

After 40 Years, The Perfect Project to Honor An Amazing Friend

Native Savannian Allan Ullman to be remembered with a fresh water project in Tanzania, Africa.

The Herman and Lillian Director Family Fund, managed by Dennis and Chris Director, is sponsoring the Innovation Africa installation of the "**Allan Douglas Ullman Fountain of Life.**" The Ikowa Water Project in the Chamwino District of Tanzania, Africa will bring clean, fresh water to nearly 4,000 people who currently struggle to find water daily.

Dennis Director says, "He was the best friend I had in the world. And as much as that meant at the time, it means even more now." A bond that formed in a few quick years has little waned in the four decades since.

Allan knew what it means to be thirsty. Born with a type of congenital heart defect that left an opening in the wall between the main pumping chambers of his heart, he suffered extremely low blood pressure and often intense thirst.

But his life was defined by a different thirst, a thirst for living each day as fully as possible. Through actions, not words, he demonstrated that our lives are not so much measured by the number of days, as by the content of those days. His activity and drive so well disguised the challenges of his weakened body that few of his acquaintances realized the severity of his difficulties. While still in his teens, he acquired skills usually seen only in the most experienced professional photographers. He never stopped dreaming, learning, or experimenting. He often went to great lengths to accomplish a difficult task, simply as a personal gesture because he saw someone in need. This genuine benevolence was a testimony to "a truly good heart."

Perhaps the most compelling description of Allan's unyielding spirit came from a doctor at St. Luke's Hospital in Houston, Texas, where Allan spent his last few days. "I read the chart for your amazing friend the day he arrived. In medical school, we learned that anyone with a blood pressure that low would be unconscious, and yet he was walking and talking and smiling." Allan died shortly after surgery two days before his 26th birthday.

Mr. Director remarks, "The solar-powered pumping station with a 10,000-liter water tank will provide clean, healthful water for thousands of people and is a fitting tribute to the life of my amazing Best Friend Forever."

Innovation: Africa is a 501 (c)(3) NY based non-profit organization that brings Israeli solar, water, and agricultural technologies to rural African villages.

Since 2008, Innovation: Africa has completed over 250 solar and water installations bringing light, access to clean water, improved education, refrigeration for vaccines and medicines, and food security impacting over 1.3 million people in 10 African countries.

The Herman and Lillian Director Family Fund is dedicated to the memory of Herman and Lillian Director of Savannah, Georgia and extends their tradition of philanthropy and charity.

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Press Contact details:

Dennis Director
The Herman and Lillian Director Family Fund
dennis.director@gmail.com

innovation: Africa
520 Eighth Avenue, 15th fl
New York, New York 10018
<http://innoafrica.org>