

AARST TRIBUTE

ELIZABETH HOFFMANN, A RADON WARRIOR



Elizabeth Hoffmann, co-founder and president of Cancer Survivors Against Radon (CanSAR), lost her 10-year fight against radon induced lung cancer on November 6, 2013. After her diagnosis, Liz dedicated her life to educating cancer patients and policy makers about radon and its health impacts. She advocated courageously for more effective radon regulations and greater funding for radon testing and mitigation initiatives.

Liz's major accomplishments as an advocate, in addition to starting CanSAR and serving as its first President, include lobbying Congress for stronger policies, saving SIRG funding in 2012; in 2003, she was responsible for initiating advocacy with HUD that led to the HUD Multi-family Mortgage Radon Policies in 2013, a major contribution that is her outstanding legacy. She worked for free. Those who want to donate to a family fund in Liz's Honor may do so by sending donations to:

Elizabeth Hoffmann Memorial Fund
c/o US Bank
4015 South Howell Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53207



Liz was a special person. I'm a better person for having known her. The radon risk reduction community has lost a passionate advocate.

- Kyle Hoylman

Liz was a dear friend and an inspiration to me. Her strength and perseverance were remarkable. She was a devoted president of CanSAR whose vision was to have every home tested for radon and increase public awareness. She is missed.

- Marlene MacEwan

Liz was a strong, courageous, and willing individual with a determination to live and make a difference with her life. Lives will be saved because of her.

- Gloria Linnertz

Liz was a real warrior against her 10-year battle with radon induced lung cancer. Despite her illness, she continued her efforts with CanSAR and other organizations to increase radon awareness and education. She touched many lives, including mine, and she will be missed by all who knew her.

- Barb Sorgatz

I spent a week in Washington, DC, in March 2013 for the AARST Advocacy Days. With us was CanSAR President Liz Hoffmann, a wonderful lady who, in spite of being somewhat weak from treatments, navigated the Congressional hallways and offices telling her story again and again to the politicians. Her spirit, courage, sense of purpose, and good humor were inspiring.

- John Mallon

Liz always said, "How sweet it is to be standing on the edge of tomorrow."

She embraced every day with courage and the finest of attitudes. With the passing of Liz come positive memories of the years and events that have passed. I know all of us cannot imagine life without Liz.

With her loss comes wisdom. She had the wisdom and ability to anticipate problems that can occur through the process of change. She always hoped that we would choose to make change and do more with her passing. Liz was a very creative leader who wanted us all to take her loss as a key to further change. She set the bar high and we need to carry on her good work.

She said, "When I must leave you I will always be at your side. Please do not grieve and shed tears. Hug your sorrow through the years and carry on the cause in my memory." She wants us to live on and grasp her endless energy to carry on her good work. She will always be with us, to comfort us and drive us on to save lives.

Her favorite prayer should be our guide:

"God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can and Wisdom to know the difference."

Liz said: "Never, never be afraid to die. Do not stand at my grave and cry. I am not there. I will be your forever influence that will not sleep."

Liz Hoffmann will be the thousand winds that blow, the diamond that glints the snow, the sunlight that ripens things to grow and the gentle autumn rain. In the morning she will be the swift uplifting rush and carries you to the soft stars that shine at night.

She is deeply missed but always there.

Tom Malin