



Museum contact: Nancy Hunt-Weber, 760-322-4814, psamcommunications@psmuseum.org



**MUSEUM ANNOUNCES THE PASSING OF GREG POLZIN,
THE DOROTHY AND HAROLD J. MEYERMAN DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**

A talented, charming man with a magnetic personality and a warm and loving heart, Greg Polzin led the Palm Springs Art Museum's Fundraising and Development department since 2010. Greg was instrumental in garnering the funding and support for the museum's Palm Desert facility, Architecture and Design Center, and numerous capital campaigns. Greg was honored to be the museum's first Dorothy and Harold J. Meyerman Director of Development.

Greg Polzin lost his short but courageous battle with pancreatic cancer on Sunday, May 22, 2016. Greg passed away peacefully in his home, with family and close friends at his side. He was 51. He was smart, fun and left behind hundreds of friends who loved him deeply.

Greg Polzin was born on April 13, 1965 in Walla Walla, Washington to parents Shirley M. and Donald G. Polzin. Greg was an only child. Before his first birthday, the family moved to Spokane, Washington to be closer to extended family members.

Growing up in Spokane, Greg attended Arthur B. Ness Primary School, McDonald Elementary, Evergreen Junior High School and graduated in 1983 from University High School in Spokane Valley, Washington. Greg then attended Seattle Pacific University,

graduating in 1987 with degrees in Marketing and Communications, two career disciplines in which he excelled. Greg was very popular and made many life-long friends in the 21 years he lived in the Spokane area. He visited Spokane frequently throughout the rest of his life.

His first job after college was traveling the world as an on-board sales representative for Holland America Cruise Line. He later went on to a career in hotel sales and convention center catering. He was extremely good at sales, but he most enjoyed planning parties and creating outstanding special events – and then attending them. Greg loved parties and parties loved Greg! He was a very handsome man and a star-quality addition to any special event. He was outgoing and very friendly and had the ability to make every guest feel special.

Given Greg's huge heart, his passion for helping others and his commitment to social justice, it is not surprising that Greg transitioned his career in the 1990's to non-profit fundraising and management. Positions that he held include the Executive Director of the Arizona Human Rights Fund, Director of Development for the Scottsdale Center for The Arts and The Desert AIDS Project and his final position as the Dorothy and Harold J. Meyerman Director of Development for the Palm Springs Art Museum, a position of which he was particularly proud as it was endowed by the museum's then Chairman of the Board of Trustees and his wife.

Greg Polzin loved the Palm Springs Art Museum. He was an extraordinary manager and fundraiser and played a critical role in the creation of the Museum's two satellite facilities in Palm Desert and in Palm Springs.

Greg faced life lovingly, courageously, and always on his own terms. He was smart, friendly, charming, witty, endless fun, and caringly touched hundreds of lives. Greg had the ability to light up a room, always with a twinkle in his eye.

Greg is survived by his loving mother, Shirley M. Polzin of Palm Springs, California, his partner B. Kevin McBride, and numerous close friends that he considered to be family.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 4 p.m. at Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Springs, California, in the Annenberg Theater.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Greg's honor to Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262.