

Elizabeth Anne Prostic: Press Room: Eulogy

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Eulogy for Elizabeth Anne Prostic

Words cannot describe the magnitude of the Lizzie that we knew. After speaking with members of her immediate family a few days ago, I knew that we could spend many more hours sharing special and moving memories of the short time on earth that Lizzie filled with such life.

Even in the few hours that I had spent with Lizzie during the last year, I was touched by her presence, her knowledge, and her sensitivity; her determination, her courage, and her beauty. Just a few months ago, Lizzie, Michael and I planned a moving naming ceremony for Harper -- a memorable ceremony filled with joy and promise, love and tears -- or as Merry would say "love, laughter, light and Lizzie." Never would we have imagined that we would be here today for the task at hand.

Lizzie's parents Ed and Merry shared easily and tearfully some of the unique qualities of their daughter. A Human Tornado was a name that at the same time represented admiration and awe, love and laughter. Ed and Merry shared some of the many experiences of their daughter -- professional, personal, and familial. The more I heard about her, the more I realized how my first very positive impressions would only be enhanced. Lizzie had countless friends, whom she always cared for and helped in times of need. Ed called her the Queen of Political Correctness, always knowing what to say and what not to say. A woman of boundless energy, she made working full time, going to law school and training for a marathon seem effortless. It almost seemed like a surprise to her to learn that she was pregnant at the same time!

Seth and Laura remember a sister who could not be intimidated, would stand up for what she believed in, and was forever thoughtful and concerned for others -- even when she herself was sick in the hospital. Lizzie would draw from her endless reserves of strength and determination to make sure that every relative received a special gift for each occasion.

Lizzie had a knack for being where the action was. Whether at the University of Pennsylvania, in law school, or in her professional career, Lizzie knew everyone who was anyone. She had contacts with former presidents and secretaries of state and worked those connections when necessary to make a difference in the issues she thought were important.

Lizzie's special love was for Mike. Although not typically found on a campground before meeting him, one can bring to mind an image of a woman in pearls camping in a tent, demonstrating her deep love for her husband and his hobbies. Gift certificates would be a perfect gift for her, as long as they were for either Tiffany's or REI. Michael and Lizzie would have celebrated 5 years of marriage together in June, marked by a wedding ceremony that was called the party of the century.

Competitive, political, talented musically and in dance, sophisticated, funny, worldly and curious, Lizzie was a person that everyone loved to love. She loved life hectic, but that was a way to fit in so much for a short number of 31 years.

Family was so important to Lizzie, and not just her blood relatives, but all those who make up a part of her extended family. Lizzie's in-laws Karen and Lucy embraced her as a member of their family and expressed that they wished that they could have known her better. The time that they spent together was too short. We all know that Harper will be the one who will most miss her mother. It is up to us to share with Harper in years to come the exceptional person that her mother was.

I could go on sharing some of the other stories and examples of Lizzie's love for life, her commitment to her family, and her determination to live, even in her last moments. For the moment we will listen to some words that her Uncle Paul and Aunt Bunni Copaken and husband Michael will share with us. We promise to keep her memory alive for years to come. Zichrona livracha – may her memory always be a blessing. Amen.