An Angel Among Us

A Tribute to Valerie Harper

The Survivor Mitzvah Project mourns the passing of our dear friend, Valerie Harper.

Her gifts to us are many. Beautiful, vivacious, kind and energetic, Valerie was also funny, spirited and enormously talented. She greeted each day with a positive outlook, her signature megawatt smile and an unshakeable belief in the power every person has to make a difference in our world. What truly made her stand out was her compassion, her authenticity, her many enthusiastic acts of kindness and her heartfelt commitment to the countless worthy causes that benefitted from her involvement.

She was an ardent supporter of The Survivor Mitzvah Project, donating her time and talents whenever we needed her. If I called to ask if she could possibly read a letter from a Holocaust survivor at one of our emergency aid events, I could barely finish my sentence before she would say, "Just tell me when and where, and I'll be there to help you raise funds. This is too important."
With Tony Cacciotti, her beloved husband, partner, and best friend at her side, Valerie always made time to help, even traveling across the country to give voice to survivors who had been silenced for decades.

Valerie’s moving and powerful readings of Holocaust testimony are an important part of her lasting legacy, and the ongoing work of The Survivor Mitzvah Project Holocaust Educational Archive. These videos continue to raise funds providing food, medicine, heat, and shelter to the last survivors of the Holocaust who are in urgent need of care and loving kindness.

One of the most remarkable people I have ever had the honor to know, I can say with certainty that there is a spark of Valerie Harper in every life she touched, just waiting to ignite. As we mourn the passing of Valerie’s truly inspiring life, we are able to keep her vibrant spirit alive when we act compassionately and shower kindness upon others.

In Valerie’s honor, please donate to help the Holocaust survivors she cared so much about.

In her memory, let’s call upon the better angels in our nature and take care of each other.

- Zane Buzby