

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

By Marianne Annick Dubresson

Hello,

I'd like to thank everyone for coming out today and showing your love and support for an incredible human being. Annick was a devoted mother of 3 wonderful sons- Benjamin (24), Adam (18), and Eric (15). She loved them more than anything in the world. Speaking on behalf of my parents, she was a kind, loving, and generous daughter/sister.

Some of you may know Annick better than others, but you are all here because of the love for a human spirit that will NEVER leave our hearts. Annick's enthusiasm for life-combined with her generosity and loving nature, can be used as an inspiration to all. I'd like to share a few things that occurred on Wednesday when I arrived at my parent's house, attesting to the fact that her spirit has not left us. I last spoke to my sister at 10:17am on April 9<sup>th</sup> as I had heard she was recently hired for a new job to supplement her medical transcriptioning business. She was filled with joy and hopes for a very bright future. I told her how very proud I was and congratulated her over and over. She said that she was the happiest that she had been in a very long time. We always ended the conversation with 'I love you'.

On Wednesday, April 10, while in the living room, the most beautiful dove landed on a deck chair, right up against the sliding storm door. Her tail feathers were unlike any dove's I had even see. Immediately, I cried out....look! That's Annick!! With tears in our eyes, we reached out to her but not enough to scare off the delicate messenger. After about 20 seconds, the dove bid us farewell. This dove, a symbol of peace...was a sure sign to know we were not alone. We believe it represented exactly what Annick stood and strived for.

Annick had recently visited my parents for Easter. That same night on April 10<sup>th</sup>, we found a set of her earrings next to her bed...another sign that I am convinced proves that my sister was near us and comforting us as best possible.

I'm sure there will be many other times when Annick's presence will be felt and seen, by us and many of you, for her beautiful spirit is alive and well. What I think she would say if she were here in person is for everyone to live their life to the fullest, never give up on your dreams and have compassion for all that you do and everyone you meet. I looked up to my 'little' sister for many things. I saw her bigger than life as she knew so much.

Annick, we will always love you. May your smile always shine. Thank you for the time you gave us.