

love
never
dies
for Liz



My dear, dear friend Liz lived up to the reality of her name, and acronym LIZ.

L - Love!! Liz loved life, her children and Chris who were the centre of her world. She was generous with her love - it's the one gift that expands with the sharing of it, and Liz had an abundance of love that she gifted to many via acts of kindness, generosity and caring. I love you my darling friend.

I - Integrity. Liz was a safe pair of hands whether it be a concern or confidence that she was entrusted with. She exuded honour and dignity, and combined with the afore mentioned love - what could go wrong!!

Z - Zest for life. If the tributes above make Liz sound staid - she wasn't!! She could be uproariously funny, and I am sure I am one of very many who will never forget her distinctive laugh.

You lived a big life Liz, and your love, integrity and zest remain and will always have an impact on those of us who knew you in life and who will love you forever. xxx

You always knew when Liz was in the office as you could usually hear her amazing laugh before you actually saw her.

Oh my word so many memories and lots of laughter, what a fantastic boss and friend you were. Your laugh was always heard before you appeared and your willingness to join in with any mischief within the department always made me laugh. Thanks for being you Liz, I think about you often and still picture you with that cheeky smile. You've gone but you'll never be forgotten.

I never spoke to Liz but would often see her in the corridors at college, she always wore such a beautiful warm smile, may she rest in peace. x

I always heard Liz's laugh before I saw Liz. I would be in my office lost in work and then bang! Liz's laugh therefore Liz is here. She lit up the room when she walked in, big smile and sparkly eyes and always had time for a quick cup of tea. I really got to know Liz when we did Spectrum together, having both lost loved ones, we shared stories and helped students experiencing similar situations.

She was always mad busy at work but always made time for you if you needed a word. She was just a lovely lady inside and out, people like Liz don't come along often.

Liz was one of the nicest people I have had the privilege of meeting. Her laughter and kindness filled a room. She was always willing to help others in need and had a special ability to make people feel at ease. I will always be grateful for the guidance and support Liz gave to me.

Empathy has no script. There is no right way or wrong way to do it. It is simply listening, holding space, withholding judgement, and communicating that incredibly healing message of ‘you’re not alone’.



Liz was like the 'salt and pepper' of College - she sprinkled herself everywhere and added depth and fun wherever she went. I remember thinking that her CV must be brilliant because there was so much she had done, so many different roles she had played. I encountered her on retreats, staff nights out, in morning prayer, when concerned about students and even as Union Rep. She also spent a lot of time in our office speaking to Bec about 4 Peace. I would hear her laugh right down the corridor before I saw her. I still envy her calm, wise, peaceful nature. I am a bit awkward socially and wish I could be as easy and light as Liz. She was someone who knew and accepted herself and they are so calming to be around.

When I last spoke to her, we had both had some time off and were planning our phased returns. She looked radiant. I always thought she was very beautiful. I remember her speaking to us all 'remotely' in staff briefing, it was a wonderfully written speech and a joy to hear her voice. I was sad because it felt like a final goodbye and it was.

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It's really really sh*t that she has died and I'm really annoyed about it for you all. I know I am an RE teacher but you won't get platitudes from me about death and grief. It is sh*t and it is not fair. I feel furious that you have lost your lovely Mummy and wife.

She appeared in a dream of mine recently and in the dream there was a very beautiful thick glass crystal bowl on the table that she had gifted to us in the RE office. She was a gift to us and like crystal, she let the light in and transformed it.

I always think of Liz's laughter and compassion, I saw her every week at Pastoral Council which could be at times be difficult and distressing, but Liz's warmth and intelligence set the tone for the meeting. I enjoyed every minute in her company and her smiling face and her kind words will stay with me forever.

Liz's laugh, her calm and supportive yet confident manner with both students and staff made for a wonderfully enjoyable trip to our partner school in Germany. That is how I first really got to know this impressive woman.....

When we were on the plane to Stuttgart she got out her crocheting and began to create, when we were in the classrooms doing impromptu joint lessons she operated like a real professional unphased by the new and unfamiliar surroundings - I soon realised that Liz was the perfect colleague to have accompanied me on that trip. I'm pleased to say that after that Liz and I shared something more than a connection through work. As Carina once said to me "you always feel better after having a chat with Liz".

Liz: A lovely person inside and out; a champion for inequality; a confidante and ally.

Her smile lit up a room; her laugh highly infectious.
RIP

I met Liz when I first started at college in 2007. She was very friendly and welcoming and always made me feel at ease. She had a warm smile and was always very approachable and had time for everyone.

During my first year of college Liz supported me to prepare for my GCSE maths re-sit. I am not very good with mathematics and it often takes me a while to grasp the concepts, meaning that progress in these sessions was often slow. Despite this Liz was always calm, patient and persevered until I was able to take in the information and apply it during the sessions. I was always grateful to Liz for her understanding and calm nature during this time which helped to improve my confidence and belief.

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A few years ago I returned to college to undertake some work experience. During this time Liz was very supportive and provided encouragement and guidance on a weekly basis which I have been able to take forward into future studies and employment.

In the time I have known Liz I always found her to be a very kind and warm-hearted person, who always had time for everyone, and always wanted the best for her students and those around her. I will always be grateful for the support and help she offered me, and for her part in making the experience and memories of my college years such pleasant and happy ones.

Mark (former student)

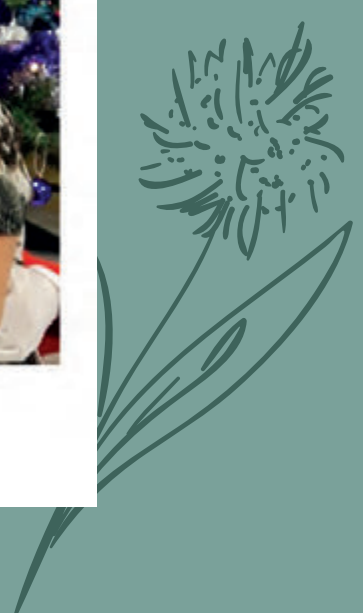
Liz was so much fun and full of laughs, she certainly lit the room up with her smile. She's so missed around college.

Liz was a wonderful lady who I feel very blessed to have known. I have fond memories of her laugh echoing down the corridor of Holy Cross, so contagious that you couldn't help but join in, even if you were having a bad day. She was an incredibly selfless woman with a big heart and constant smile, and I know she made a huge difference to the lives of many Holy Cross students, including myself.

She was a cheerleader and support to everyone, and had an ability to push people into being a better version of themselves, with a stern look required every now and then, but never a cross word.

She will be missed not only by her friends and family, but also by the Holy Cross and Salford Lourdes communities past and present.

Jodi (former student)





Where to start? Liz and I first got to know each other through my working as a senior tutor and college Equality manager, and she as Head of Learning Support, and I was immediately impressed by her warmth, her great belief in justice and equality, her intelligence and her amazing organisational skills. We both were also part of the staff student choir and though she was a soprano I didn't hold that against her. Over the years we enjoyed many a December day heading into Manchester to sing carols at The Hidden Gem followed by lunch and the Christmas markets. Following a mission and ethos day events at Elton Cricket club she impressed me with the most kitsch Lourdes hairbrush- its handle was the virgin Mary! And this is one of the many things I loved about Liz- she wore her deep faith lightly and with joy, always expressed through love and care, though occasionally (and bravely) with protest against injustice.

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Given her annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, her daily prayer in the chapel and her exemplary moral compass it would be easy to paint Liz as a saint, but thank God she wasn't. We enjoyed many a boozy night where Liz's raucous laughter could be heard, and many an irreverent story was told. She spoke often of her family and was immensely proud of her amazing children. Liz also spoke with great warmth of the students and of the whole Holy Cross community which she felt blessed to be part of- and we felt blessed to have her with us. Liz's warmth and love is still with us; it has seeped into the bricks and mortar of the college and whenever we eat cake, sing and laugh she's with us!

When I think of Liz I think of her laugh and it echoes through all the memories of the time I spent in her company.

A wonderful, warm, caring person with the most infectious laugh. I loved it when Liz came into the office for a brew and a natter! Liz always had a smile of her face; it was a pleasure to be in her company at work or socially. She will be sorely missed at Holy Cross xxx

Liz was a lovely lady that helped me through a lot within my 3 years at Holy Cross. She always was smiling and willing to help no matter what. I'm so happy that I had pleasure to meet such a loving lady and so saddened to hear about her passing I know how much she was loved throughout the whole of the college and how much she loved her family.

Katie (former student)

Liz was the right person for her job. I will always be truly appreciative of all of the help and support from Liz when I was at Holy Cross College. She was such a kind, caring and lovely lady, being incredibly compassionate and always putting other people first.

My deepest sympathies go to Liz's family and friends at this difficult time.

Gone but never forgotten xxx

Amy (former student)

Liz was such a special person. Always welcoming, always supportive and always smiling. She was so encouraging of anything you tried to do and so caring to the students entrusted to her care. She was a huge and important part of Holy Cross and her faith shone from her, she is missed but always remembered.

God bless, Liz.

Liz was just an all round great lady, I never had much to do with her academically but always socially, she was always so welcoming, kind and filled the room with laughter and wonderful memories she will be missed by everyone who was lucky enough to grace her great personality.

Philippa (former student)

Dear Liz,

Thank you for your support and encouragement. You inspired me to be the best version of me: and for that I will forever be grateful. I can only ask God to grant your beautiful soul a special pass along side his angels. The world has lost a great woman, my prayers are with your children and loved ones, may God grant them strength.

Flore (former student)

There are few people that I can honestly say embody the 'soul' of Holy Cross College. Liz was definitely one of those special people who lived her values of joy and compassion for all.

Whether that was in work or on staff socials! Being the lead in Learning Support, her infectious attitude to work permeated across the whole college. Her laugh would echo the corridors and you knew instantly where she was and how Liz would always have time to spend with you.

I particularly remember her teaching me about how anxiety happens and ways in which students can find ways to control it. This was a major shift in outlook that I have even found ways to help in my own life. I am eternally grateful for Liz's kindness and compassion. It was a privilege to know Liz as both a work colleague and a friend. The college is not the same without her, but her lessons and spirit will remain with all of us who knew her.





I was so shocked and saddened to hear about Liz's passing. I remember as a student at Holy Cross, she always made you feel like she cared about you as a person and it wasn't just all about grades. Every time she would see you, she would smile and say hello, no matter how busy she was. I always remember, as soon as the weather became warmer she would wear bright clothes and dresses. She will be missed by us all, one of the good ones, taken far too soon 💕

Jamie (former student)

I am grateful to Liz for all the support, kindness and advice she gave to me. She would help anyone in need and always knew the right thing to say. Working as part of the team Liz created at Holy Cross was my privilege and a truly enjoyable experience I will never forget. Her laughter filled the department with joy and lifted the mood in any room. All my love Natalie xx

Dear Liz

I still remember the day we met as you sat over the table as you interviewed me. We soon became not only colleagues but friends too. I still remember hearing you walking along the corridor laughing and your cheeky giggle on our work nights out. You may be gone but you'll never be forgotten.

Love Ange xx

I admired Liz very much as she combined raising her family with her successful career here at Holy Cross. She was always so vibrant and involved in so many activities in College. Whenever I saw her in the gym doing her early workouts I was amazed at how she didn't make the excuse that so many of us do that there isn't time to exercise! Even with a demanding job she made time to exercise and get involved in so many things.

RIP Liz xxx

Liz has left a lasting impression on all of those of us who were fortunate enough to know her as a friend and colleague. This impression is so clear. I would say that her warmth; kindness; good humour; courage; awareness of others and of herself; her quiet intelligence and unfailing commitment to fight against injustice, defined her character. Liz has left a wonderful legacy here at Holy Cross and within her community for which we are all so grateful. Rest in peace, dear Liz.

Liz was one of the most caring people I'd met during my years at college. She helped me overcome several struggles I had at the time and provided me with the support I needed so I could excel in my subjects and career plans. She always had a beaming smile on her face and was amazing at her job, she always made me feel comfortable in her presence. She will be truly missed.

Keeley (former student)

Working alongside Liz was a dream. Her patience, generosity of spirit and willingness to always give students a second - third - fourth - . . . fifteenth . . . chance was something I always marvelled at. As a much more hot-headed Mancunian, I learnt a lot from her calmness and ability to step away from a spiralling situation. She was, of course, always right and I learnt to always be guided by her judgement.

I will always remember Liz's kindness when I had just had my son. I remember with absolute clarity one November morning, when I had had little-to-no-sleep and Liz had invited myself and Joanne around for a mum's chat (new-born babies in tow). I was in no fit state and was really struggling to cope and I will always remember the scent of freshly baked bread as she opened the door with the widest smile and welcomed us in. I remember looking at her in awe - baby balanced on one hip - cups of tea delivered in her spare hand.

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She offered to take Ralphie into the kitchen, so I could grab 20 minutes shut-eye on her couch. She knew instinctively what people needed and this was her superhuman trait. She was in every sense of the word, a 'super' woman.

Like so many others, Liz had a huge impact on my life and I will always remember her. I believe that the Priest at Liz's funeral talked about the ability of people to touch others' souls and Liz and her zest for life certainly touched mine.

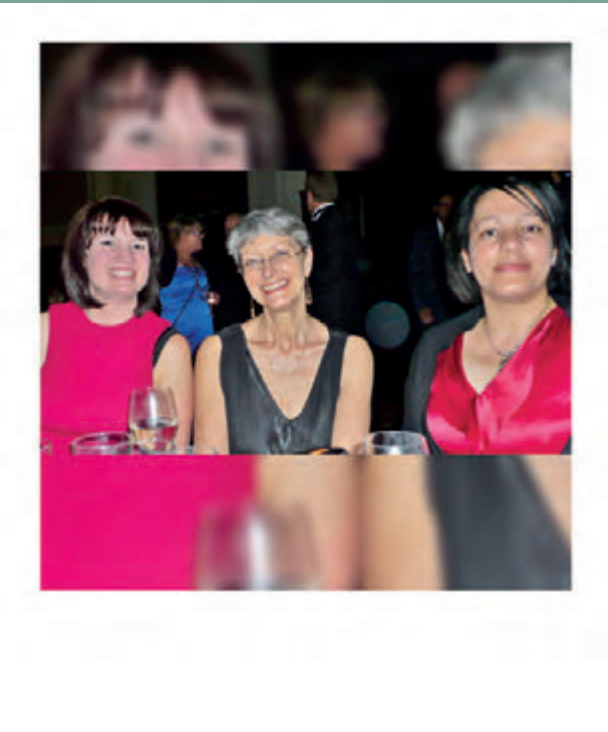
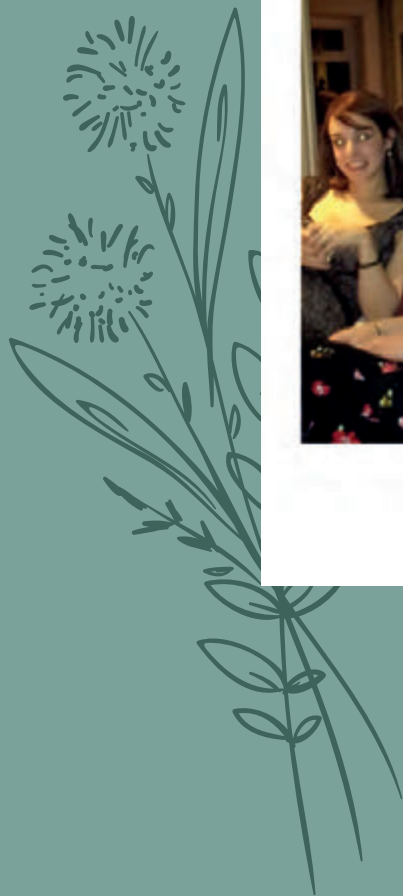
Jennie.

Liz was a beautiful person inside and out. Her laugh and smile were infectious. Liz always went out of her way for others. There are numerous times when Liz was there for me in my time of need.

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When I first started working at Holy Cross 13 years ago, I was struggling in my department and Liz was aware. She used to always say I could come up to learning support and I did do on a number of occasions where she offered a brew and we would have a chat. She was also a massive support to me whilst I was in charge of the level 2 programme. I was working with very challenging students (whilst pregnant!) and the number of times that Liz was giving me a big hug and reassurance whilst I was in tears was invaluable. She was so much fun on nights out and staff parties and her and the learning support girls were always up for a laugh and first on the dance floor! She was a very special person and I will miss her. Love Gemma xx





Liz thoughtfully sent me a condolences card on the death of my Mum in 2017. I was very touched by this. We weren't close friends, I was 'only' another member of the College staff, but Liz cared for people generally & that day, I was a beneficiary of her sympathy & kindness.

One day Liz asked me if we could order a copy of the film 'Pride' to have in our DVD collection in the College Library. She said that she watched 'Call the Midwife' regularly with her daughter and would like to watch the film 'Pride' with her son.

Coincidentally, I had seen this film at HOME with my own daughter previously. I hope Liz and her son gained the same enjoyment from it. I would like to think that the happy memory of shared time spent with a loved and loving Mum lingers on in her son's mind still.

Anne King
Library

I always remember Liz's smile and her laugh. Every week when we had Pastoral Council I looked forward to seeing her, she brought an incredible sense of warmth and care to the meetings and spoke about each student in a way that showed how much time she had taken to get to know them, and how much she genuinely wanted what was best for them. I always felt safe and comforted by her presence as we discussed some really difficult and at times situations. We would often chat on the way back to our offices about our families and dogs, I miss her and think of her often.

Liz was my line manager for 15 years. During that time I got to know her as a compassionate, hardworking, patient, sincere, friendly person with a strong sense of social justice and an amazingly positive outlook. She was a great believer in "leaning in" to life and instigated many events for charity which have benefited so many. She had a very ready and hearty laugh which was almost like her trademark and which would lift everybody's spirits.

Her legacy to me is giving me a different more positive approach to life situations and the importance of charity. I also remember with great fondness her mince pie streusel and malteser tray bake (both of which I've adopted!)

Her overwhelming priority was of course her beloved family and this is their greatest loss.

May she rest in peace.

Ann Newberry

Hope

Your hope arises with each dawn, pushing back the rubble of our lives. Each new day reminds us of your grace, you paint hope across our skies.

Into the deafening cry of hopelessness you whisper love. Love that catches us, holds us. There is no end, just new beginnings. No finish, just new starts.



I often think about my time at Holy Cross and they are lots of happy memories. Honestly I don't think I'd be in the position I am today if I didn't attend Holy Cross and received excellent support both academically and personally from Liz's Team! During my time at Holy Cross I had multiple corrective operations and Liz enabled me to complete my A-levels over 3 years rather than 2. Liz helped me with my application to university and was always supportive and wanted the best for her students.

Tom (former student)

Liz

Well, where do we start!!
What an absolute privilege it has been to work alongside such a super, special lady. Our department has gone from strength to strength with ups and downs along the way.

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But as the years past we were not just work colleagues we were a Learning Support family and become firm friends that shared lots of laughter, tears, and memories together. We have many success stories from our students that is all due to Liz's experience and management.

Liz will always be remembered for her amazing qualities, her contagious laugh (to the point one instance we had to tell her off as there was an exam and her laugh was echoing through the walls), her famous Malteser cake, calm nature, nurturing, inspirational quotes, always finding the positive in any situation, professionalism, kind, calm and warm person she would never judge and took everyone as she found them.

We miss Liz every single day her presence is still felt throughout the department, and we will carry on supporting our students and hope we make her proud and she will always be in our hearts forever and always.

In Liz's words "love never dies"

Kylie, Donna and Anna xxx





I don't think there's another person I've known that seemed to have been as multi-dimensional as Liz. She was one of those people at college who everyone knew - probably mainly due to the fact that her role straddled both curriculum and support and naturally meant that she had to see people in all manner of roles across the college. When she spoke to the staff in December 2020 it was wonderful to hear the list of things she'd been involved in over her time at Holy Cross. But I think that even if she hadn't done all those things, she'd have still been well known. She was willing to get involved in so many aspects of the community life of college, often putting herself out for the benefit of others with a genuine drive to make Holy Cross the best it could be for everybody. Her unwavering belief in the dignity of the individual meant she was constantly striving to improve the student's experience of college.

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This role inevitably came so naturally to her because it aligned so well with her faith too. Faith being such a huge part of Liz's life led her to be involved in the spiritual side of the college, and her dedication was so clear to see - literally at 8.15am everyday in the Chapel for morning prayer (she certainly would have won the award for Chapel attendance, had there been such a thing!). This is where our paths met most; through the social justice activities. As well as being involved in numerous charitable events, especially the most loved Pink Fridays for Breast Cancer Care, she helped me set up 4Peace, a group specifically aimed at fostering the sense of belonging and to build the community aspect of college. Liz and I worked on numerous successful projects such as Disrespect Nobody and Appreciating Black Culture. team :)

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We found a natural affinity working together - my over-reliance on planning and having lists was complimented by Liz's spontaneity and trust in the Holy Spirit that all will be well. I can hear her saying reassuringly, '...well let's just go for it and see what happens...' and every single time, it went well! Likewise, when we were planning 4Peace sessions with the students, I'd come up with an idea, and Liz would be the one to find an inspiring TED Talk and give it some academic rigor. I think we made a good team :)

What I've learnt from Liz; to trust more, to try more, to be brave, to make time to pray, to eat more cake, to laugh out loud, to challenge, to keep it simple, that all things will be well, and that she was right when she said love never dies.

Bec



