

Statement of Adnaan Stumo, Brother of Samya Stumo

My sister was my constant companion since she was born. We were homeschooled together, played music together, and competed on the same sports teams throughout our childhoods in New England. We spent countless hours exploring the woods and fields around the farm and inventing fantastical worlds in the barn. Samya had vivid memories of those childhood years, and we would reminisce regularly as adults.

My sister was intensely competitive, and never wanted to be the second child in anything but age. As we grew, Samya outstripped me in many ways. She had so much to teach me about compassion, self-awareness, sensitivity to others, focus, and just straight blithe joyfulness. But what she had to offer the world of global health was even greater. Give Samya the next half century to apply her intelligence and zeal to the institutional failings of international aid, and the world would be utterly changed. The butterfly effect of the Ethiopian airlines flight 302 crash is massive: the potential of my sister and 156 others driven straight into the ground because of Boeing's greed.

I will keep Samya's influence present in my mind and my life. I knew her so well, and i can imagine her advice and consolation in the rough times ahead. I feel the most hopeless when i imagine my young cousins, and the future children of my brother and i, growing up without Samya's tremendous presence, and never even realizing what they've lost.