

letters

from alumni and friends

KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE

◆ I wanted to tell you what a nice job you did on the alumni profiles in “Remember Me” [Spring 2002, page 18; ur.rutgers.edu/magazine/remember-final.html]. My brother Mike’s (UCNB’83) was just right. I am sure his family, and my mother and sisters and brother will all treasure this issue. Thirty-two alums is brutal. I had no idea Rutgers suffered such a hit. Take pride in knowing you did a wonderful thing for 32 families.

GENE MCCABE
MIDDLETOWN, RHODE ISLAND
gene.mccabe@CITIZENSBANK.com

◆ I wanted to thank you for your article “Remember Me,” which included my sister, Virginia Ormiston (Eng’81). It was a true tribute; it didn’t simply list names but instead honored real people and their individuality. I appreciate your help in keeping alive the memories of these victims.

I will hold on to my copies as lifelong keepsakes to share with my niece and nephew, my own children, and perhaps someday, even my grandchildren.

SARAH ORR
NORTHBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

◆ I met Ginger Ormiston when we both worked at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. She introduced me to my husband. After trying unsuccessfully to fix the two of us up for years, she finally cornered us at a party and wouldn’t leave us alone until we talked. A year later we were engaged to be married.

I’m sorry to say I lost touch with Ginger shortly after that. I often think of her and the impact she had on my life. My husband, Curt, and I now have two beautiful sons, Kyle, eight, and Ryan, five. If we hadn’t known Ginger, how different our lives would be.

When I did a Google search recently to see if I could locate her, I was devastated to learn she died in the

World Trade Center attack. I cannot even begin to imagine what her husband and children have gone through. We will always remember her warmth, humor, and generous spirit. We will keep her family in our prayers.

COLEEN AND CURT DEGRÖFF
LITTLETON, COLORADO

◆ Our special thanks for your story on Judy [Fernandez (UCNB’98)]. It’s very comforting to know that people share in the pain and sorrow that we are dealing with.

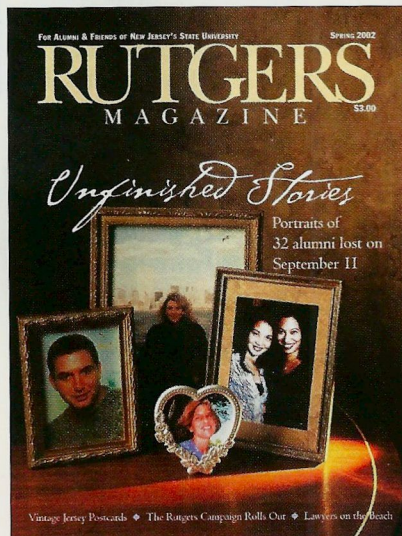
THE FERNANDEZ FAMILY
MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY

◆ We immediately read “Remember Me” and were speechless, with tears in our eyes. One could have assumed that in time we would have become hardened somewhat, especially after reading hundreds of the short pieces in the *New York Times*. But [senior editor Bill Glovin’s] short pieces, little gems, brought the pain back with their compassionate characterizations of those who died in the prime of their lives. You really have done them, their close relatives, and readers of the magazine proud.

GABOR VERMES,
RETIRED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY,
RUTGERS-NEWARK, AND ANN FAGAN
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

◆ Thank you for your article on our alumni who were lost on September 11. I happened to be staying at a Newark Airport hotel on business on September 10. Sitting in my room the next morning, I watched this atrocity unfold across the Hudson River. It will forever be burned in my memory.

That morning, I lost a classmate and a DKE fraternity brother, David O.



“Ginger Ormiston introduced me to my husband. I was devastated to learn she died in the World Trade Center attack.”

◆ As a member of the “old guard,” I want to express my feelings about the wonderful tribute to the Rutgers grads lost on September 11. The portraits so often showed the importance of family in the lives of those lost.

LYMAN CROSHAW (RC’36)
PALM BAY, FLORIDA

Campbell (RC’72, GSM’74). “Otey” was a gentleman of the first order who shared his good humor, his compassion, his passion, and his wisdom with all. It was a less than complete DKE Alumni Dinner last spring without him.

BOB DUNBAR (RC’72)
AVONDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

◆ Congratulations on your wonderful article “Remember Me.” Although I don’t personally know any of the people, your article has certainly increased my bond with them as fellow Rutgers alums. As tastefully as your article is written, it couldn’t soften the sadness of how fleeting life can be.

Bravo to all involved.

BILL DREYER (RC’70)

WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS