

Sent: Tue, 7 September, 2010 10:45:37 AM

Subject: Re: Hello GMC!

Dear friends,

It is with a sad heart I am writing to let you all know that our batchmate Jyotsna passed away early morning today --Monday the September the 6th.

She leaves behind her son Naren and husband Ravi. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

My number if you wish to call is 703 217 1384.

Jayasree T

7 Sep 2010

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Jayasree

It is really shocking. I am not able to believe. What happened?

Srinivas Mantha

7 Sep 2010

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This is absolutely the most shocking news ever! I cannot believe it.

My heart goes out to Ravi and Naren

May God grant them strength to bear this calamity.

Dear Jyotsna you are in our hearts for ever

Shyamala

7 Sep 2010

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Hi GMC friends,

Very sad to hear sudden demise of Jyotsna which was totally unexpected and shocking news. May her soul rest in PEACE and may God give enough strength to her family to cope with her loss.

Hemanth and Geeta

7 Sep 2010

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Feel really sad. My heartfelt condolences to the family as well as to our batchmates who were close to her

Shafeeq

7 Sep 2010

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It is very sad. What can we say. I still remember Jyotsna and her family at the reunion. Such a tragedy. Can't believe it

Pramod

7 Sep 2010

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Dear friends

It was very shocking when Jayasri told me the sad news, I and my family were very saddened by the news. I still remember our college days and how she was used to be recognized as "cream of the crop" by our Pediatrics professor.

It also makes us humble to think how small and what's our role in "master plan" by the Lord. It makes me think that we are living today by mere accident not by certainty

I and Vijay Join you all in our prayers to let Jyotsna live in eternal peace and give courage and all the support to Ravi, Naren, her parents and her family.

G. Jayasri

7 Sep 2010

Dear friends,

What a shocking news. It came out of Blue.

May God rest her soul in peace.

Pray that her family Naren, Ravi, friends and especially her parents gather courage to overcome the tragedy.

Life looks so short. Only the otherday we were in College, got married, struggled with children and jobs.

I think we should do something to help others to make life more meaningful & satisfying. I am sure Jyotsna has done a lot in this regard.

She was talking about teenage pregnant children & their lives when I talked to her on phone in June 2010 from New York.

May Her Beautiful soul rest in Peace!

Nalini

7 Sep 2010

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GMC 77,

So sorry to hear the HORRIBLE news about Jyotsna passing away. Spoke with TJ briefly seems she is expectedly saddened with Jyotsna passing away. My sincere condolences to the bereaved.

Guru.

8 Sep 2010

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Jayasree

I will come for the 13th day ceremony. I will be in touch with you.

I would prefer to come this Sunday and trying to get somebody to do my call.

Will be in touch with you.

Varma

8 Sep 2010

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Hllo GMC 77

it is shocking to hear about sudden demise of jyotsna, i still cant belive the news, ,

my condolences to Ravi and Naren and other family members , may her soul rest in peace,

shivalingam

8 Sep 2010

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like shadows of trees

elusive

yet serene

the beginning of eternal sleep

end of frightening dreams

off to a land of joy and beauty

the ultimate of suffering humanity

but it was too early

the last time i met her was at the reunion and she reminded me that we shared a common birthday

heartfelt condolences to the family

Ravi Rathi

8 Sept 2010

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Hi All

Really shocked to hear of Jyotsna's demise. when we were together in dec 2007 i thought she looked very thin and asked her if all was well and she said yes. I wonder what God has in store for us and may her soul rest in peace. condolences to her husband and son. She was so happy with her son's achievements at the reunion and all of us felt so good. Can someone give me her husband and son's e-mail id.

Regards

Shalini

8 Sept 2010

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Dear All,

Just writing to say Hi. Has not been myself in the past couple of days. Mind taking me back to Anatomy dissection days, and everything else. How frail life is.

Thanks to the reunion, Mantha.....got to meet with Jyotsna and her family.

Take care and agree with Jayashree G., life is not certain but a blessing.

Regards,

Kishore

8 Sept 2010

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Dear Ravi & Naren

Our heartfelt condolences to you and Naren. I remember Jyotsna as a soft-spoken, confident, diligent and lovely person to know. Most of all i remember her ever-smiling and pleasant. She was so happy with Naren's achievements at the re-union and we felt so good about it.

May God give you both the courage to bear the loss.

Regards

Shalini
8 Sept 2010

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Hi All

Just met with Ravi today. He sincerely appreciates all the condolences and messages you are all sending. He is reading each of them. He wanted me to let you know that he and his family are coping with the tragedy. He would also appreciate it if any of you can come here and say a few words at the memorial service. Here are the details of the arrangements. If any of you are planning to come please let me know. My house is open to anyone who wishes to come and stay here. The best airport for us is Dulles (IAD), we'll do our best to pick you up.

Sunday the 12th, Viewing and memorial service starting at 11AM

Sunday the 19th, traditional Hindu 13th day service followed by lunch.

All of you are invited to both these services. Please let us know if you are planning to come.

As to flowers, Ravi would prefer a donation to charities instead. We as a group could decide what to do in due course.

Jaya Patla

9 Sept 2010

whats happening to our batch.just cant believe.jayashree was there any problem we all did not know about.shocking,still cant believe.i thot we r always a bunch of happy lot,our condolences

Lata

9 Sept 2010

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Shocking indeed,not able to digest.we are living but donot know what is in store the next moment.wonderful friend she was.may her soul rest in peace.felt numb seeing the mail

Jalaja

9 Sept 2010

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Dear friends,

After a couple days of terrible grief I took the liberty of writing something in honor of Jyotsna. I had the oppurtunity to speak to her in August. I must tell you she was her own self and never let on that she was ill or feeling poorly.She joked with me and asked me a lot of questions about myself.When I asked her if she was now playing Veena professionally (I thought she said that during the reunion)she reminded me in her charactersitic way that she did it way back when for the AIR. I know Jyotsna to be a fighter and I am sure she would not like us all to feel miserable.So instead of moaning her loss maybe we should celebrate her life.

A short but fulfilled life.

To Jyotsna

The sky is grey,the clouds heavy
 With many a unshed tear.
 Our hearts burdened by a profound sense
 Of tremendous personal loss.
 But sweet memories of you
 Waltzes into our heart,
 Like the whisper of a breeze,
 Like the melody of a song
 Like the sound of welcome rain
 And the thought of you
 Alleviates the pain
 Somewhat.

Like a burst of sunshine
 Your open honest face
 Etched with your confident smile
 Floats into our minds
 Vibrant and graceful as ever
 And the memory of you
 Puts a smile on our face
 Everytime

You came like a sunbeam
And brightened everything in your path.
Gone too soon
But lived well and with courage.
As we stroll through memory lane
Your radiant countenance
Lifts our heavy spirits
And urges us to go on
Cheerfully.

A loving wife, a proud mom
A fond friend and noble doc
Our lives are enriched just by knowing you.
Dear Jyotsna thank you for the memories.
Honored to have known you
Proud to call you friend
You live on in our hearts and minds
Forever,
Till the end.

Shyamala & GMC 77
9 Sept 210

dear friends,
apty written by shyamala,

Dear Jyotsna thank you for the memories.

Honored to have known you

Proud to call you friend

You live on in our hearts and minds

MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE

SHYAM SUNDER

9 sept 2010

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Shyamala: You have really crystallized the thoughts and feelings of many of our batchmates in a beautiful poem. For the past three days different thoughts went through my mind as I was trying to find the right words to express my condolences to Ravi and Naren and rest of her family. Your tribute captured the essence of who Jyotsna was and I can only say " I totally agree with Shyamala"

Ravi and Naren: My heartfelt condolences and you are in my thoughts and prayers. May God give you both the courage to deal with this profound loss.

Jayasree: You are attending the funeral. Maybe you can read out this tribute from Shyamala as a tribute of the entire class.

Narsimha Reddy Pinninti

9 sept 2010

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Dear Ravi and family,

Our heartfelt condolences to you and your family. We are still shocked and devastated with the tragic news of Jyotsna. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and may god grant you the courage and strength in dealing with life's most tragic loss.

Anjana.y

9 sept 2010

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 the last time i met her was at the reunion and she reminded me that we shared a common
 birthday
 heartfelt condolences to the family
 very shocking and devastating news about jyotsna.

a success in every walk of life ,

a good student, good daughter, a good sister, a good wife, a good mom and a very good
 friend, all that and more was our jyotsna.

on one of my trips back from hyd, i read about her son's achievements in a deccan
 chronicle page on the flight and the moment i landed in

mumbai ,i called her up and congratulated her on her son's achievements. she was a very
 happy and proud mom of a very intelligent and

well brought up child. that was the last contact i had with her. she 's done her duties well,
 may her soul rest in peace.

the first 50yrs of our life was all about growing up and struggling to get a base in life ,and
 i thought the second half was about relaxing and

enjoying all we worked for ,but after hearing this news ,i think this second half is one hell
 of a painful journey.....its heart wrenching

really.....

meena
 7 Sept 2010

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 It is an extremely sad day for me.
 My Heartfelt condolences to Ravi and Naren.
 Maybe some of us can make it to the viewing etc. Jayasree pls let us Know.
 Varma
 7 Sept 2010

Dear Friends

Life is too short to wake up with regrets.. So love the people who treat you right.. Forget about the ones who don't. Believe everything happens for a reason. If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said life would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it.

Friends are like balloons;
once you let them go, you might not get them back. Sometimes we get so busy with our own lives and problems that we may not even notice that we've let them fly away. Sometimes we are so caught up in who's right and who's wrong that we forget what's right and wrong.. Sometimes we just don't realize what real friendship means until it is too late. I don't want to let that happen so I'm going to tie you to my heart so I never lose you.

Send this to all your friends including me and see how many you get back. Even send it to your balloons that you think have flown away forever. You may be surprised to see it return. I wish I could get this back from Jyotsna

Thank you for being
in my life!!!

Sabitha

9 sept 2010

Dear Sabitha,
Your letter echoes your tender feelings. We all feel the same towards Jyotsna. Still unable to believe that she left all of us to mourn. Yes. Wish we get a reply from her ,

.....
DVS Sharma.

=====

Shocking indeed,not able to digest.we are living but donot know what is in store the next moment.wonderful friend she was.may her soul rest in peace.felt numb seeing the mail

Jalaja

9 sept 2010

Dear All,

Just writing to say Hi. Has not been myself in the past couple of days. Mind taking me back to Anatomy dissection days, and everything else. How frail life is. Thanks to the reunion, Mantha.....got to meet with Jyotsna and her family.

Take care and agree with Jayashree G., life is not certain but a blessing.

Regards,

Kishore

10 sept 2010

Dear Sabitha,

Your letter echoes your tender feelings. We all feel the same towards Jyotsna. Still unable to believe that she left all of us to mourn. Yes. Wish we get a reply from her ,.

DVS Sharma.

Hey Guys

Thank you all for your poems, remembrances and words of comfort to the family.

It would be of great comfort to the family if any of you can be here over the next two Sundays.

As saddened as we are, it is also time to celebrate Jyotsna's life. I will be saying a few words on behalf of all of us at the memorial. I would like to quote a few light hearted instances or funny anecdotes from our early college years, if possible directly involving Jyotsna or even to highlight how our years were spent as we trained for our careers.

The one person who I would want to speak to is her son, Naren, who is very curious to know what his mom was as a youngster. He relishes every little bit we talk about her as a college going youngster. We have been relating to him instances from our anatomy and clinical years.

Do send me as much of your memories as you can and I will try and do justice to keep her vision and memories alive. This should also help our batchmates in Hyderabad who are also holding a service on Sunday.

Thank you all.

Jaya Patla (T. Jayasree)

11 sept 2010

Dear Jaysree,

Tell Naren how incredibly proud she was of him. Since the reunion I talked to Jyotsna many times especially the first year and she never failed to mention his achievements. Her pride in him was palpable. Tell him his mother was a strong and courageous person who would want him to go on and be the best he can be. I am sending Jyotsnas email to me (she sent it to me at the time of the reunion) I read it again and she says I want to learn painting formally (which I mistook for playing Veena professionally) Also attached is a poem written about her by her nurse and some anecdotes about herself. Quite frankly I cannot remember Jyotsna as a naughty person but here it is in her own words This is his mothers email and he can see how much she loved her husband, son and parents. He can read the anecdotes in her own words. Its also like she is talking to all of us from beyond.

Our love and prayers are with the bereaved family

Shyamala and family

PS: will search for and send other mail if I find it

Shyamala

11 sept 2010

Interaction between Shyamala and Jyotsna in November 2007 before our Reunion

From: shyamalaharsh@hotmail.com
To: tniharika@gmail.com
Subject: RE: My resume
Date: Thu, 15 Nov 2007 16:28:24 -0500

Thanks Jyotsna! Its wonderful.I can see you are well liked at your new place of work.But for the life of me I cannot remember you being asked to leave the class room.You were always such a goody two shoes!

Shyamala

To: shyamalaharsh@hotmail.com
CC: tniharika@gmail.com
Subject: My resume
From: tniharika@gmail.com
Date: Thu, 15 Nov 2007 14:53:22 -0500

Hi Shyamala,

Good to talk to you again. I am glad to hear that there was no damage to your property and all of you are safe and well. Finally, here it is! I am sending my resume. You may edit it if you need to, depending on the space constraints of the souvenir. I did include few funny anecdotes, which you may want to include either with my resume or wherever else in the souvenir, if deemed fit.

I am Jyotsna Tallapragada (nee K. Jyotsna Kumari). After coming to US, I did my Pediatric residency at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) at New Brunswick, New Jersey. I immediately proceeded with my three year fellowship in neonatology at St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick, UMDNJ. I am board certified in Pediatrics and also in my subspecialty of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

I always had a passion to specialize in Pediatrics with a subspecialty in Neonatology. I enjoy being an intensivist dealing with the challenging problems of tiny preterms . I get utmost satisfaction when I see this amazing human life unfold from birth, from being a sick term or preterm infant to becoming a healthy and functioning child. The parents' gratitude makes all my hard work worthwhile.

Soon after my fellowship, I joined as an Assistant Professor in Neonatology at St. Barnabas Hospital in New Jersey which is a busy neonatal and perinatal center with specialty in In Vitro Fertilization. I was in academics and research for three years . We then moved to Northern Virginia and currently reside in Burke, Virginia in Fairfax County outside Washington, D.C. I am currently an Associate Neonatologist at Prince

William Hospital in Manassas, Virginia. I am an equal partner of our Corporation, Manassas Neonatal Associates, PC.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the support and encouragement of my wonderful husband Mr. Ravi Shankar, and the help of my parents who were always there when their presence was needed. My husband is an engineer by profession, and obtained his Masters degree from Rutgers University in New Jersey. He is a Management Consultant and a Senior Enterprise Architect at Electronic Data Systems. We have one son Narendra who is a junior at Thomas Jefferson School of Science and Technology, a prestigious magnet high school in Northern Virginia. He kept us busy from his childhood with his amazing talents and achievements, and he still continues to do so.

I love traveling with my family and spending time with them and with my friends. I also love Indian and Western classical music and would love to start playing my veena again or learn to play the piano. I spend my spare time (when I have some) knitting and reading. I like to draw, and I have a great desire to learn painting formally.

I work with a wonderful group of nurses and ancillary staff. This is what one of my dearest friends, who is a senior neonatal nurse, has to say about me:

Jyotsna Tallapragada

In a busy part of northern Virginia
Lives a lady whose name is Jyotsna.
A devoted wife of an engineer
With a brilliant son she holds so dear.

Prince William Birthing Center
Many years ago she did enter.
She's led many successful resuscitations
While calmly doing lines and intubations.

In the NICU we're a true family
Together caring for tiny preemies.
Jyotsna takes the time to know each one of us
As we share life stories and gain each other's trust.

A citizen of the world is she
Well-informed and always "p c".
Her sense of humor is truly first rate
And makes days working with her nothing but great!

She's a very strong woman, always on the go
Loves to travel, entertain, and watch her son grow.
A fine Neonatologist, respected for heart and mind
An honor and pleasure to know her – she's truly one of a kind!

Stephanie Pigeon, RN

Finally on a silly note, I remember being asked to leave from the biochemistry class (nobody could believe it) when I drew a caricature of a substitute assistant professor nicknamed "baldy", whose lectures were absolutely boring. My drawing had an uncanny and striking resemblance to this dear man. We passed it under the desks to the entire class and everybody started giggling. In the end it ended up in his hands when he demanded to know what the giggling was all about and who caused it in the first place. I also remember a Microbiology assistant professor who paced up and down the dais and straight down the class room, during his not-so-interesting lectures, and some of us counted the number of times he paced and we clapped whenever he reached the count of 25, 50 and so on. Last, but certainly not least, I cannot forget Dr. Subba Rao of the Cancer Hospital who asked one of the students what the largest sense organ in the body was, and the student answered that it was the brain. Dr. Subba Rao did not hesitate in immediately insulting this guy, saying that unfortunately that was what he was lacking!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Thanks

Jyotsna

Hi Shyamala

Thanks for refreshing our memories with this wonderful self written resume of Jyotsna. I dont remember if the whole version was in our magazine, but thanks a lot to you for keeping this original email safe. It feels as if she is talking to us.

It hurts when I think of all the effort and hard work she has put in to get to that level professionally and just disappear all of a sudden.

Please forward any more of her emails if you have.

Sabitha

12 Sept 2010

Shyamala

Thx for ur effort.

Gives me a different perspective about Jyotsna.

Varma

12 Sept 2010

I CAME TO KNOW ABOUT

JYOTSNA. EARLY MORNING ON 9-11-2010 WHEN VERMA CALLED ME.LAST DAYS OF RAMADAN WAS DIFFICULT FOR ME. I WAS NOT ABLE TO GET TO MY EMAIL FOR LAST 2 WEAKS.I AM STILL IN DISBELIVE. MY HEATFELD CONDOLENCES TO HER HUSBAND RAVI AND HER PROUD SON NAREN. MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE. MAY GOD GIVE HER FAMILY CURRAGE TO COPE WITH HER LOSS. GOD BLESS HER SOUL.

Ahmed Hussain

13 Sept 2010

Shocking to hear the sad news about Jyotsna,unfortunately did not see her since graduation,did hear she was very proud of her son Naren,my heartfelt condolences to her family

Prathima Reddy

19 Sept 2010
