go with her to Spain as her co-teacher. I also had the honour to be a guest at her 60th birthday ceremony in Manchester.

Although, in her latter years Linda had decided to concentrate more on her writing work than her Taiji, the Taiji-scene in Europe

has lost one of its most excellent taiji players and teachers. Linda was always interested in building bridges between the fighters, the healthy, and the more spiritually oriented taiji players.

With Linda I have lost not only a colleague who influenced my Taiji work a lot, but I have also lost a very close friend. Her humour and warmth touched me we shall never forget all that she gave to us.

Claus Albermann
Founding Member: Taijiquan & Qigong Netzwerk Deutschland



At 1st Tai Chi Caledonia



in her garden

changing form

like a butterfly that changes its form
like an arrow detached from its bow
like a lioness feeding her cubs
like a dolphin playing the waves
or,
like a cat purring as it nestles on your lap
or,
like the river that flows to the stillness of the great mountain
or,
a ripen sun burst lush and sweet
take all this and more
wrap it up
with a ribbon the colour of generosity
and love.



Doris Hofton

Linda was a real taiji-pioneer and taiji-explorer. She made the movements suitable to people who were unable to move in a "normal" way. When I first heard about her work, I thought: impossible, for doing Taijiquan you have to be able to stand upright and move the entire body. But then I was fascinated by her approach to explore Taijiquan and use it in "extraordinary environments" in a simple and ordinary way. Her passing is a great loss for the taijiquan and qigong-community, but her work will never be forgotten.



Helmut Oberlack
Editor Taiji & Qigong Journal, Germany



I was really shocked to see Linda's lovely, knowing and caring face looking up from the deceased section of the newsletter. It was around 1985-86 that I first met Linda, she had just returned home from America and I'd just got back to the North West after living in London for 5 years. I learned Prof Cheng's Yang Style Short Form from the "London School of Tai Chi Chuan" and was desperate to find someone to train with. I found Linda. I remember going to Palatine Road and being taken round to the garden by a friend. There was a pagoda and it was so serene and peaceful and then I met Linda and could see why it was so. We embraced and spent some time getting to know a bit about each other's pedigrees. After this I attended a lot of courses in the north of England with Linda and also met my Sifu, Aarvo Tucker when attending his classes with Linda.

I know I did not know Linda or spend as much time with her as a lot of her dear friends did, but I would just like to say that the only thing you could do when you met dear Linda was to give her a Big Hug. She was Like a Little Female Buddha and I am sad that I spent so little time with her and that the world no longer has her lovely smile in it. Although as I think that I am filled with the joy of having been at the other end of that smile and can indeed feel it within me now. - Shalom el Laychem Linda.

Marcus Bain

I don't really come under the Tai Chi heading, but I knew Linda in Edinburgh when she was just beginning. She told me all about it and showed me some moves. She so much wanted me to join in, but at that time I wasn't able to. I told her I couldn't do it because it made me laugh, and I knew that was not the response expected.

After she moved to Manchester I did begin to tune in in a more respectful way and over the years I have joined in different sessions and workshops alongside Linda. Some of the best was in India where Linda practised on rooftops, by rivers in the forest and up hills!

I never did take up Tai Chi in a systematic way but I learned what I know from wonderful Linda Tai Chi Queen.

Sara Macaulay

BIG SISTER for Linda



You saw me by the lake in Surrey playing tai-chi, and you said *I know your teacher.*

You almost did, he was a student of my teacher just like me. You quickly became my tai-chi sister, conspiratorial friend, we gossiped about all & everything between heaven and earth, the hell of rules that bind the body to a fixed root. Never double-weighted, you slithered into hospitals and day centres bringing tai-chi to special people expecting moments of attention held by a light touch laced with laughter and the bliss of simple contact, blessing everyone with your contagious chi and generous chuaning.

We could have been lovers had you not been my big sister, my poetry mentor inspiring greater effort. On the back of my book you wrote *Here we find echoes of Frank O'Hara.* Your last book with Len, *Shooting the Breeze* was a feather from Frank's hat: urban, ordinary beauty capturing the essence of who we really are, and who you really are transcends words. Roving between the lines, stopping mid-flow in single whip, sweeping past 30 years, I cherish every moment we ever had: hanging out in your kitchen - nibbling opinions, Wiston Lodge midnight mirror form accompanied by drums and cello, bare chested Bodhisattva on the lawn at Laureston, dressed to kill and jiving like a genie -

you granted me so many wishes. I cherish every moment we ever had, and now is always the best one.

Larry Butler



I first met Linda in the early 1980's. It was at a Cahoots Festival in Manchester, this was a festival inspired by her to bring together practitioners and people interested in a whole range of alternative therapies and lifestyles. Tai Chi, Alexander Technique, Transactional Analysis, Juggling and Circus skills were but a few of the

things on offer. In the early 80's, these were very much periphery and minority interest activities.

A Jewish American lady who had recently moved from Edinburgh to Manchester, she was full of life, full of enthusiasm, full of plans and full of smiles. Linda was teaching Tai Chi and I was immediately taken with her open approach. I had come from a martial art background which is traditionally more protective and secretive of its knowledge and less accepting of other approaches. Linda was like a breath of fresh air – open to meet new people, try new things, share ideas and happy to give, give, give of her enthusiasm and knowledge.

Whilst in Manchester, she lived in a large Victorian house and in its garden she renovated, converted and extended a wooden hall into the home of her Village Hall Tai Chi Group. Over maybe 20 years, thousands of people passed through there, learning Tai Chi in her regular weekly sessions and attending weekend workshops with many visiting teachers. The influence of this space and the learning that went on was immense.

One of her passions was in expanding Tai Chi to include people with Special Needs. To this end she initiated the Tai Chi and Chi Kung Forum for Health and Special Needs which is still active although she took a back seat in recent years.

Over the last 10 years of her life, although she continued her personal practice of Tai Chi, she became more and more involved in the world of poetry. In this guise, she had several books published, won several awards and acted as a catalyst for bringing poetry into a live setting. Suddenly there were readings in art galleries, theatres and many other unexpected places along with writer's workshops and writing group meetings.

At the very first Tai Chi Caledonia, I attended a Tai Chi and Poetry Workshop that she facilitated. It was eye opening as she used the medium of movement and Tai Chi to draw poetry from people (me included) who had never suspected what was inside waiting to come out.

Over the years I would often call in unexpected at Linda's house when I was in the area. Always, a warm welcome was offered, I would be invited in to sit round the kitchen table over a cup of tea to talk and to listen to stories of her latest adventures. Numerous others will have been extended this welcome and along with me, they will miss her greeting, her infectious laugh, her life.

However, I know that we will have all been affected by this lady, diminutive in stature but huge in spirit and that we take into our own lives and dealings, some of her determination and spirit.

Like pebbles thrown into a pond, ripples from Linda's influence will travel in all directions for years to come, in fact forever.

John Bolwell



Linda's influence will travel in all directions for years to come, in fact forever.



I don't remember the first time I met with Linda but I do know it was in the mid-eighties through my friend and Teacher Larry Butler. But over this past 25 – 26 years of friendship, Linda never ceased to surprise me with her constant enthusiasm of interest in things new. Whether it was song, Poetry, Taiji, Qigong, or humanity in its loathsome or most beautiful aspects, she could teach and educate you from the most obtuse perspective!



Linda excelled at bringing people together for the purpose of learning or exploring, and never scared to venture into deep waters.

We travelled together to the first European Network Forum for Taijiquan and Qigong at Lago di Orta in Italy in 1995. At the train station in Milan, I awaited Linda to exit from the ladies toilets when she cried out the door "Bob I found a packet of spliffs – you want these?" I said "yes – no problem" thinking it was some kind of Italian confectionary. When I saw it was a polythene packet containing around fifteen 6" rolled cigarettes I wasn't quite sure what to do with them!

During this meeting Linda managed to control a rather over enthused European Teacher that was boisterous to say the least in her own inimitable way. She had a wonderful way with words that she cultivated so well and is evident in her many books of poetry.

A few years ago when I was in Wudang discussing aspects of Taoism with my Taiji Brothers, I asked, "What is a true Taoist?" The answer came back quickly – "Someone who influences the life path of another toward health and contentment in their existence while unaware of that influence".

Linda had this magical effect on many. The Armadillo has crossed over.

Bob Lowey

Around 30 years ago, John Myers and I ago started to cycle 27 miles to Linda's from outer Rochdale and 27 miles back after the Wednesday afternoon Tai Chi class. We would not have been so enthusiastic but after meeting Linda and having her as our teacher we were totally inspired and, without her, we would not have been the people we turned out to be today, in fact we owe her one big time. She introduced us to Tai Chi, Meditation and a general inquiry into life. We were in awe of her and she was always inspirational, fun, positive and full of life. I lodged in her house a number of times and she was always supportive.



She brought many of the people I still know today together. I will always remember her as a catalyst for good and a person who had a big kind and open heart to everyone she met, without judgement, and always with acceptance. There are very few people I've met in my life like her. I miss her.

Andrew Mucha