



Celebration of Life in the memory of PAM EISEN

Harrisburg, January 10th 2009 By TIINA SILVAST

From the back of my mind, somewhere from a distant memory, I remembered words I read years ago, words that Mrs Aeneas Gunn wrote in her classic book, "We of the Never-Never". The words were about something else, but somehow, with a little alteration, they seemed to suit the occasion and describe what everyone felt in their hearts at the Celebration of Life for Pam. "...But we who have lived with her, and loved her, and had to leave her, know that our hearts can Never-Never rest away from her." Our beloved Pam, who did so much for our children, who worked for IPWSO harder than was expected from anyone, who always paid attention to everyone she met, who had the charisma to be able to make everyone feel special. But first and most importantly who was a mother.

On a snowy winter day family and friends gathered together to remember her, to praise and cherish her and her life. It was hard to believe that she wasn't there...or was she? Her presence was touchable... Birds of Paradise, the flowers she loved so much, on each table captured the es-

sence of her; she was on the screen on the wall, in the words of her friends, and in Giorgio's songs.

Her son, Jeremy, reminded us in his touching speech of how she was not always the Pam we knew, but a loving mother to him, his brother Benjy and his sister Gabriella (who has PWS). Pam was a wife to her husband and a dear friend to many people. Having a child with Prader-Willi syndrome became a gift instead of a burden, a gift that led her way to all the children with PWS of the world. Though the life was not always easy, Pam somehow knew how to transcend this and spread peace around her.

Benjy's poem to his mother said it all!

Though we may not be able to show our love to Pam anymore, we still can show our love to our loved ones who are still with us - let us never-never forget that.

(Book: 'We of the Never-Never' by Mrs Aeneas Gunn, an Australian author: "But we who have lived in it, and loved it, and left it, know that our hearts can Never-Never rest away from it".)



Jeremy Eisen, Pam's eldest son, gave a touching speech and welcomed 120 guests to Pam's Celebration.

Unfortunately, because of the winter storm, some of the guests were not able to attend the celebration, among them Pam's daughter Gabriella.

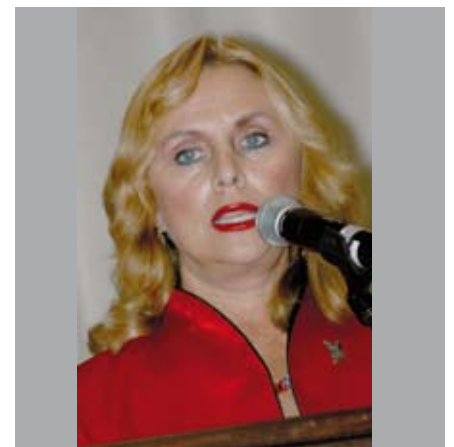


Giorgio Fornasier, the Director Program Development of IPWSO gave a wonderful concert dedicated to Pam. In the end everybody joined hands together singing Fly High.



Dr. Shuan-Pei Lin from Taiwan, the Vice President of IPWSO gave a speech on behalf of IPWSO and especially thanked Pam for doing so much for Prader-Willi families in Taiwan.

Other representatives from IPWSO were Tiina Silvast from IPWSO Board, Dr. Janice Forster and Dr. Maurice Angulo from the IPWSO Scientific Board and Giorgio Fornasier, the Director Program Development of IPWSO.



Janalee Heinemann, Consultant on Research and Medical Affairs of IPWSO, Executive Director of PWSA USA and a close friend to Pam talked about the work Pam had done first in PWS Association of USA and then as the President of IPWSO, but also about wonderful memories she had of travelling together with Pam in different countries.

Also many friends of IPWSO from United States were present honoring Pam's memory.