

FOR BECKY,

THE WINNER OF THE OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL FOR RULE-BREAKING AND INNOVATION.

BECKY, YOU ARE A TRUE OLYMPIAN. YOU BROKE EVERY RULE IN THE GSEHD DISSERTATION RULEBOOK. BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING. YOU THEN WENT ON TO EVEN GREATER VICTORIES, FOR WHICH NEW RULES HAD TO BE WRITTEN—AND YOU BROKE THOSE TOO.

YOUR RECORD WILL NOT BE EQUALED IN OUR TIME.

AND HERE IS THE LIST OF RULES:

1. DON'T GET MARRIED.
2. DON'T HAVE CHILDREN.
(Michael and the boys are certainly happy you broke the first two rules!)
3. DON'T MOVE.
4. AND IF YOU DO, DON'T RENOVATE YOUR NEW HOME.
5. AND IF YOU RENOVATE YOUR NEW HOME, MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT HOMELESS WHILE YOU'RE DOING IT.
6. DON'T MAKE A FILM WITH YOUR HUSBAND.
7. DON'T GET SICK—EVER.
8. DON'T CHANGE JOBS.
9. AND IF YOU DO, MAKE SURE THE NEW JOB IS NOT ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING IN WASHINGTON.
10. AND ABOVE ALL, DON'T START A CHARTER SCHOOL!

BUT YOU OVERCAME EVERY CHALLENGE AND TRIUMPHED. YOU NOT ONLY COMPLETED YOUR DISSERTATION, BUT IN THE PROCESS BECAME THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPERT ON INSTRUMENTAL VARIABLES.

HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY, BECKY! WE ALL MISS YOU. GWU JUST ISN'T AS MUCH FUN WITHOUT YOU.

CHEERS!



IRIS ROTBERG