



Tribute to a Friend and Mentor

The Co/Investor Club lost Gina Cummings this week, an incredible friend, mentor and leader. Gina served as the Director of the Wall Fellows Program at Coastal Carolina University for 8 years. Wall Fellows is a leadership and professional development program that prepares students for high level careers. The Co/Investor Club is proud to provide career opportunities to many young professionals from the program. The positive impact Gina had on every student is long lasting, as she not only served as a professional development mentor, but as a loving friend who cared about each individual student.

Prior to leading the Wall Fellows Program, Gina spent the majority of her career in executive HR positions for international companies and offered expertise consulting management teams. Gina is an example of someone who lived a balanced lifestyle. She taught her students to live passionately and to enjoy each moment.

The Wall Fellows family and CCU community have spent this week grieving her loss as a massive void has been left in our hearts. Through her resilient leadership the program has continued to operate at a level that is unparalleled at the university with all projects reaching completion and every Fellow attaining an internship or full-time employment upon graduation.

Gina leaves an extraordinary impact on all who knew her.

"To my career mentor, life coach, teacher, spiritual leader, dear friend and now angel ... I love you endlessly Gina. Thank you for shaping me into the person I am today. You have an incredible legacy and my life would be extremely different if I never met you. Because of you I have my WF family, my job, abroad experiences, a love for nature, meditation and so much more. I'm thankful I got to be part of your journey on earth. I know you are watching over all of us now and guiding us from above."

- Lucia Zats

"We would not be here without you, Ms. Gina Cummings! You have inspired us to grow personally and professionally. Words cannot explain how much you did for us. For that, we love you forever. Till we meet again, GC."

- Sam DiFiore

"Gina Cummings was my mentor, career coach, spiritual guide, friend, and supporter. She pushed me to be better, think differently, and to always lead with integrity. She was a mentor that I went to when I needed the hard truth. She wouldn't sugarcoat the reality but she would always speak with such grace. Gina always said, "she would push us to the edge of a cliff but never let us fall."

- Morgan Howder

"I've been at a loss for words over the past day and I'm still not even sure I've found them. It's hard to articulate the sheer impact Gina Cummings had on me and countless others at Coastal. She was one of the strongest people I knew and she approached everything in life with dedication and unconditional love. I feel so fortunate to have known and loved her. Thank you for everything Gina."

- Madison Wolf

"She always had faith in me when I didn't have faith in myself. She never accepted anything less than my best, and she always pushed me for more. I find myself asking "what would Gina do?" at work all the time. That's part of her legacy that will never fade. The leaders she helped grow will continue to pass along the lessons she taught and her impact will continue to grow."

- Paul Zeuschner

"I wouldn't be half the woman and leader I am today without her guidance. She was the light to so many people's lives. There was just something about her... she knew when to help us, when to push us, when to fight for us, and the best part, when to have fun with us. And she somehow taught us everything along the way."

- Kiley Decker