

Dear Kevin,

I hope you have the time to read this letter, because I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for giving me the most amazing gift! Just a few days ago I lost the best friend a person could ever have to a rare breast cancer. She filled a place in my heart I never knew was empty, she knew me I think better than my husband did in many ways, she finished my thoughts, she made me laugh, she guided me through some very rough times when my mother was ill and eventually passed away and encouraged me when I wasn't sure. She was strong and funny, bold and sensitive, and you gave her to me, and for that I want to thank you.

Bonnie was a fan of yours long before I even knew who you were. She was a part of the original Australian Kevin Sorbo Fan Club Team and worked on that club for several years until the clubs lost their luster. She purchased your pictures, calendars, trading cards and even one of the yellow shirts you wore on Hercules and had it framed in a shadow box. I discovered you later, another story, and eventually found myself on the internet, something I wasn't used to, attempting to find out when Andromeda would start as I had read a small bit in USA today when traveling that Hercules was ending and you would start a new show. In searching to find out what channel, day and time this new show would be on, I discovered 'on-line' fandom. That's where I met Bonnie. She provided me the 5 movies that started Hercules, as I'd never seen them. From there we found ourselves chatting on one or two of the forums devoted to you and Hercules and eventually Andromeda. While we would discuss you, the show, a particular episode, we also found ourselves talking about many other things from kids to cooking and everything in between. We became friends, very good, very close friends.

We were actually the odd couple in many ways. Bonnie stood 5'11" and I stand 4'11". We likened ourselves to Rocky and Bullwinkle. Bonnie loved to 'play in the dirt' (garden) whereas I do not have a green thumb. Bonnie lived in New Hampshire, hating the awful winters, I love the New England states yet live in Florida, (hating the long hot summers) where there are no seasons, especially fall which is my favorite, Bonnie's too. She was a bit more of a loner and I'm a little more social, although very shy in social events until I warm up to folks. Bonnie was often blunt, I tended to curb my comments and be a little more politically correct. We balanced each other beautifully.

We talked on line daily, we spoke by phone periodically and our friendship grew stronger and stronger, thanks to you!!! A few years later Bonnie was diagnosed with Inflammatory Breast Cancer, one of the rarest and most deadly forms of breast cancer. When she first began her chemotherapy was when you first played the Outback Pro Am Golf Tournament in Tampa Florida. I went over to see you play, at her encouragement. She said she would never get to meet you so she wanted me to go and tell her all about it. I did and you were kind and very warm and friendly. Although cameras weren't allowed you took the time to let me sneak in a picture. Thank you for that! I shared the day and the picture with Bonnie that evening. She wasn't doing well due to the side effects of the chemo, but she laughed and my day of following you around seemed to put a smile on her face.

I've had the pleasure of seeing you two more times since that event, the following year at the next Outback Pro Am and then in 07 at MegaCon in Orlando. Each time you signed an autograph for Bonnie and I want to thank you as they gave her some pleasure. Twice fans asked you at other events to sign a card to her, most recently at Collector mania 12 in England. You took the time to write a note of encouragement to her and you will never know what that meant to her. It's one thing for you to sign an autograph when someone is paying for it, but a completely other story when you graciously listen to the story of Bonnie and take the time to thoughtfully write her a message, no money, no hesitation, just kindness and care on your part. One of the many reasons you have so many fans. That last card brightened her spirits during a very rough time for her.

She never had the pleasure of meeting you and she often said that was probably a good thing. She wasn't your typical fan in that she wouldn't have asked you questions about your workouts or what kind of underwear you prefer. Her questions would have been much more substantial. She loved your work, she loved your look, she always knew you had enormous talent and was pleased to see Avenging Angel before she died. She felt that was a lead in to the kind of work she hoped to see you in more. She always knew you had enormous talent and was sad she would never get to see where else your career would take you.

She died a few days ago, at the age of 47, quietly at her home, with her husband, her 11 cats, her plants she nurtured and pictures of the two of us around her. She had watched a few Hercules episodes over the last few days, or tried, she kept dozing off, but your voice rang in the background as she fell asleep each evening. You gave her peace, you gave her joy, you gave her an escape during an awful time in her life and thanks to you she and I met and became fast friends. I had the pleasure of flying up to New Hampshire twice to see her over the last few years and we had great fun just being with each other, talking, laughing and so much more. Thanks to you two people who would have never ever met otherwise found a friendship that filled a void in us, made us whole and treated us to a rare thing, a true and everlasting friendship that I believe very few people ever really get to experience.

So, Kevin Sorbo, thank you, from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for giving me a person that has helped to shape my life, who has given me more moments of happiness than I can count, who let me be me, and actually liked me, who supported me and cried with me and laughed with me and so much more. Thank you for letting me be in her life for the last 7 years, and as difficult as the last 4 years have been with this cancer she battled, thank you for bringing us together so that I could be there to help support her and her family, so that I could send her flowers and presents (pressies as she called them), silly gifts and more that kept smiles on her face and always let her know how much she was loved. When I saw her last, in November of last year, she laughed and said, "Can you believe none of this would have ever happened if it hadn't been for Kevin Sorbo and Hercules" I smiled and we laughed!!!!

Bonnie is gone and my heart aches, but I cherish the memories of her, of us, of the times we did have together and what we gave each other. She will always be a strong presence in my life and I have you and only you to thank for that!!! You gave us both something so very, very special. We would never have had this friendship if not for you. So, thank you Kevin for being who you are, for following your dreams and passion and in doing so giving people much more than just some wonderful entertainment, thank you for giving two people the friendship of a lifetime!!!

Lynn