

Kelly Megan Stack 1986-2007

We often measure a person's life by their accomplishments, rather than by the lives they have touched. Not only was Kelly very accomplished, she touched lives.

Kelly Megan Stack was born in Las Cruces May 19, 1986 to Anna Schreiber and Dr. Robert Stack, Kelly was academically advanced, artistically gifted, and a natural leader. She had ridden horses competitively, was chosen to be the Southern New Mexico Fair Princess more than once, served as an acolyte at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, traveled as a Student Ambassador to Australia, played golf for Las Cruces High School, was a certified scuba diver and with her Destination Imagination Team, spent five years competing and winning in state creative problem-solving competitions. Graduating from Las Cruces High School in 2004, Kelly initially studied Materials Engineering at the University of Arizona, but soon transferred to Prescott College in Arizona, where she had hoped to graduate with a degree in Environmental Studies in 2008. She was very much a Renaissance woman, gifted and knowledgeable in a wide range of subjects and areas. She was editor of the student newspaper and enjoyed investigative journalism. She became very interested in the role of algae as a biofuel, and even had the username 'algaegal'. Her friends at school said she was "such an ambassador of green chile."



But more than her activities, more than her accomplishments, Kelly touched us. Kelly had a sense of assurance and presence about her and a smile that lit up a room and a contagious laugh. She loved traveling, having explored Australia, Italy, the Greek Isles, Mexico, Costa Rica, Belize and the Caribbean. People of all ages and cultures were drawn to her. Kelly was a natural leader, guiding and shaping those she led with a gentle heart and a kind word. She was the organizational genius behind her creative problem-solving team. Her careful channeling of their creative energies reaped results that far exceeded what any of them could have accomplished on their own, giving a polish and patina to their efforts that their work would have otherwise lacked. She helped transform a group of goofy guys into a well-honed creative improv machine. Kelly touched many lives -- her parents, Anna and Bob, her step-father Hank, her sister Madison, her brother Rob, her teachers, her teammates, her many friends and acquaintances - and we were all better for it.

Scholarships were established in her name at Prescott College and in the Plant and Environmental Sciences Department for students majoring in Environmental Science, with a preference for a student interested in algal research.