

Smith, Dianne [BOARD]

From: Brunson, Marcia R [BOARD]
Sent: Friday, August 06, 2010 7:59 AM
To: Rose Vasquez; bobd@meardonlaw.com; Jack Evans; Michael Gartner (mgartner@iowacubs.com); ruth.harkin@cox.net; Johnson, Greta A; craiglangbor@ifbf.org; Bonnie J. Campbell
Cc: 'marileag@meardonlaw.com'; 'kristin@hallperrine.org'; 'jzarkowskibor@ifbf.org'; Dave Miles; Doyle, Sheila [BOARD]; Smith, Dianne [BOARD]
Subject: Sent at the Request of President Miles
Attachments: tylers letter to regents (2).doc

Regents:

The attached letter is forwarded at the request of President Miles.

Marcia

Marcia R. Brunson
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From: Dave Miles [mailto:dmiles@miles-capital.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 05, 2010 7:15 PM
To: Brunson, Marcia R [BOARD]
Cc: Doyle, Sheila [BOARD]; Donley, Robert [BOARD]
Subject: tylers letter to regents (2)

Please send to all Regents. Thx.

August 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Miles and Members of the Board of Regents,

On March 13 in rural New Mexico, we lost a wonderful young man, my son Tyler James Danielson. Tyler was a victim of a one-vehicle accident; it was the start of spring break. My last conversation with Tyler was at 1:40pm on Friday March 12, just as he and four other Iowa State students left Ames to begin their spring break journey. There were five total passengers, of which 3 are doing fine. Tyler was the lone fatality, another passenger, a young woman who was attending Iowa State graduate school, is still in rehabilitation to the best of my knowledge. Tyler died doing what he loved, traveling. The group had plans to visit the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas and several cities and sites in California. Tyler had his junior year lined up; he had recently been hired to start a part time job. His plan as I read in an email was to present his identification credentials to his new employer on Sunday March 21 upon the return of the group to Ames at the end of spring break.

Instead, that was the day of Tyler's visitation, with his funeral and burial the next day, Monday March 22. Tyler is buried in Boone, the hometown of his mother, Kathy. Tyler died at the age of 19. What a tragic end to the life of a young man who had such a bright future thanks to two great institutions, Des Moines Area Community College and Iowa State University.

I cannot be any more proud of my son for what he accomplished at DMACC and partially through his sophomore year at Iowa State that ended so abruptly and so tragically in March

As a freshman, following graduation from Carlisle High School, Tyler participated in what I consider an outstanding collaboration between DMACC and Iowa State, the Admissions Partnership Program or APP. What an exciting time for the two of us! In the summer of 2008, we attended orientation at the DMACC Campus in Ankeny. A few weeks later, we attended an APP function in Ames. Tyler decided he was going to live on campus at Iowa State rather than commute from Carlisle to DMACC. Despite Tyler not quite yet being at university level due to some academic challenges while in high school a great attribute of Tyler's was his boundless determination. Therefore, off to Ames in the late summer of '08 it was to live in the dormitory. He was so excited to be on campus and getting his college education started. As I read at his eulogy, Tyler is the epitome of a true success story.

Following his freshman year Tyler moved back to Carlisle for the summer, which would be his last summer at home. His last night at home was almost exactly a year ago today.

A year ago this week I was moving Tyler from Carlisle to his new apartment in west Ames as he was preparing for his first full year at Iowa State. Tyler's enthusiasm for dorm life did wane a bit, so it was time for more independence and to live off campus. Tyler did great his sophomore year and he was poised for even a bigger and better year this and next school year.

Tyler was bound and determined to attend the Cyclones Bowl Game last December. How I regret not going with him. He wanted to stay a little longer than what I felt comfortable with so I opted to stay home. Tyler had a fabulous time, visited the Grand Canyon and thoroughly enjoyed the entire Cyclone Bowl Game experience. Tyler and I attended several basketball games together, our last on February 17 when the Cyclones hosted Oklahoma State. Tyler was a member of the Hilton cleaning crew, a task he had great fun with and was a popular member of the team.

While the pain of not having Tyler here with us any more is beyond measure it is with an equal amount of pride and a sense of accomplishment to have this opportunity to honor and pay tribute to my son, Tyler Danielson.

I asked Mr. Miles to convey my thanks and appreciation to everyone at DMACC and Iowa State from myself, his mother, Tyler's brother Joe, and his sisters Kaitlyn and Lacey, and all of Tyler's extended family who demonstrated total compassion and a spirit of cooperation all Iowans can be proud of.

My first contact following Tyler's death was with the Dean of Students, Dione Somerville. She called me the night following Tyler's death. What a great honor and privilege it was to talk about Tyler with the Dean of Students. I asked her why she would take the time on a Sunday night to call. She explained it very well, "Every student is a member of the Iowa State family." Every student has a family and at a time of great loss as what we experienced, her calling me was to let our family know the entire Iowa State University was thinking of us and supporting us during a difficult time. The support was very much apparent then and will continue.

Others at Iowa State who were extremely helpful and generous with their time were: Kip Van Dyke, Assistant Director in the Dean of Students Office; Dr. Thomas Hill, Vice-President for Student Affairs; Laura Doering, Senior Associate Registrar and Director of Transfer Relations with the Office of the Registrar and Office of Admissions; Kent Ziebell, ISU Messaging Team

Leader; Maury Hope in IT Services; Roberta Jensen and Craig Sanderson with the Office of Student Financial Aid and Jamie Pollard and the Iowa State Athletic Department for donation of Tyler's apparel of which he was laid to rest. What a way to go! Wearing the Cardinal and Gold in his eternal cheering on the 'Clones in the same clothing the Iowa State Football coaches wear while on the sidelines. In addition, the students with the Criminal Justice program were especially supportive in sending a memorial T-Shirt in Tyler's honor. As was, Tyler's professor who attended his funeral.

I also received considerable assistance from DMACC President Robert Denson and Executive Dean of Student Services, Dr. Laurie Wolf.

Tyler we miss you but you are not forgotten. Your legacy will forever live on and I know you will be an inspiration for all who follow you as they continue their higher education at Iowa State University and DMACC. We are all so very proud of you.

Love
Dad and Tyler's Family
Steve Danielson, Carlisle, Iowa.

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Steven Ole
Carlisle, Iowa