

I met Sabine in New York around 15 years ago. We both happened to work for the United Nations and we were studying together in a Russian Language course, offered by the United Nations. She was so friendly and very focused on improving her knowledge of the Russian language. As a result we went to many concerts, restaurants and even a Russian karaoke bar - both in New York and Atlantic City.

I met her mother Monika in New York before Sabine left for Australia. I had the distinct honour and privilege of being a witness at her wedding to her beloved Brummi, in the New York City Hall.

After she moved to Australia, I was transferred to Geneva and I was very fortunate to visit her in Iserlohn, Germany at her parents house in March 2015. Her father Dietrich took me sightseeing to many places of interest, including a jazz concert one evening in some caves - it was magical. Her parents, Monika and Dietrich, were so loving, caring and hospitable.

On their visits to Russia, specifically to St. Petersburg - they met with my closest friends Nina and Victor. They too have fond memories of their time together - in spite of the language barriers. They have asked me to make special mention of this on their behalf.

I admire Sabine for her dedication to the cause of the underprivileged in society, specially in Australia. She took this cause up with much gusto and determination as she did with all things that touched her heart. I will miss her greatly for this unique gift that she had and shared.

My sincere condolences to Brummi, Monika and Dietrich. May Sabine's soul rest in eternal peace.

Let me end by saying:

A special friend is hard to find, hard to lose and impossible to forget. True friends are never apart, maybe in distance but not in the heart.

Shivona