



BALLANTINE, Kim (nee Vercuiel)

Kim BALLANTINE | 19 Feb 1964

KIM² VERCUIEL (LEON¹) was born on 19 February 1964 in Johannesburg, South Africa. She married ROBIN BALLANTINE on 27 July 1987 in Johannesburg, South Africa. He was born on 23 October 1960. Kim is the great granddaughter of ANNA LOUISE⁶ FLEMMER (CHRISTIAN LUDVIG⁵) born on 28 January 1874 in Cradock, South Africa and died on 22 February 1941 in Frances Street, Observatory Johannesburg, South Africa. Anna married JAMES COLE ROUS on 26 March 1902 in the DRC Cradock, South Africa, son of JAMES ROUS and ALIXA COLE. He was born on 25 April 1874 in Pretoria, South Africa and died on 9 May 1931 in Middelburg, South Africa.

Kim Vercuiel was born to Lizann (Elizabeth Ann Rous) and Leon Vercuiel on 19 February 1964. They lived in Waverly later moving to a plot in Northriding. Kim went to Michael Mount Waldorf School for primary school and matriculated from Kingsmead College in 1981. She was given an American Field Scholarship (AFS) to the United States of America where she lived in Dimmitt, Texas with Robert and Martie Benton between 1982 and 1983.

She obtained a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Stellenbosh Cum Laude in 1986 and later obtained her honours and Master of Arts (Industrial Psychology) from the University of the Witwatersrand (1989).

In 1987 she married Robin Charles Ballantine, a medical student, at the Johannesburg Country Club in Johannesburg. Robin went to school in Lady Grey before going to boarding school at Queens College. He spent two years in the military before attending UCT for a year doing engineering. He changed his degree and graduated from Wits University in 1987 as a medical doctor. He did a diploma in Anesthesia, was Chief of Staff at the Churchill Health Center and later went on to specialize in Internal Medicine (2002). He currently practices as a specialist physician in Johannesburg.

In 1989 Kim and Robin decided to travel. They went to Canada and ended up working in Churchill Manitoba, Robin as Chief of Medical Staff and Kim as a volunteer to social services. They spent two years living and working with the Dene and Cree Indian and the Inuit providing medical services to the North West Territories of Canada. They returned to South Africa at the end of 1990 and took up a three-month post at Manguzi Mission Hospital, Kozi Bay. In 1991 Kim began working for the National Productivity Institute where she obtained her internship and registration as an Industrial Psychologist. She worked for the Human Sciences Research Council as a Chief Researcher and later as Department head and published numerous papers and manuals during this time.

On the 15th of September 1993 Kim gave birth to Natalie, the most amazing little girl. Her grandmother, Joan Rous, was convinced that Kim would have twins and was adamant that she would hold those babies. In 1996 on the 22nd of June Kim gave birth to twins Ryan Graham and Ashleigh Ballantine two bundles of total energy and joy. Joan Rous did hold the twins but, despite being bed ridden, said she wanted to see them walking around her bed. A year later when they were walking Kim and the children made their last trip to the Karoo to visit Joan. She so enjoyed the children and showered them with affection. On their last evening together Kim asked her granny Joan if this was goodbye to which she simply said yes. They had an amazing opportunity to say goodbye. A week later she was in a coma and a week after that she died.

Kim stopped working after the twins were born and they all moved to Welkom in the Free State, where Robin worked for Anglo Gold Health in internal medicine. In 2000 they returned to Johannesburg for Robin to Specialise in Internal Medicine. Kim started her own consulting business in 2000 and assisted companies in the manufacturing, service, IT and government sectors in implementing International Best Practice / Manufacturing Excellence.

Kim enjoys sport and horse riding and as a child spent many happy times on Stradbroke Farm (next to Tafelburg Hall) in the Karoo, as well as Beskow on the Limpopo. She loves the bush and anything to do with nature and animals. She and her husband enjoyed tandem cycling, particularly with Leon and Lizann, her parents, and competed actively in this sport before the birth of twins! Kim recently developed Spasmodic Dysphonia and so has lost her speech function. She no longer works in her consulting business but enjoys writing, her garden and her amazing family. She lives in Johannesburg, South Africa with Robin, Natalie, Ashleigh and Ryan.