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April 23, 2012

The memory of a good person is a blessing.... Gregg was and will always be a blessing.

On one hand, flashbacks can be painful, and yet on the other hand, flashbacks can bring a smile to your face. Recently a very vivid flashback popped up and yes, this flashback made me smile. It was about a conversation we were having about George retiring from his job. Gregg immediately put in his two cents and said to George "What?!...You can't retire! You are too young! What will you do? You can't stay home and do nothing! You have to do something!!" George replied and said "Gregg, I have been working for over 40 years, travelling on the train into the city, getting up at 5 am and working sometimes 10 -12 hours a day..." Gregg still didn't want to hear that his father wouldn't want to work any longer. Gregg was full of vitality...he was young and eager to start his life.

Well, both George and I did retire soon after Gregg passed away and we believe that Gregg saw this coming so he laid out a plan for our retirement. He wanted us to continue to work! We came out of retirement and established his Foundation...and we have no intention of retiring any time soon. Our former jobs were really good...we were both happy with what we were doing back then. However, our current job is quite different. We are not only happy...we are fulfilled and blessed with the new path that Gregg created for us. The work we do now has brought us closer to Gregg, who taught us to think not only of ourselves, but of others. There are not enough words in the English language to describe our gratitude for the display of love and generosity given by our guests on the evening of Saturday, March 31, 2012 at the Gran Centurions, where the third Gregg F. Clyne Memorial Fundraiser was held.

One hundred fifty (150) guests attended the sit down dinner fundraiser. A heartrending video of friends and family members sharing loving memories of Gregg, both amusing and poignant, was the highlight of the evening. There were 75 raffle prize baskets, 14 silent auction items, and a live auction (beach house vacation for one week in North Carolina). An amazingly crafted money tree, worth over \$225, was also raffled off. All of these prizes/gifts were donated by wonderful friends, family, merchants and corporations. There was a flurry of excitement and activity the entire evening. \$26,000 was raised from the time we sent out the first Save the Date card in Sept. 2011...\$11,000 in donations from those who could not attend and \$15,000 at the actual fundraiser. To hear from many of our guests, as they were leaving the banquet hall, that they couldn't wait for the next fundraiser, was a true testament to the Foundation's mission. We couldn't be more pleased.

We have far exceeded all of our expectations since the first fundraiser in 2009. Our supporters have not wavered...Gregg's vision is stronger than ever.

In the next couple of weeks, we will embark on finding the 2013 local area high school recipient/s of Gregg's scholarship award...the very best part of this process. By June of 2013, we will have awarded and committed to \$71,000 in scholarship awards (scholarships are awarded to the students for up to four years while attending the University of Delaware and provided they continue to meet the criteria). Two of our students will be graduating from the UD in May 2012 and will remain part of the Gregg F. Clyne Memorial Foundation family.

The next scholarship dinner/fundraiser is planned for the fall of 2013. You will receive a newsletter prior to the event. In the meantime, information and photos from the March 31, 2013 fundraiser can be found on the Gregg F. Clyne Memorial Foundation website www.greggclynefoundation.com

Again, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ann & George".

Mary Ann and George Clyne
And the Board of Directors