IN MEMORIUM

"JONATHAN ROOSEVELT"

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My friend, and unknowing mentor, Jonathan Roosevelt passed away on June 21, 2013. I am sad that I will not see his face rich with expression as we discuss fine literature inside of prison walls. You see Jonathan was a prison volunteer. He was also a husband, a father, a traveler, a humanitarian, and many other wonderful things, but he once told me that he would like to be defined by his prison volunteer work.

Jonathan introduced me to Charles Dickens. He afforded me a relationship with Edgar Allen Poe. We flew kites together in Afghanistan. We hearded cattle in Holt, Colorado. Who could have known the meaning of watering elephants if not for Jonathan? My debt to him could not be paid with all the gold in Monte Christo. I love him for it all.

Hope is the remedy in prison. Jonathan knew that. He treated me with genuine dignity. He cared about my work. He hoped good things for me. I won't let him down. I will do my best to celebrate the gifts he gave to me. He will live forever!

May you be blessed to care for God's Library, and may the pages reveal what we do in your name.

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Donations in Jonathan's memory can be made to;

Concord Prison Outreach 1317 Main Street Concord, MA 01742 SPAN, Inc. 105 Chauncy Street Boston, MA 02111