



RGR SAFE FUND TESTIMONIALS

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Dr. Kenneth Zweig, Richard's PCP: "Unfortunately, I didn't know Richard very long, but every interaction was memorable. He was truly unique in the best way. He always seemed soft-spoken and relaxed but also displayed a commanding presence and warm confidence. I looked forward to his office visits with me, because he would always regale me with fascinating stories of his adventurous life in the African wilderness, which he would tell with the same easy tone one might use to describe just another day at the office.

When Richard learned about his cancer diagnosis, he kept that same demeanor. He never seemed panicked or distressed by the news. He received the news as just a fact of life to address, and he handled it calmly and rationally. The way he approached his diagnosis was with a peacefulness and maturity I had never encountered in over 20 years of practicing medicine. It was impressive and inspiring to witness, though certainly not unexpected coming from him. Death is inevitable, but rarely is anyone mentally prepared for it, especially when it comes sooner than expected. Richard was prepared. He had lived an exciting and courageous life, contributed a great deal to conservation, and eventually passed surrounded by his family. He faced his death with a sense of acceptance and grace that was remarkable. I hope to have even a portion of the same strength and acceptance when my time comes. I am certain he will be greatly missed."

Souley Manou, FARO National Park, Cameroon: Richard was for us this solitary man who has lived and no longer has an ego but has young people with whom to share his hopes.

His humility was of such magnitude that he shared it with animals in distress and vulnerable children. He knew all the animal crossings and their times. He passed through with the greatest attention so as not to upset anything - he respected nature. His last discovery was a black leopard, and he gave me the details of its location and habits such that I also had the chance to meet this very rare individual.

He lived in the African savanna and forest as a flying eagle in search of all the information, as a lone lion to mark his territory and as an elephant that he loved the most to be at peace.

The shield and umbrella that you were maybe will come again in the next generation. We will miss all the fauna with whom you had a bond of brotherhood and friendship.

The corruption you hated the most, you were able to spare yourself from it, and many other threats. You have been a role model for your people, that I have known, the right role model, the love for your children, the attachment to your wife and your big brother, your dog and everyone around you. In short, the great elegant one to move this world and us to silence - I lack words for your endless contributions. Rest in peace, your memory will remain engraved.