

Mark Gunther:

--that everybody is here. It's not a situation that any of us would have wanted to be in but just look--look around. I mean, it's really an amazing experience. So, first—the first thing I want to do is to thank the school—Carrie, Dee Dee, Rachel--I see Erainya, Patty, Ann are here—thank the school for allowing this event to happen. It's not something that I really want to take for granted but something that I really appreciate being able to do here. The second thing to thank the school for—and that's the whole school community—is actually undertaking this project. I mean, I've had a little bit to do with getting it started but, my role is like this big, and it was so—such a gigantic commitment for the school and for everybody who was here. And to be able to be standing in this room with all of you is really extraordinary. So we really have to say “thank you” to everybody in the school community who's here and everybody in the school community who's not here because it really wouldn't have happened without everybody's participation. And, of course, everybody's participation is still needed but that's a discussion for another event. I also want to thank you all for coming, personally.

The reason that you're here is because either you were a special person to Eva—you loved Eva, she loved you; you taught Eva, she taught you. Perhaps you're here because you really love us who survived Eva. At the time that we lost her and had nowhere to turn you're the people who really were here for us in a loving and extraordinary way and, if being able to have you in this room, in this building is a way to say “thank you” and to honor and respect that, that's one of the things that we're doing today. And, we really just need to thank you so much for your kindness. You know, everybody in this room has really taken a little step towards us at some point in the last few years and just the sweetness and the kindness with which we were treated, the good humor, the love, the honesty. All of those feelings and expression have just left us pretty much overwhelmed with a sense of tremendous gratitude and humility towards the power of human relationships—because that's really what has brought us through to today and all the things that we're doing—whether it was contributing to or doing the Eva Foundation or any of the other—the myriad other little things that we're doing. We're only doing it because you guys love us. So thank you for that.

And God knows where we would be—not to digress too much--but Ann and I went to a meeting of the Compassionate Friends, which is a group of parents who've lost children. We did this just a few weeks after Eva was killed, and we met a couple there who had pulled up their roots. They had left Chicago and moved 2,000 miles away and, when we would think that things were a little hard for us, we would think about how lonely and separate they were and, as hard as it's been for us sometimes to be with you, we appreciate your tolerance and your love and your forbearance—and your ability to help us come to this stage. So thank you all very much for that.

So this event—Eva died and then we did a strategic planning process at the school and we ended up deciding to build this building. So pretty much a year after Eva died, I knew the building was going to get built. And many other people in this room didn't share that belief with me. But I believed that and I was all ready at that point, in my mind and heart—I was already occupying the building to some degree and, you know, people have said to me since the building has been built, “Wow! Did you know that it was going to be . . . ?” Yeah. “And did you know there was going to be a . . . ?” Yeah. So that's really been fun. But, anyway, I've been thinking about the dedication for a long time. We offered our contribution at the Future Search conference and, to some degree, in having the ability to make that offer then somehow made it possible for the school to think that this thing could happen.

But I've been thinking about the dedication since the beginning, and my initial thought was, it's not about us. It's about the school, and we're going to take a back seat and we're going to be quiet and

withdrawn about it and it's just something that we gave. And, as the years have gone by, it's interesting because it's very much tied to the process of grief. At the time that I began to think about the dedication, I couldn't feel anything. I was a dead man, inside, and I could feel nothing but grief and the pain and the sadness and the loss and all of that experience. But as the years have gone by and this time came closer, I began to feel that I wanted to do—and this has just been within the last few months—that I really wanted to do an event like this. And I look at this, to some degree, as the most selfish thing that I'm doing in this whole process because I want your memories now. It's been five years and part of the process now is the memory. You never lose the devastation. You don't lose the pain of the loss. But you do gain the ability to remember. And, to the degree that you are all willing to share your memories with us tonight, that is something that I'm looking forward to. However, you'll notice that your tables are equipped with boxes of Kleenex. And don't be afraid to use them because they're there for a purpose.

So, let me see, what else did I want to say at this point? Just one little technical thing: This is a tape recorder and I have this idea that I want to tape what people say tonight and transcribe it and then leave it here in the school forever—to somehow, enflame Eva for those families 50 years from now who just see this, weather-beaten stainless steel name on the building and don't have any idea of who the human being was. So I'm going to ask you to pass this little puppy around to each other. You don't have to talk into it like this. It can actually sit on the table in front of you and somebody pay attention if the tape runs out. You know, flip the tape over and so forth. And that's it. So what we're wanting to hear tonight are your thoughts, your memories, whatever you've brought to remember and share about Eva, about this little community that's represented in this room and anything else that just might happen to be relevant at the moment. So thank you all for being here.

Erainya Neirro, PHS teacher

I was Eva's teacher for two years, 4th and 5th grade. Great times, for a child, 10- and 11-year-old children before the hormones hit. You know, still the clear head, still love their authority figures—perfect time. But I, when I was thinking—and I have too many memories. When I was thinking of memories of Eva, I had to come back to one of the last times that I saw her. I also teach at the Exploratorium on the side. I'm a science teacher. And Eva was there the summer before she died with her cousin—and I don't know if her cousin is here. But I was walking with the ton of stuff that I always carry around to my classes and Eva, of course, grabbed me right away and gave me a wonderful hug and said, "We're getting ready for my bat mitzvah and my cousin is here and we've ironed out all the details and—guess what?—we're going to have folk dancing. We're going to dance!" And she said, you know, "I'm so excited and you're going to love it!" You know, she had been talking to me about this—you know, through her whole Hebrew school because I was there for 4th and 5th grade. And she said, "Will you dance with me?" And I said, "Of course." And we had a big hug. And that was probably one of the last times I saw her and, because of that—and I want to thank some of you because Robert is here and Alison is here and a few other students from her class and, of course, Mark and Ann and Sophie. May festival the year that Eva died we danced for her. And it was a wonderful dance. So that's my memory of Eva.

Tina McGerald Smith

Thank you. I'm Tina Smith. I'm Eva and Sophie's piano teacher, and my memory has to do with Eva's love of office supplies, especially pens and things you could put in a 3-ring binder. So, the first time we noticed it—this is my calculator. And Eva was so excited when I got this that we had something—it became kind of a tradition for us was that any time either of us got something really special, we'd have a moment of silence in its honor. Then there was—and you two must remember this—the hole puncher

that fit in your binder—because I got one a week before Eva because, as I pointed out to Eva, I could drive myself to the store whereas she had to wait for her parents. So, after that, there were three very special pens that I knew we'd have to talk about--so, let me see--and a very special eraser for Sophie. Sophie. So [the Gunthers] gave me quite a lot of money and Sophie spent most of the time doing this (i.e. erasing). And the one thing she was allowed to do was that. So, Sophie, -- (Hands Sophie the eraser) this is for you. Now, this was the first pen I had that Eva really loved. This is the long white pen, It is a pen with a highlighter and a pencil—with an eraser.

Wow!

We may have had a very long—two moments of silence for this. Now this is the executive. Besides being a piano teacher, I'm a management consultant plus I have an executive pen which is from Germany, looks great and I got it on sale with no tax—because it was sent from New York. And that—I got it on sale, no tax. That made Eva's day, made my day. The only problem with this pen is it doesn't work. I never had the heart to [?]. I mean, I carry it with me because it—it looks great! I mean, I look like an executive. And the fact that it doesn't work never comes up. And I never use it. I use this. This is another tri-pen with a stylus for my Palm Pilot. Now, we all know Eva would have loved this pen/pencil and she never got to see it, but I thought I would bring it tonight in her honor. And this then is the pen I got the day you sent me the notice about the Eva Foundation. This is a very special pen because it's a pen—I hope--yes, there it is—because it's made by the Swiss army people. It also has a knife, a screw driver, and cuticle pusher and—

Can you get that on an airplane?

Funny you should mention that because you can't—as I found out [?] having gone through San Jose, you know, fine. They stopped me at LAX and they took this pen out and I had to explain it to them. And they were extremely impressed! They said, "We've never seen anything like this"—because it also has—like this—

Ooh.

Wow!

Nonetheless, they wouldn't let me on the plane. But this is the pen, and I wanted to bring them tonight in memory of Eva and her love of fascinating pens.

Thank you for sharing that.

Lois Gunther (Eva's grandmother)

Well, I had a very hard time deciding what memory because—I mean, I have so many memories but I thought, since it was going to be here at Presidio Hill, I wanted a special memory that was associated with the school. And I think I told this story to Susan at the dedication but, Alissa, I don't know if you remember this. But the Bernsteins used to come to Santa Barbara, to the Miramar Hotel near our house in Santa Barbara, every year. And they would spend a lot of time at our house and, naturally, our family was there and Eva was there. So Eva and Alissa are sitting at our house and Alissa says to Eva, "You know, this is such a neat place." They really liked that house and the beach and everything. We all still like it. And she said, "Why don't you move in with your Grandma and Grandpa and then you could be here all the time." So Alissa thought about—I mean, Eva thought about this for a minute and then she turned to Alyssa and she said—she didn't say "I couldn't leave my parents." No, she said, "I could never leave San Francisco because I couldn't leave my school." She says, "I love my school." And I think her school loved her, too. I can't say any more.

Susan Andrews, PHS director, 1981-1995

Oh, good. I was the director of Presidio Hill School when Eva was going through her grades in school and I also am on the board of the Eva Gunther Foundation so, interestingly enough, we talk up—we go out to foundations. We serve girls 12 to 18 years old. We are trying to give them the kind of support that Eva had—to empower them and to help them have the advantages that Eva had. And we talk and think about Eva a lot. And I—I need my Kleenex box because we’ll just be talking—business attire—and we’ll be talking. Just yesterday we were having a conversation with the people from the foundation that we support, and I’ll start to think, “Well, yeah, this is a good idea because this—Eva would like this.” And—every single meeting that we have at the Eva Gunther Foundation--I am like [crying]—every single one. But, anyway, that’s not my story. But I wanted you to know who I am.

I told this story before, after Eva died, over at Mark and Anne and Sophie’s house, but I’m going to tell you again because so many of the memories that I have of Eva are kind of undifferentiated. She was often in my office. She was very comfortable in the office. She didn’t have any problem walking into my office and giving me a hug, seeing how I was doing, saying “hello” and she liked to hang out in the office. So those memories all run together for me. But there’s one that comes up for me that—it was not that long before she died.

We moved to a camp. For years, we were at Camp Valley for the Moon and now we’re back with the younger students at Camp Valley for the Moon, but for a while I had this idea that we’d go to this bigger camp that offered more. And this was down in the San Mateo Mountains and their pool never worked. At Camp Valley of the Moon, sometimes the pool was cold but it always worked. I mean, it was open. We could go there. But at Camp Jones Gulch it usually wasn’t working. They didn’t—we couldn’t go to the pool. So what’s the point of going to camp? So, this time, they said, “Well, the pool isn’t working but you can go to this river that’s near the camp.” And so we piled all the kids in our cars and we took them to this river. And the kids put on their bathing suits and they’re all going, “Well, what do we do with [?]?” And Eva jumps right in the water. She was the first one. And then she jumped in again, and then she jumped in again. And a couple of other kids kind of followed her lead but Eva was just like in and out and she’d say—and I—she’d say, “Come on, kids, it’s really warm! It’s really great! Come on in the water!” And they’re going “Uuuugh.” And I just remember—I will always remember her spirit and her wonderful little body in that wonderful little bathing suit and just sitting there and just full of life and just jumping in the water and loving the water and loving that river and trying to get the other kids in the water. And that’s my memory of Eva that I cherish. Excuse me. I don’t know what to do with it.

Dan Gunther, Eva’s uncle

My earliest memory of Eva is bringing my laundry over to Mark and Ann’s when Ann was in labor. Courage and capacity for wonder are two things that I really think about with her. And our family used to ski in Utah every year—still do. Started when I was five. And I was skiing with my folks and Eva, and maybe she was seven. Maybe she was eight-ish. Not to cast blame anywhere but a wrong turn was taken and we ended up at the top of Collins Face, which is black diamond, very steep, mogully—much harder than anything she had ever skied before, and she and I were standing at the top of it—you know, looking down. And she had a real moment of “I can’t possibly do this.” So we talked about it and we talked about doing it one turn at a time. And I think, honestly, she started skiing the run with me before she actually decided that, yes, she could do it. She just—just—you know, courage is often—and bravery—are often defined as not being afraid but being afraid and still acting, which I think she did. And we just sort of did it one turn at a time. And I think we were, like, at the bottom before she realized “Yeah, I can really do this.” But she did accomplish it and then took enormous pride—not inordinate

pride but commensurate pride--in what she had done. It was a wonderful thing to see. And she was just floating around. For about the next three days she was walking around that lodge about this high off the ground. And then, I remember also, she had not ever watched a meteor shower. And we were in Santa Barbara and there was one—and Cousin Della was there—and we just went out and I showed her how to watch a meteor shower on the beach. And we just laid flat out on the beach, with our heads together, for about an hour and a half, watching meteors and talking about the heavens. And she had a real—sort of an eye-opener there and was so full of wonderment. It was absolutely exhilarating to be around her—as it always was. Her capacity for all human emotion, I think, was incredible. But courage and capacity for wonder were two things that I really, really remember from her. So.

Richard Gunther, Eva's Grandfather

I want to talk about another quality of Eva's. Lois and I had three sons, and a house full of three sons is a place of constant tumult. These three sons grew to be wonderful men and wonderful mature men. But along came this incredible thing called a granddaughter, who I had never experienced in my life. I was an only child, never had any experience with this. And the quality of Eva that I want to talk about is her capacity for love and affection, physical affection—'cause I remember—what I did, preparatory for tonight, I went through our family albums since Eva was born, looking at all these pictures. And the one memory that I remember that epitomizes this spirit of Eva's: We were in the hot tub together, and she was sitting in my lap and I had my arms around her and I said, "Evie, I love you." And she put her arms around me, gave me a big kiss and said, "Grampie, I love you." And I'll tell you there has never been an experience in my life that's been any higher than that.

Marsha Connell, artist and family friend.

Yes, and when I thought about Eva, one of the first memories that came to me was maybe one of the first times that I had the opportunity to hold her, when she was a baby. And she was a little different than some babies because I held her and, instead of just sort of sitting down and cuddling, she stood right up. And she was just ready to go! And at a very young age she just had this super energy and vitality that she wasn't going to just lie around. Even when she was little, she just leaped up! And I—that just—I've always remembered what that felt like 'cause she must have been about this big, but she just stood up and she was ready to go. And another memory—I don't know because I wasn't actually there. It's just a story that I know that I have held so sweetly that I—but I saw it a lot of times in other ways, that when Eva was very little, she was very involved with this superhero life. And she wore a cape a lot. Now, I don't know which school interview she went to that she wouldn't take her cape off, but I wondered if it was this school. And I wondered if she would get—'cause she had to have screenings for school before she got in. And I wondered what school would take this superhero girl that wouldn't take her cape off when she went for an interview. And was it here? I don't know if there's anybody here who remembers that, but I—so I think that she really believed that she was a superhero in a lot of ways. And I think that she was. And you're—Jerry's going to continue this story because we both have the same story of being on the beach together.

Jerry Connell, family friend

And Eva must have been eight years old? Something like that. I forget. On a beautiful beach in Kauai, that summer Eva was pure [?]. And she had a cape and her sword and she fought off all the powers of evil—including me, including Marcia, and Captain Hook.

Ah, Captain Hook.

Well, Eva scripted the play and she gave us all parts. She was being in charge.

Not only was she Peter Pan, she was also the director.

Thank you so much.

And I do believe that Sophie was there. I think you were pregnant then with Sophie. Is that right? I believe so. In a sort of salmon-colored bathing suit. I have this image. So—

Yeah, I think so. So, Sophie, you were there, but you probably don't remember. Thank you.

Ann Meissner, PHS kindergarten teacher, lower school dean, learning specialist

I'm Ann and I was one of Eva's kindergarten teachers, and I definitely remember the cape coming to school. And that superhero presence that she embodied—

Yes. And that she—she kept with her through the whole kindergarten school year in everything that she did, but most especially in reading. Erainya and I were talking about that earlier this week, actually, of how passionate she was about reading when she was with Erainya in 4th and 5th grades and how she needed to share her books with Erainya and tell her what was going on with the characters and really keep her apprised of how her reading was going. But that started, I think, before kindergarten really. I mean, my memory of her is of her reading and her enthusiasm for sharing it with the other kids in a way that wasn't really showing off but it was "Oh, boy, look at me! I can do this. Isn't this cool?" You're going to join the ranks of readers, too, along the line and, in particular, one day—kind of along the theme of the Peter Pan—you know, acting out the thing. We had the very hungry spider. It was the first time, I think, that we had done an activity like this in the classroom, where we were reading the story and then we were going to act it out. And, you know, in our old building, we had the version of the stage, you know, much smaller sort of stage but she just got so excited she wanted to keep doing the story so that she could play each character in the story, that we would act it out that many times as we shared it around with the classmates. So that's a fond memory for me. Thanks.

Jordana Ossad, Eva's Hebrew school classmate

Okay. I'm Jordana. I had the pleasure of going to Sunday school with Eva for a couple years, you know. I came to Sunday school in 3rd grade and a bunch of the kids had already known each other and, you know, were all cliquy and the boys and the girls against each other. But Eva was friends with everyone and, you know, she invited me to her birthday party and it was like the first social event that I had ever gone to and, you know, my dad came with me because, you know, I was kind of uptight and I was in 3rd grade and I didn't know anyone. So, you know, she made me feel really comfortable and at home at Sunday school and, you know, I just loved her. She was great.

Jacqueline Minor, PHS parent and Board member, chairman of the Building project

My shoes are off. I hope that's okay.

Come on. You built the building. Now, you can take your shoes off if you want to.

Okay. Hi, I'm Jackie. It was so great walking in here and seeing all of you. Some of you I haven't seen in five years so it was wonderful. The room felt good, walking in here late. I had a stack of pictures that I had taken out. And some of you know I'm a really early riser, so I was up at five o'clock this morning with my cup of coffee and I had a stack of pictures. And there was a picture of Eva and Alison, who's back there, and they were standing next to each other on a stage after a Martin Luther King Day play here, in 1996 probably. Mm-hmm, 1996. And what struck me this morning was that both of these young women were poised, and there was this eye contact. And I'll have to share the picture. There's this eye contact between the two of them, and they're absolutely confident, they're friends, and it just exuded

this warmth that just grabs me this morning. So I just wanted to share that with you. I only knew Eva for two years. And I have these strong, strong memories of Eva. Some of that's because I love Mark and Sophie and some of that's because my child came here as a 5th grader at a time when, the previous young lady just said, friendships had been formed. Robert entered—this is Robert over here, for those of you who haven't seen him in five years. Friendships had been formed and it was this class where there were 10 or 11 boys and 5 girls. And so Robert just added to the hyperactivity in the class. And Eva just worked her way next to him, guarded him, helped him—helped him to acclimate. And she was really such an important part of us becoming a part of the PHS family that I'll always love her for that because she was really responsible for us being able to go on and become a part of this community and feel loved and wanted and, as you know, you can't get rid of us. So I will just always have very, very warm loving feelings for Eva and she'll just always be a part of my memories.

Nancy Davis, former PHS Board member

Thank you, madam. My name's Nancy and my daughter Meg was one of Eva's classmates. And Meg and Eva had a lot in common, including the fact that they were moving the minute that they exited the womb. They were just—Meg was always moving and so was Eva. Great love of sports, an exuberance for life. I am here representing our family tonight, who are scattered at various different events and places in the state. But I know that Donna, my partner, would want me to remind you of something that is already well represented in that photo, which was Eva's million-dollar smile, which was readily available to anybody. She was so accepting and embracing of everyone. And Megan has asked me to share with you, particularly Mark, the following: These two kids were athletes and did a lot of physical activity together. But she wanted me to remind you of the time that you were all at Mountain Lake Park and I believe you were running and the girls were roller blading and the three of you got chased home by a swan. Do you remember that, Mark? A goose? Well, you know, however. But, anyway, that was what Megan wanted me to make sure that conveyed this evening. So I am the messenger here. But a great talent for loving life was Eva. Next?

Mark Gunther

[?]. This goose followed us all the way home. And it just wouldn't go away. Finally I had to go in the house so I left it out on the sidewalk [?]. But I came out, you know, the next morning and the goose was gone, literally—about ten blocks.

Beth Irwin, former PHS teacher

I'm Beth, and I was the 3rd grade teacher of Eva. And what I remember is her continuing the superhero choices. She became Moses. And she acted the part, she spoke the piece, and she taught the rest of the group—the 2nd graders and the 1st graders—all about Moses. She brought scrolls. She did extra performances. She was always a Moses. [?]

Diana Rosenblatt Miller, former PHS teacher

I'm Diana. I was Eva's 6th grade math and science teacher, and I was also the 6th grade girls' social skills teacher. And it was a really small, intimate group, a really wonderful group. And at the end of the year the group wanted to do an overnight. So we decided to do an overnight at Mariah's house. And Eva was in my car pool going over there—Eva and Norah and Caroline—and Alyson and Mariah and Megan were waiting for us there. And you guys already had the slip-and-slide already set up, outside of Mariah's house. And when we arrived, Eva was so excited to see this slip-and-slide. She was, like, out of the car and into her bathing suit sliding on this slip-and-slide before we were even halfway out of the car. And she was so happy and she was just wonderful, just had a great love of life. And that's

how I'll always remember her.

Lori McKenzie, PHS Board member

I'm Lori McKenzie, mostly known as Sarah's mom. And we mostly are Sophie's best friend because Sarah is Sophie's best friend—at least one of them. What was interesting to me when I think about Eva is the very first memory I have of Eva was Nathan's first day of kindergarten in Presidio Hill School. And I thought I was very comfortable at Presidio Hill School, having gone to Presidio Hill School. And I show up, first day of kindergarten with Nathan, and the first person to greet me was Eva. And she says, "Well, who are you? And who's this kid you have with you?" And I said, "This is Nathan." "And how old is Nathan?" And I said, "He's four and three-quarters." And she goes, "Oh, he's in the 2-year kindergarten program." And this is—you know, I had been at the school five minutes, thinking I knew this was the right place for my son. I thought—I kind of thought I knew what I was doing, and she says, "He is so lucky. I had to spend an extra year at Temple Emanuel because I didn't qualify for that—you know, my age or whatever. But Nathan is so lucky to have two years with Ann." You know, it was just—it was wonderful. So we mostly know Sophie but that is my very first memory, walking up the first day at Presidio Hill School.

Christine Elbel, former PHS Board chair

I'm Christine. I have a daughter who is now in 9th grade and I didn't know Eva that well as a fellow student because of the age difference between Eva and my daughter, Catie. But she was the first kid, I think, that I really saw as a middle schooler. And, at the time when we were new in the school and we're just worrying about little kids' things and lower school issues, Eva was always at the top of the stairs. And she was the primary greeter, as we all know, particularly the first days of school. And we had done a building renovation with Bob and Doug in 1996 and it was a big deal then and nothing like this. But we had renovated the older building over there, and Eva was greeting everybody and welcoming everyone back and telling them where to go and what had happened over the summer and what was up with the building. But she was really mad—that the lockers hadn't come? Do you remember that? She was so ticked! And she would go off with her very—well, I was going to go look. I should have taken the tour to see what the locker situation is now. But she had this enormous backpack and she threw—you know, she was the first kid I saw with one of those huge backpacks—and complaining bitterly. But she would talk to me about it. You know, she would engage. And she said, "I'm mad about this. Those lockers better come. It's been one week already." So I hope that she got the locker of her dreams that year. I know this is the building of her dreams.

Carol Nathan, family friend

I'm Carol Nathan and we live across the street from Mark and Ann. They actually found our house for us. And we've known Eva since she was in preschool, and Molly and Eva were good buddies in preschool. I, of course, can remember the Peter Pan phase. I mean, she—every day to school, she wore the cape and the sword and so on. But I guess what I want to say is what I've noticed, you know, in Molly's bedroom. You know how the kids start putting up—I guess, when they're in middle school, they start plastering their walls. You can't even see the walls with their pictures. It tells you—it's very revealing about their life and I notice, with Molly, you know, she'd have pictures of family, very loving, and, as she got older, family was not as important and the peers were so paramount in her life. And so up went pictures of all the kids from preschool and elementary school and middle school. And then posters—you know, whatever she was into, New Kids on the Block. And then, after that, not quite so pure, there were pictures of, you know, Marilyn Monroe and then Pulp Fiction and, you know, whatever else goes up on the walls that tells you about what's going on in their own development. And so Molly's

pictures have come and gone. I watched those walls, all the pictures and so on. But there's always pictures of Eva that have been there, that remain. There's three pictures up of Eva.

And I just want to say, contrary to popular opinion, she did wear a dress. I mean, everyone just thinks of her as always wearing pants. And, you know, there was a period, developmentally, when most girls do wear dresses. I mean, that's what they'd like—they'd like to look pretty. And I remember, you know, the red Dorothy shoes. You know, clicking those red Dorothy shoes. My god, she just loved those shoes! I mean, I think she was cramming her foot in like Cinderella. Those things did not fit her. The toes were coming out the front but she would insist on wearing those red, diamond, ruby shoes with everything—first with the skirts and the dresses and then with the pants. But there is a picture on Molly's wall that shows Eva with that mass of brown hair, that cute little body of hers and the purple dress with white polka dots. Remember that dress? Yeah, like a very light purple or, you know, lavender dress—lavender—sorry—with white polka dots and little white anklets and her red, sparkly shoes. And that's up there as well as the picture, of course, with the cape and the sword. But she did wear a dress. Yes, over the phases, she did.

And, you know, I just remember, too—I mean, you know, I'm in a book club and I love to read. But I would get suggestions from Eva, you know, about books. And [?] I'd go to book club and hear “Where did you hear about that book?” [It sounds funny?] I mean, you know, but she loved *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. She turned me on to that—I'd never read the—what is it?—six or seven books—and started reading it to Molly. But I remember her saying once to me something about she didn't know if somebody was mythological or mystical. I mean, she was very little. Who even knows “mythological” and “mystical?” I mean, so, you know, her deep—very deep—intellectual capacity, I mean, was just remarkable. And then, of course, I remember with Eva, too, going to the park. We used to go to Mountain Lake Park off of [?]-well, the story about the goose. But we would go to Mountain Lake Park and there were these trees—very old. Mountain Lake Park is really—it's a jewel, such beauty there. And there'd be all these trees kind of growing, with the roots growing horizontal. And there was space between the trees growing together and Molly and Eva would play in there. It was their—I guess it's as close to a tree house as you can get, you know, in the city. And that was their little tree house. They would never let me enter. So I'd sit out, reading *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. You know, I'd be sitting out on the bench, waiting for them while they played in there. But they had all the rooms set up, you know, always—the kitchen and the dining room and the living room and—oh, [?] the fantasy about who was coming in and out of the home. Anyway, so I always remember going to Mountain Lake Park. It was a continuous game that they had, very private, just the two of them in this little—just ensconced. It was almost like [embraced them?]. These trees just came around them and they were just safe and warm in that little tree house. And I also remember, at Mountain Lake Park, Eva with all her injuries. I remember once driving her to the doctor. I don't know where you were—somewhere—and she hurt her nose, a swing. You know, you'd try to watch her and she was all over the place. So she was getting lots of injuries and I just remember taking her to the doctor, with this injury and that. And she'd bounce right back the next day as if nothing happened. But, anyway, I loved her and continue to miss her. But she was a very strong presence. And Danny talked about capacity, and she had capacity—and deep capacity—in many areas.

Steven Kahn, family friend

Hi, I'm Steven. David, along with Alyson and Robert, were classmates of Eva. And I want to give just two really quick memories. The first is David and Eva were, I think, in 3rd grade and I'm driving them home or driving them somewhere. And they're in the back seat and they're whispering about something and I couldn't figure out what are they talking about and I figure out what they've been

talking about is, you know, they've been friends all through elementary school and some older kids were teasing them. And they were talking—I think this is the first time this had really come to a head, when everyone had been really—it was, you know, everyone was really tolerant of them, of course. But, suddenly, they hit the age when some older kids didn't, you know, and it wasn't good with them. So they were talking and somehow they worked it out. They stayed friends. And whatever—I was not party to however they dealt with those older kids, but they either ignored them or did whatever they did and they just figured out how to stay solid. So that's one memory.

Another is we used to have picnic dinners in mid-town Terrace Park. And sometimes Eva was with us, and I just have an image of her. We'd just get out our sandwiches. There was a tree, which has since been cut down. So we'd be having our picnic sandwich and Eva, of course, would be up in the tree, sort of coaxing David. David would be like up here in the tree and Eva would be eating her sandwich—as I'm sure all of you can picture. So, just those two images of Eva. Also, my wife, Kate, couldn't be here but she wrote something so I'm going to read it.

Kate Brady.

“Dear Eva, No one else could say “Oh, yeah” in the way that you could. You were never surprised that things would turn out well, but you were always ready to affirm the joyful outcome you anticipated. For someone who is such an optimist, you had a few rare moments when you did get stumped. I remember when I used to come”—this is Kate now—“when I used to come to do writing with your class.” I'm sure you remember that. “You would sometimes get writers' block. You were as whole-hearted about being stuck as you were about jumping forward into things. You sat with your chin resting in your hand and a big frown on your face. When I came to talk to you and try to make suggestions, you were very, very sure that nothing would work. A little while later, you'd bring me what you somehow miraculously found your way to writing. Oh, yeah. You were such a decent person. This isn't just a matter of learning how to behave. It's a virtue that some people have to cultivate, and very few people have the innate through-and-through sense of fairness and justice that you had. The most beautiful thing about your sense of justice was that it was natural to you, easy and almost thoughtless. You would never think of excluding someone. You were so joyfully embarked on life that you couldn't imagine not wanting everyone along for the ride. When you came to play at our house, you always included Sarah”—that's David's younger sister—“in your games with David, just as Sophie was always part of your games at home. In your givingness, you inspired the giving of others. Sarah always wanted you to have her lion costume when you guys played your medieval game. And I have such a great thing to thank you for. You were such a true and loyal friend to David. So many times I overheard you say to him, ‘Come on, David,’ coaxing him along, egging him just a little into overcoming his caution and trying things or taking risks—learning how to jump feet first—which came so naturally to you. ‘Come with me. I just know we're going to find something good.’ I hope that he was a refuge for you in the way that you were a refuge for him, a friend who didn't pull any garbage, or bully or belittle—a friend who wanted to share so much. I miss you and I'm so glad that I can thank you for the goodness of your heart and for your faith in life. Love, Kate”

Teresa Burns Gunther, Eva's aunt

I'm Teresa, Eva and Sophie's aunt and Andy's wife. I have so many memories, so many memories of Eva within me. And, you know, as everyone's talking, I realize that life, with Eva, had a uniform—you know, the Snow White costume and that red-and-white dress. I have pictures from Sam's first birthday and Eva was so always right there, with everything, just right at the heart of whatever was happening. And Sam's first birthday picture—he's sitting with his cake and Eva—that whole party—she's right

there. She's watching Sam in case he forgets what his duty is to blow out the candle. And she's with me, you know, to finish wrapping the presents. She's right there. She knew where the scissors were in my house. I just—I think we have to mention the club house in Santa Barbara and the way Eva would assign roles to people. They'd get positions in the club. But Eva, I don't think—Sophie, was Eva ever president?

Sophie: No.

I don't remember Eva ever being the president, but she was the oldest, which was kind of unusual, I think, for a group of kids. And, you know, I remember Sam coming to me one time and saying, "I've been voted president of the club." And he was really little and he was so proud and—just the way she did it. And she made ID cards and everyone had a place and they always just got along so well. And I think she just really fostered and created that. The memories of giggling at the Passover seders, Alyssa and Eva—and usually their bottoms up in the air and somehow, you know. But just, when I think of Eva, I think of her just being at the heart of things. And I think of the fairy wings that I made her, that—you know, I promised her I'd make her fairy wings and I kept promising fairy wings and I finally put some together. And you would have thought—I mean, they were—they were a pretty crude attempt. And she loved them. And she wore them—probably till they completely fell apart. That just—that joy she brought to everything. And I looked through my pictures of her, and we have a picture, sitting on the floor in Santa Barbara, and my legs are spread out and hers are spread out and our toes touching. And we're working on something and she's just right there in whatever—I don't even remember what we were doing, but she—she must have been only two or three—but she was so present and so connected to what we were doing. Just—and that's always how I think of Eva.

Laura Goldbaum, former PHS parent

All right. I'm Laura Goldbaum and my son, Amos, was Eva's classmate. And it sounds kind of strange but Amos was not really friends with Eva. But I was. I felt like I was. I mean, it's kind of strange 'cause I don't usually form friendships with kids that are not my son's friends, but I think people have said that she just had that capacity to do that. And I just feel that—I know it's not politically correct to say that she's special, but I feel that Eva is. I don't want to say "was" because I feel like she exists here, in this room. I think she is special. There is something about her that just really drew me in.

The way I got to know her was I used to pick my son up after school and Eva would often be there with Sophie—I don't know if Sophie remembers this but—sort of like very tastefully begging rides—home—because her babysitter was on her day off. She was supposed to walk home but she preferred to get a ride and she just, kind of like, you know, made eye contact with me. And this happened several times. That's how I got to know her. I actually wrote this all out but it seems kind of formal to say so. We just would have little conversations and she would tell me—like often with little kids whose mothers were working, you get a little sense like "Yeah, my mom's working." It's maybe not such a good thing. But "Yeah, mother is in school. She's getting her Ph.D." And it's like all this pride. She really—I felt like she really understood what Ann was doing. It was just sort of uncanny.

I just started to think "Oh, she was precocious. She's a prodigy." But, you know, that isn't what it was about. She was—I think I forgot your name but who said that, you know, the old soul thing. There was something about her that was fully formed, even as a child, and it was not that she was precocious or anything like that. It was just the way that she was. And I felt like she had a way—like all the rest of us are going to therapy and workshops and trying to get the self-esteem and, you know, human potential movement and all that. Eva sort of—she just kind of had it. And I could say it was her family or her tae kwon do or, you know, her religion, but I think she was born with it. I mean, I just have a sense that

there was just something there. And so I think I said pretty much everything I had here. But, also her protectiveness toward Sophie. You know, when she would get the ride, it was like “for me and Sophie.” It was like she was protecting Sophie, and it was this really beautiful thing.

After Eva died, there was talk of having a bicycle rack for her, and I was just very, very anxious that we should have something. And, of course, it didn't happen and I thought, “Well, another thing that never happened,” you know. And then I get this notice, first about the foundation and I was like “Wow! This is much bigger than I thought.” You know, I thought I would be thrilled with a bicycle rack, you know. I thought that was, you know, really great, but then the foundation. And then, you know, the whole building! So I was, you know, felt really wonderful about that. But then I thought, “You know, really, those things are wonderful but, really, the way to keep her alive is the people that knew her.” And so I thought, in the end, it's just really us getting together that really knew her that is the real memorial to her. And so I was really happy to have this. And she's just very much alive for me. I mean, she could just be in the next room. She's just—and at first I was thinking, “Well, you know, we'll get over this, this whole sense” but I feel like now that, you know, the pain that I feel is just magnified, of course, for her family, but I don't really want to get over it because it's that pain almost that keeps it so alive, that she's just so present for me. And so I'm just very grateful that [?] thing. So thank you. And I have to leave early. I'm doing a graveyard shift tonight so I have to leave in a little while. Ready? Next?

Rachel Krantz, Eva's cousin

All right. So I'm Rachel, and I'm Eva and Sophie's cousin. And I'm really lucky because I have a lot of memories with Eva 'cause I'd get to go to the house probably at least like twice a month. So I got a lot of experience in the couple—or not so long—years that I got to spend with her. I have a lot of memories of her trying to teach me tae kwan do moves and playing games and going down the stairs in a sleeping bag and all that stuff, but one of the main things that stands out to me is the last time that I saw her. And I remember it was me, my dad, Sophie, Eva and Ann went to this dance performance in the park. And so we were all excited 'cause it was going to be like this great performance and stuff like that. And we got there and it was kind of good but it was interpretive, weird. But, I mean, Sophie and Ann—Sophie, you know, being the dignified dancer that she is, she was really into it—even though she was young. And she was like Ann. But me and Eva just wasn't that into it but—and so, I just remember totally—she was such a mature person and, for me, she was always just the epitome of what an older sister would be like and what I wanted to be like when I got older—and just so, like everybody said, wise beyond her years. But she also really knew when to just let loose and have fun and, like, that whole day, we were just kind of watching this kind of semi-absurd dance performance and, like, acting up like 5-year-olds and stuff. I mean, I just remember having so much fun. There was so much maturity and so much fun at the same time. I think that's one of the most important lessons that she taught me, that—to be an emotionally mature person and, if you can, be wise beyond your years but to know when to just let it go and smile and really enjoy life as [?].

Sam Gunther, Eva's cousin

Okay, it's on. I'm Sam, and I'm Eva's cousin. I never really—I don't know. I didn't really know her that well because I was really young and I didn't get to hang out with her that much. But I do remember that, just like a year or two before she died—around that time—I had begun to take tae kwan do. And I was just barely able to do anything in tae kwan do, right? I mean, at the point where I knew how to punch and I knew how to do a form and I would go up and I'd be like “Eva, [?], I can do tae kwan do.” I'd do this form. I'd get it all wrong. But she always—like everyone's saying—she had that energy and she was just—she was very wise and there was just something about her that was very unlike anyone I

know. And she was—she just had something for everybody. She knew—yet, like what she said, she just knew when to have fun and when to be really wise, and she was just really amazing.

Andy Gunther, Eva's Uncle

I wanted to—had so many memories of Eva. I'm Andy. I'm Mark's brother and—And I finally thought that a good story to tell would be the first conversation that I ever had with Eva. But before I say that, I need to say something else that I've been thinking about, particularly being in this building and particularly being here with all of you who knew Eva through PHS. In the tumultuous days after her death, there was a period of time when I was thinking about the fact that Teresa and I and Sam—and I remember talking to you about this at one point—that we were your only family members who lived in this area. And all three of us lived on the other side of the Bay and—how were we going to cope? “Cope” was a big word at that time. But, you know, Jackie, you used the term “PHS family” earlier, and a lot of people like to use that word when they talk about institutions and organizations that they're associated with. And you don't often have a chance to find out if that word really applies or not. And I think it's kind of over-used but this is one instance in which it clearly was not. And I really have—this is only the second or third time I've ever stepped inside this school. But in the weeks and then the months, particularly, that followed Eva's death, it became very clear to me that Mark and Ann had a family that was much larger than I ever imagined. And the kind of support that this community showed to them was incredible. And it was—it was support, indirectly, of me and Carol, and you, too, are in this group, too. I mean it was really a remarkable thing, and so I think that there truly is a family associated with this institution that you guys can all be very proud of.

So, anyway, the first conversation I ever had with Eva: Eva was the first—the youngest—person that I had ever met. She was nine hours old when Teresa and I went to Mount Zion Hospital to see you and I had never had very much exposure to little people before. And so, over the next couple of years, Eva was my teacher. And the story I want to tell is very emblematic of what everybody has said about how she—how her spirit, that was so evident in her when she was here at Presidio Hill, was, in fact, evident earlier in her life. Though, actually, I thought maybe I could tell a story, you know, like a story about trying to comb Eva's hair at ten at night. We've talked also about her determination when she—when there was something she wanted to do, she would just do it. Well, you can put that around because, when there was something that she didn't want to do—and if you ever had to be in the position of having to get her to do something she didn't want to do But this is a better story. My parent's house in Santa Barbara is on the beach and every once in a while, after big rainstorms, the creek that's nearby—all this wood washes out of the creek and then it ends up the waves push it on the beach, and the beach that you like to go sit and walk on is covered with all these little pieces of wood. And it's very hard to use the beach. So my brother and I decided that we were going to clean the beach. And Mark and Ann were down there with Eva and she was just barely walking. She couldn't have been walking more than a month. So maybe she's a year old. And so we were—we decided to clean off the beach, and the way we would do this is to obtain a blanket and just take all these little sticks and get them on the blanket. And then we'd tug the blanket over to one spot and we'd dump all the sticks off. Well, Eva wanted to participate. And so we were out there and we were saying to Eva “Now, sticks on the pile.” And we were picking all this and she would pick up a stick and throw it on the pile. But the part she was interested in was when the blanket would move. And so we put her on the blanket and we pulled the blanket full of sticks with Eva, and she was kind of riding on it. And then we'd have to move the blanket back. Now an empty blanket can move a lot faster than a blanket that's—so we decided, well, sure, let's “Come on, Eva, we'll give you a ride.” So we kind of pulled her along, and the first time we went kind of slow but the next time we sort of tugged her and she was kind of bouncing around. And, at one point,

I remember, her feet were sticking up, just rolling around. And we stopped and I—and I wasn't—like I said, I hadn't spent a lot of time with little people before. And I was afraid she would start crying and I wasn't sure, like, what I would do then. But, instead, we had the conversation. And she looked at me and she said, "More."

Audience: Awww!

Andy: And that was the first thing she ever said to me. And, in fact, it was—after three or four times, you can imagine, knowing Eva, how fast the blanket was going. And, in fact, that was—that experience, I think, is similar to some of the experiences that other people have described when she was much older. So that, really, is a story that I thought would really be fun to share with you.

Lily Weckler, former PHS student, family friend

Well, I first met Eva when I was about three—at an infant/parent program picnic on Angel Island that my mom and Ann were both at. And she was the older girl there, and I had always looked up to older girls. I'd always wanted an older sister. And we hit it off right away and she used to make lots and lots of origami. And we took—everyone had these little pamphlets for something—I don't remember what. And we took the pamphlets and she taught me how to make origami out of them. And we walked around, selling all of our origami to the people at the infant/parent program meeting. And that continued on for a number of years, and I actually have the most complicated origami that I have ever made, which was with Eva's help. And Eva and Sophie and I used to make origami. We would spend hour and hours and hours making all this origami and then we would sit on this platform on the bottom of the stand at the Gunthers' house and we would sit on that platform and we would have a pitcher or orange juice and all of our origami. And we would try to sell it to people walking by. So, I meant to bring it but I have this piece of origami that's—kind of looks like some sort of a fan. I don't know. But, anyway, that was Eva's favorite and she sort of impressed it upon me and so, when she died, I wanted to bury it with her, at first, and then thought about the fact that I would be putting my only material memory of her underground and decided that I'd rather keep it—keep it out and keep it in the house as sort of a symbol of her because I think that's what she would have wanted—'cause she was very alive and it's sort of alive—to me—in the way that she is.

Anne Krantz, Eva's mother

Well, I really—I'm so overwhelmed that I really want to thank you all because these memories are giving me memories. And I have a story for every story because, when Eva would want to—we'd have a date, and it was very special because I was working a lot and we did have a Tuesday date. There were—there was one—unfortunately, only one year—where we had a date and I would pick her up after Hebrew school and there were two things that she would want to do: eat and go shopping. Where did she want to go shopping? Office Depot. I still really can't go into Office Depot.

And, you know, picking Eva up after tae kwan do, I still really can't drive by. I mean, I'm always kind of, like, looking but, you know, it's painful to drive by the school. But I used to pick her up and, you know, she would go from, I think, Mondays and Wednesdays after school—two classes. So she was there from—what? 4:00 to 7:30?—something like that. And I would work until whatever, 7:30, and one of the nights I would pick her up. And, at the last year, she was in the 6th grade. I guess she was one of the more senior students so, again, as Soph said, she was very comfortable with people at different ages. Now this I—I always felt, though, that the value in the school was also that you were, you know--you were valued in terms of the work you did. So your age was sort of not that important. So she would take class with older students and younger students but, when Bill wasn't able to teach and there wasn't

another more senior teacher, she would teach the tae kwan do class. And so there were—there was one time I remember coming in and this one guy who—I think he had been a Marine and he was bald, and there were some very tough-looking men in that class that I would have been very frightened to meet in a dark alley.

Not Eva, though. And I remember her teaching a class and coming in and watching. And this big guy did one of the movements that she was teaching, and he didn't do it right. And she said, you know, "I really want you to do it again. I think you can do better. I want you to try it again." And he did. You know, all of the origami—okay. I mean, I'm telling you, everybody's story—she made an origami for Aki, the sushi chef over at Tanuki. We were there for dinner and she took a napkin and she made an origami of a sushi chef shirt. Is there a name for such a thing? There must be a Japanese name for it. And she gave it to him. And he apparently kept it because, after her death, it was in a frame in the window of Tanuki for how many years?

MV: Two years.

Two years with a photograph of Eva. Her protectiveness of Sophie, her love for Sophie—I can't even . . . I'm just in awe of their relationship. It's just—and I'm very grateful for the relationship because, especially having lost it, that—to have had so much love between them—both ways, equally. And Eva was very anxious—I don't know if you know this Sophie, but Eva was very, very anxious that you would get lost. There was a period of a couple of years where—"Where Sophie? Where Sophie?" If you were in a supermarket or, you know, you could be walking down the street or, you know, any place that was outside, she'd be, like, kind of bearing up behind you and there was this tremendous anxiety. I remember talking to Lois, "What is this really about? You know, is she anxious that, you know, she's aggressive and it's coming out in this kind of, you know, protective thing?" But, you know, I really think that she just probably had, on some level, a tremendous awareness of the danger in the world—and in ways that I, perhaps, wasn't clued in to at that point. And she never took her eyes off of you. And it is true that the door to the bedroom was never closed to Sophie or any child that came in to the house, that she did educate many kids who were used to doing that as they apparently do here. And it really was—that was the standard. And, you know, it was hard to lose that standard 'cause, you know, kids do look to another child, really, to organize them that way. And so all of that. But I will say that, when I thought about memories, I realized—I really started thinking about memory itself. And that's sort of where I went. And I realized that I probably have spent much of my life dealing with memory. You know, as a dancer, memory is very important—because that's what you draw on for your material. And then, when you have the material, that's what you have to shape. So you can't record it and you don't write—you know, nowadays, people use video. I never used that. But, you know, you can't write it down and refer to it. I mean, you can write notes but that's not what dance is. You really have to remember what you've done or the salient points of what you've done, and that's what you work with. And then those salient points is—that's memory, right? And then you have to remember it. And after you perform a dance, when it's over, you forget it. And then you have to really remember it to remember it. So this is where—what I was thinking a lot about today. So I ended up with a poem. And I will just read it to you, and it's "Memory's Touch."

Memory is a touch.

It presses, brushes you, pierces through and then fades away.

Being hugged, strong arms squeezing until you can't breathe.

Eyes of greenish brown with sparkling lights deep within,

taking up space.
Something new.
Tripping you just for fun.
Giggles, giggles and deep-throated laughter.
Arm wrestles—strong arms, strong legs
and low, low knee bends in a wide second position.
So low, practicing the forms. Focused concentration.
Taking class, teaching big guys. You can do it better. Try again.
Long brown ponytail, braiding it after a bath, thick and wet.
Smells—smells of sweat, of feet, of skin, of hair
getting fainter, almost gone.
At night time “Sit with me, Mommy. Please?”
I sit on the floor next to her bed and wait for her fear to pass.
Laughter in the house, noise, playing, loving in the house.
“I will always be there for you,” she told her sister.
I heard her say that. She was teaching Sophie how to deal with loneliness at school.
“Come find me and I’ll give you a hug.”
“What if I can’t find you?”
“Then go to Steve or Ann or Bobbie and ask them for a hug.
“I will always be there for you.”
How do I remember that?
It’s fading, fading away.
Draw it toward me. Feel it in my body.
Memory’s touch presses and it fades away.
I thank you all, whoever you are.

Sophie Gunther, Eva’s sister

I have many, many, many memories of Eva and being with her and her energy and everything that was said about her so far. But there’s one thing that I really, really remember that happened a lot. First of all, we were very close. And we never really got in fights that I can remember. I mean, I remember getting angry at her but she never really got angry at me. And so our rooms were right next to each other. And I remember that we begged my parents if I could sleep in the trundle bed in her room and “Can I have a sleepover in Eva’s room?” You know, like, and we begged you like every single night. And sometimes we did, and sometimes we weren’t allowed to but that’s what we did. We never really wanted to be apart [?].

Anne Krantz

Soph, do you remember that Eva figured out a way you could both be in that upper bunk in the bedroom in Santa Barbara?

FV: I never knew how they managed it, but Eva had the upper bunk. This was Eva's bed. She had territory for that and she wanted—Sophie wanted to sleep there with her. So she put Sophie across the bottom. I don't know how they did it. I never could do it.

Dick Gunther

I remember when Eva was still strong. Once I remember doing a squat against the wall. She did it with me. I lasted about three minutes. My legs were going—they were shaking like this. I get up to four minutes and my whole body is shaking. And I finally quit. [?] So she [?]. "Come on, Grampie." Boy, what [?].

Alyssa Bernstein

I'm Alyssa, and Eva and I were—are—best friends, you know, since she was born. And what I remember most is that we, like, always pretended that we were twins, like we told everybody we were twins. We dressed up. I remember we had—I was probably, like, many inches taller than her for most of the time, but we had the same hair. So in every picture of us, we stood, like, on different chairs so we could be the same height and stuff. And I specifically remember this time in Santa Barbara where we told this couple that we, like, hadn't met—that we were twins. And, you know, we had made up this whole story. But then we started getting the details wrong, like "I'm 12." I was probably 10 or 11. So we were telling them, like, each of us was telling them our own, like, side. Like I live in San Francisco and Palo Alto. And we got all mixed up with it, but we had a lot of fun, just like she was really my sister 'cause, you know, she was the closest I ever had to a sister and just being able to have a twin, which is just, like, incredible for me. And Sophie's like a sister to me now, also. She's become one of my best friends, and it's really great to be a part of this.

Lois Gunther

And this was before you were born, Sophie. You weren't there. And we took her to the park. And when we would take Eva to the park, she was one of the little kids. But she always went on the big kids' equipment. And she would climb up something and then she couldn't get down and we would have to help her. And this time we went, and it was great. She went to the little kids' slide and she went up the ladder and she stood at the top of the slide and, all of a sudden, she jumped, and she cleared the whole slide and landed down at the bottom. And she didn't hurt herself, but I thought we were going to have a heart attack. This was our first and only grandchild and we were taking care of her and this is what she did.

Molly Nathan, Eva's friend

Well, first of all, I remember being very jealous of Alyssa because they met in their mom's stomach and I didn't meet her till pre-school. But I remember, in her room, she had this big old chair—she may still have that—this big chair that spins, and me and Sophie and her would play on it. And I always wanted to show her that I could stay on it without getting really sick 'cause she was a lot braver than I was and, you know, better at math. And she ate more of my mom's cooking than I did and she wanted to show her I could do it. And so she'd put the blanket on my head and then spin me around. And then she'd stop right before I'd, you know, vomit. And she'd take off the blanket and she'd be like "Molly, I'm really proud of you." And she was always really proud of me.

Susan Andrews

FV: I have so many kaleidoscopic memories of Eva and so many of them have been mirrored here today but I just wanted to say one quick thing, which is, if any of you have a video of the follies when Eva was in kindergarten, you can hear her voice very specifically because there was a really fantastic song in that video called “What Is Home to You Is Home to Me.” And I can’t sing it—number one, because I can’t sing and also because I cry every time I hear that song. It was an incredibly moving follies script and Eva loved singing that song. And when they sang it, she didn’t want it to end so, when it ended, she kept going. And there’s one little byte of her continuing to sing that song. And I also have another follies memory of Eva when—I think it might have been first grade—she actually did a reading in four follies, which is the holiday season play that the school puts on. And it’s always originally written and it has a one-night stand only. And Eva, I think in first grade, was actually doing one of the readings, which was quite incredible, and I’ll never forget that.

Alison Silver, Eva’s classmate

Hi, I’m Alison. I went to school with Eva from kindergarten, and I have two memories that I would like to share. And one of them is related to music. Music has always been really important to me and I think I learned that from Eva. There was a song that she always used to sing called “Castle on a Cloud” from Les Mis and I didn’t know it was from Les Mis until—I don’t know—7th grade or so. But she always used to sing it and we all did it on Stage One for an assembly. We all did a little skit or something and we sang it at the end. And so I share that now I think of her. The other thing is I remember Eva—as probably most of you know—loves Anne McCaffrey’s Pern [?] series and she was going to introduce me to it. And I remember in 4th or 5th grade we had to write these short stories, and she wrote one where she made us all dragon riders—every one of us. And we each had our own dragon and our own dragon rider names, and it was really cool and so—yeah, that’s my memory.

Adam Bernstein

My name’s Adam. I’m Alyssa’s younger brother. And Alyssa and I would always argue about who was closer to our age. I think that—I really looked up to her a lot. We always—who was closer, who was more—had more in common. Of course, Alyssa was a girl, which kind of
I also remember in Santa Barbara—I have lots of memories—we came up with—it was like a train where we’d eat food, and they had sundaes, like ice cream sundaes, and we came up with, like, a Mondae, Tuesdae, Wednesdae, Thursdae. One was, like, all whipped cream. One was all syrup. One was all cherries and I don’t think we ever actually ate. I think we maybe annulled them at one point but, once we came up with them, they weren’t actually that good. I also remember we had this, like, bonfire out on the beach one night, and we roasted marshmallows and stuff and that was the memory that I have.

Sam Krantz, Eva’s uncle

Hi, I’m Sam [?]. I was Eva’s uncle, still am Eva’s uncle. And when Eva was born, she was the first next-generation person in our family. And it made me realize that I was now an adult, and I was an uncle and I had a new role to play in my life. And I’ll never forget, sort of, the first time I met her and held her and, later on, as I got to know her and, you know, wrestled with her and fooled around with her. When Rachel was born, I took—I used to bring her over and she was such a great cousin/sister to Rachel. She treated her incredibly well and just took her—was physically so affectionate to Rachel. It was physically affectionate with everybody. I remember things I used to do, like sliding down the stairs on the sleeping bag as a sled. And I remember Passover, Alyssa and Eva writing a script and Eva leading the children of Israel into the back yard. And I remember Eva really being excited by *Star Wars* and things like that.

And I really used to identify Eva as really having the closest to having the Force of anybody I ever met in my life, that she really symbolized that. And I just want—and I remember the last time I saw her, which was at Stern Grove, and it was to see the San Francisco Ballet. And Ann and I and Sophie were very interested in seeing the ballet. And Eva just was interested in having a good time. And Rachel and she just went running around Stern Grove, having a great time. And just a series—like a montage--of so many different things that—Santa Barbara and other places. It's very hard for me to remember any one-on-one story. I just—remember that she, about a year or so before she was killed, she started talking to me about the Internet. And I really didn't know much about the Internet. This was, you know, the mid-'90s, and she was saying, "You should really go on it.." You know, she was ready and, you know, AOL and chatting before anybody else I knew of. And she started talking to me about that. And I remember turning her on to different music that I was interested in. She would give me different books to read. And I had this relationship with her that wasn't really, you know, older or younger. It was really much on the same level 'cause her intellect and everything else about her was so wise and so mature. And I still think of her so many times—not daily, but many, many times things come up and it's hard for me to believe, still, at times that she's not around 'cause she seemed so—her spirit seems so strong still. And I think that no matter, you know, how long it's going to be, we'll all still really have her inside of us.

David Kahn

I'm David. I was Eva's friend and classmate from kindergarten on. Actually, I kind of have three memories of her that I'm going to share—or two memories and one other thing. The first one: In third grade—I don't know, Beth, you might remember this. We were all—it was lunch time and we were all sitting down to have lunch in the third grade classroom and I don't know exactly what it was. Eva had some—a bottle of some, I guess, soda or something and I remember, you know, we were all getting our stuff out, having lunch, and I heard just this whoosh explosion sound and I turn around and there's Eva looking, with a sort of surprised expression on her face but, of course, already starting to laugh as her soda dripped back down from the ceiling. The second memory I have is—I think it was in the summer after sixth grade: Our parents had gone out to dinner and we were all at the Gunthers' house with our younger sisters and so we were, you know, doing whatever—spending time however we wanted. We were home alone, and Eva had gotten this little magazine with a list of bloopers in *Star Wars* in it. And so we spent the evening going through all three *Star Wars* movies, finding every single blooper. Yeah. And the third thing is—it's a little different. It's actually in ninth grade. I, of course, went to a different school to high school, and I didn't talk to anyone about Eva. I just—I don't know—for whatever reason, I didn't talk about it very much. It wasn't part of this new school. And I remember at the very end of the year, the last six weeks, there was an acting class I was in with Molly and one of the assignments we had to do was to do a piece, a monologue, where we started out with a symbolic mask of some sort that, through the piece, we kind of took off to reveal what was under it. And the thing that both Molly and I ended up talking about—that which came out from under our masks—was Eva.