

I admire her so much, for many reasons. What was most admirable was her attitude towards learning. For those who may not be familiar with her work, I would encourage them to take a brief scan of her work. They will quickly notice the diversity of the approaches that she has used. We all know she was the expert on qualitative methods in our field, so it is not surprising that she used a variety of qualitative approaches, but many of her projects also have used different quantitative approaches and research designs. She was so creative and open to trying new things, learning, and working with others who could teach her. She brought so much joy, creativity, and passion to her work. Another example of her unmatched desire to learn is that, shortly after she was tenured, she started taking courses to become a registered psychotherapist. She was already a world-renowned expert at that point of her career, so it was just such an exemplary thing for me to see that a person with that track record would try to expand their expertise and work.

Everyone knows she's a world-renowned researcher, but, she was also just such a personable, compassionate, and caring person. She was so supportive of those she mentored and worked with. She's told me that helping her mentees succeed and watching them grow are the biggest joys of her job. I worked in her lab as a postdoc for 3 years and continued to collaborate with her, and throughout all the years, she did everything in her power to help me succeed and each time I accomplished something (e.g., award, publication, getting my job), she was genuinely more excited than I was. I've kept all of these congratulatory and heartwarming messages from her and look at them from time to time (which have always made me feel better, though they do make me feel very sad as well now). I want to mention that her kindness doesn't just apply to people who are close to her though. One time, she and I walked by a student who was in tears. She went over to the student and asked if she was okay, and offered to chat, if she wanted to. Perhaps this is a small act, but I believe that it is the small acts that really define who we are.

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