

Director of Communications and Publications Touched Many Lives



In June 14, 2011, the American Correctional Association lost a valuable member of its team, Gabriella M. Daley Klatt, director of the Communications and Publications Department.

After courageously battling lung cancer for nine months, Gabby, 45, passed away peacefully in her sleep. "Gabby was a loyal, dedicated person who represented ACA and the field of corrections with dignity and a tremendous amount of pride. She will be missed greatly," said ACA President Daron Hall.

Gabby began her career at ACA in 1985 as an intern from the University of Maryland-College Park. Upon graduation, Gabby came to work for ACA full time. In 1996, she was promoted to the position of director of the department. As director, Gabby oversaw department operations including publication acquisition, content, design and production; author and joint publishing contracts; printing; marketing; and sales and customer service. She also supervised the production of the association's periodical publications, *Corrections Today*, *Corrections Compendium*, *On the Line* and *Correctional Health Today*. Gabby was a liaison to a few ACA member committees and gave reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Governors at ACA conferences and meetings. "When I first started attending ACA meetings, Gabby was one of the first people I met. She was always friendly, cheerful, helpful and caring. She made me feel so welcome as part of the ACA family," said Dianne Tramutola-Lawson, International-CURE president, adding, "Gabby is sorely missed by many, many people, I know, not just those of us active in ACA. My best goes to her loved ones in the new year, as they continue to deal with her premature passing."



Photo by Susan Clayton

During Gabby's tenure, *Corrections Today*, ACA's membership magazine received Awards for Publication Excellence (APEX) for 14 consecutive years, and numerous books and directories also received APEX awards. Prior to being appointed director, Gabby served as assistant director, marketing manager and marketing associate. She was a member of several professional associations. "It was clear to me that Gabby was motivated by her personal sense of professional excellence. It was about reaching the goals that she had set for herself," said Gwendolyn Chunn, former ACA president, 2004-2006. "Through it all, she was respectful of her co-workers and others with whom she interacted."

Gabby was looked at by many current and former ACA employees as a mentor and friend. She is sorely missed. Gabby is survived by her husband Gregory P. Klatt, her mother Patricia A. Davis, her father John P. Daley, her grandparents

"In the more than 20 years I worked with Gabby Klatt, never once did I hear her say she couldn't fulfill a project. She was the best example I know of someone who loved her job and always wanted to be a team player. Gabby was the second senior member of our management team and we miss her every day."

— James A. Gondles, Jr., ACA Executive Director

Carl and Raechel Oliver, and numerous other family members and friends. "Gabby was one of the finest people I have ever had the honor of working with in my corrections career. She had a positive spirit, a can-do attitude, and a smile that always made you feel better regardless of what was pressing," said Charles Kehoe, former ACA president, 2002-2004. "Gabby was devoted to ACA and the quality of her work reflected her commitment. Gabby was truly a gift to each of us. Her spirit will always be a part of the American Correctional Association."

— Susan Clayton