

## PASSAGE POINTS NEWSLETTER

**January 2010**

**This month's topic: *God just sent me a text: It says, YES.***

I had a newsletter ready to deliver in December, but my heart was heavy and I put it aside. My good friend Tim MacCarthy is dying. After battling a brain tumor successfully for almost 5 years, Tim recently said NO to continuing treatment.

After an unknown virus or chemo reaction, (they still don't know what it was) sent him to the hospital for weeks of exhaustive care in November and December, Tim just wanted to go home. Even as the virus subsided, his decision was clear--no more. No more chemotherapy. No more huge interventions. No more medical wizardry. His family, anxiously hunched over his bed for weeks, stepped back and listened, their love melting his fear of being seen as a coward--as someone who gave up, who could have done more but didn't. They accepted his inner guidance that a furious, frantic, obsessive battle was no longer a wise wager.

**The fact is, Tim's *NO* continues to shout out a resounding *YES* ...**

- YES to transformation in the highest sense of the word.
- YES to a life lived fully.
- YES to courage in confronting his fears, facing the unknown, and sharing his journey.
- YES to an ever-present exchange of love, strength, and spirit with Marilu that shines as an essential life force to all around.
- YES to Katie, Brendan and Laura, and Brian, who bring out the fullest meaning of life for Tim.
- YES to the future as his grand kids radiate energy and life with every squeal, laugh, and question they bring.
- YES to steadfast MacCarthy family love.
- YES to his history in engaging work, shared with colleagues who pay homage in the family room.
- YES to his love of friends who come with hearts laid open and memorable stories filled with humor to share.
- YES to the routines of his life that soften time with a feeling of continuity and attachment.
- YES to the touch of so many people, both in-person and through their long distant thoughts and prayers for comfort.

With the chill of this January, a quiet time has come, but it is not a passive time. Boundaries are fading away. A window is opening and love is blazing in as the all-powerful reality. May Tim's clear YES inspire us, give us courage, and keep us all warm as we move into our own futures.

Sparking possibilities,

*Vicki*

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