

In 2004 about a dozen women, all of whom specialized in commercial real estate in some capacity, gathered with the audacious idea of forming an organization new to Northern Nevada: CREW - the Commercial Real Estate Women's Network. Those of us in those initial meetings count ourselves lucky to have been invited, because we met literally the most amazing women in the industry... actually the most amazing women in Northern Nevada... in any industry, and we united. When the moment finally came to select our very first fearless leader, there was no debate, we were all in absolute agreement: Katie Morrison - of course!

So how amazing is that? It actually doesn't sound too astounding if you don't understand the context of what we were doing. In Reno, in the absolute heart of an alumnus type business environment (or male dominated industry), a group of women united to form an organization that would exist primarily to support the advancement of women in the field. Very courageous and spirited but also so new it is kinda scary. So you can see why Katie took the lead.

She stepped up to serve as our founding President... and as if that wasn't enough, on top of having just opened her own brokerage, she became pregnant with her first child... just to make the rest of us wonder *how in the world does she do it?*

There are many people in our community who will tell you about the wonderful mother and wife Katie was, and there is no doubt that she embraced those roles as her most important. In fact, once she had Wyatt, she immediately made it clear about where she wanted to spend most of her time, and Hannah just reinforced that. And there are a lot of people who will attest to her kind spirit, and her strength. And while she played many more important roles than the one she played for CREW, what we would like you to know is that she set a strong and everlasting example for us.

We are grown-ups, we are all in the thick of our careers, and she did what most people cannot do - she served as an example to others in the industry of how to play fair and with the highest class. She changed us, collectively and individually, for the better. She never spoke poorly of others. She always empowered those she led. She knew how to have a good time. She made and kept friends easily. She wasn't afraid to be herself. She never apologized for what she believed in, and she was never afraid to respectfully disagree with anyone. She set the foundation of this powerful organization, an organization that continues to be transformative for its peers, and for that, she will always be remembered.

It is with a very heavy heart that we offer our most loving condolences to her loved ones. She touched and deeply affected many of us and in doing so, empowered us to be stronger and wiser and more powerful. Katie thank you for your presence on this earth and all that you imparted on us, your memory is profound and will never be forgotten.