

Hey everyone! How's school? Not better than camp that's for sure. I can honestly say that for the first time in 6 years, I feel like camp was forever ago. So much has happened in my last month. Starting with camp ending of course. That was terrible. Then I went on a week long cruise in Hawaii. That was pretty awesome. I would recommend it.

Then after almost 10 weeks of nonstop fun and happiness, I was blasted with heartbreaking news. The loss of our amazing counselor and one of my best friends, Erica. When I think about my summer, and the major role she played in it, as she did with many of yours, I know that it would have been totally different without her. But one thing that Erica's death really made me think about is that, no matter how many times we say it, the people that go to Campus Kids really ARE like a giant family. Through this horrible and tragic experience, the support that I received from EVERYONE at camp is shocking and amazing. I want to make sure that you all really cherish the time that you spend for 2, 4, 6, or 8 weeks at CK because every summer really is a special thing that you will only experience once in a life time.

Well after that all happened, I went back to school. I'm playing tennis for my high school so hopefully that goes well. I went to the US Open women's final and saw Maria Sherapova win so that was pretty awesome too. And that's basically all that's going on in my life right now. I would like to end this article with some lyrics from a song that pretty much describe how I, and a lot of other people, feel about the loss of Erica and the end of this Campus Kids summer of 2006, which was by far the best summer of my life.

*Every step I take  
Every move I make  
Every single day  
Every time I pray  
I'll be missing you  
Thinking of the day  
When you went away  
What a life to take  
What a bond to break  
I'll be missing you*

RIP Erica Vallario. I miss you buddy.

And by the way...don't anyone ever hesitate to contact me.. I ALWAYS want to talk to you! See you at the reunion!

***Rachel Parker***

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