



President's Letter – April 2016

Remembering Kay Williamson.....

There are many duties and responsibilities that come with being a President of our Chapter. Every single one of them I have enjoyed beyond my expectations. However, this month as I write the President's Letter, I do so with a very heavy heart. Our dearest friend and loyal member, Kay Williamson, after a very long and courageous battle with breast cancer passed away with love ones by her side on Saturday, April 2nd.

Kay was a member of our chapter for two short years. I had the privilege to golf with her on many occasions. The one game that brings a smile to my face and exemplifies Kay's very being was the Member Step-away Scramble played out at Quail Valley, May 2014. This also was the first time I had met Kay. Our foursome was myself, Kay, Conni Haffey and Jan Green. Everyone introduced themselves and we were off! Kay and I shared the cart. Which at that moment, made a huge impact on my life and my game.

Kay had just had chemotherapy treatment the day before. I was shocked and amazed this woman was already out playing golf. But to Kay it was just her life and she was embracing every moment. She was not going to let cancer win. In fact she had already out lived her "expectancy" several years over. As many of you have also golfed with me, you know my saying, "hit big, miss big". It was another one of those days as well. I did have some good drives and some off-into-the-other-fairway drives. But it was Kay, who saw me struggling and getting into my head. She put her hand on my shoulder and just said, "Remember that great shot on the last hole? Remember the feeling? You can do this. I know and believe you can." It was the Kay way. So positive. So coaching. So outgoing. So humorous.

Marilyn Morfitt also shared with me her friendship with Kay. In a word, "inspiring". She was able to play golf with her at Willamette Valley last fall. Kay didn't feel well, but played 18 holes with vigor and humor. Marilyn and Kay went together to the celebration of the Match Play winners because Kay wanted to be with her friends. It was just like Kay to rise above her failing health, without complaint and project a contagiously positive attitude, forever looking forward to be at the next golf and social event.

Susan Weiner, also a very good and longtime friend of Kay's shared with me their story of one of the "bucket list" trips they took to Myrtle Beach just a year ago this month. They played five rounds of golf, sightseeing, enjoying the cuisine of Southern comfort foods, a jet-boat ride and even a trip to the Hollywood Wax Museum. Kay wasn't done yet, she followed up this trip with another one on her so called "bucket list" to the Grand Canyon. Kay never stopped, and this is a testament to her unbelievable life force and positive outlook.

Kay served on the Education committee alongside Bonnie La Ford. When Kay wasn't golfing or volunteering her time, she was running her own business, Recre8 Hypnosis and Coaching. Her life was about teaching and coaching others in sports as well as being an umpire for basketball, softball and volleyball. She will be missed by many.

Kay's nephew has set the Celebration of Life date to be April 16th, from 1:00 – 3:30pm at RedTail, StockPot. A hosted light buffet and soft drinks will be served immediately following the service. Please dress casually and RSVP to storylighter@gmail.com. He has also has reserved 12 tee times beginning at 4:00pm. You may call RedTail at 503-646-5166 for "twilight pricing".

We intend to have a moment of silence for Kay and will try to end early enough for those of you who wish to make it to RedTail.

Rest in peace Kay and play all the golf you want, pain free. We love you and we'll miss you.

Jodenne Scott and all the EWGA Portland Members