



Scott Kennedy, Presente!

Scott Kennedy, chair of the IFPB board of directors, trip leader for many, and friend to us all, has passed away. Scott died November 19 in his sleep in Santa Cruz, California, just one week after co-leading the latest Interfaith Peace-Builders Olive Harvest Delegation.

With the shock and hurt of the news still fresh, we all mourn and wish peace for his family. To say that Scott had an enormous impact on Interfaith Peace-Builders would be an understatement.

Our work of sending delegations (39 since 2001) was rooted in delegation work that he pioneered, starting with a trip that Scott and Allan Solomonow led in 1975. Since that time, Scott's work with the Resource Center for Nonviolence, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and Middle East Witness all contributed significantly to the program that we know as Interfaith Peace-Builders today. Scott has been a tireless advocate, a dedicated trip leader, an active and engaged board member, and a joy to learn from and work with.

His work with IFPB was but one of his many projects which spread from Santa Cruz, the city he loved unconditionally, to Israel/Palestine, whose nonviolent leaders he supported at all costs. He dedicated his life to helping others, to seeking justice, and to spreading the power of active nonviolence.

When Scott received the El-Hibri Peace Education Prize in 2008, IFPB Senior Fellow Joe Groves wrote a tribute to Scott. We include it here:

I have worked with Scott Kennedy on Middle East peace education for twenty years in many varied venues. What fun! Even though we live on opposite coasts, our collaboration has been consistent, from forming Middle East Witness to take delegations to Israel/Palestine, to working together on FOR's Middle East Task Force, to collaborating on FOR's Interfaith Peace-Builders Program, to creating an independent Interfaith Peace-Builders organization. That's one of Scott's defining features — creating anew by building on strong and deep relationships. Programs can come and go — it's the people who are crucial. A second defining feature is that Scott makes the work fun, in a deep, complex way that far exceeds laughter (although there is plenty of that). It's fun stemming from creativity, imagination, stimulating conversation, immense energy, and profound commitment to the work of Middle East peace. We need all of those qualities to sustain work on Israel/Palestine in the midst of consistently grim and discouraging realities. Someone who brings fun to Middle East work — what more can you ask! And what better way to lead in peace education.

Scott will be very sorely missed. And we feel the utmost gratitude to have known, worked, and laughed with him.

Read tributes to Scott's work sent in from friends and colleagues around the world inside this newsletter



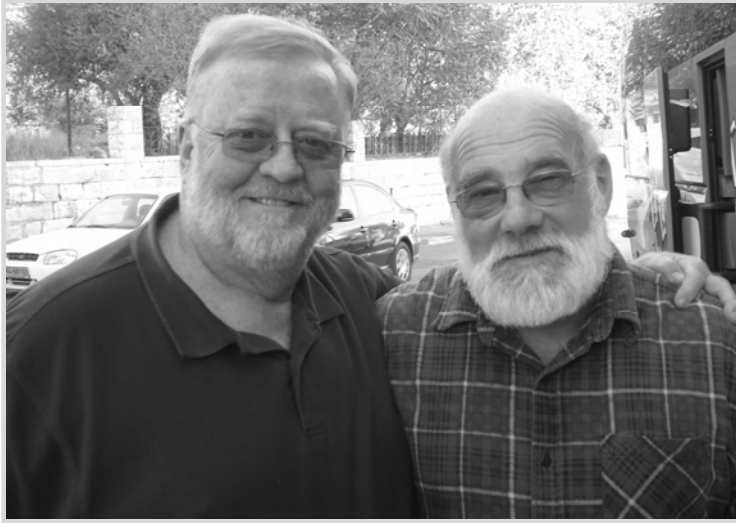
Donate today and get Omar Barghouti's new book on the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions Movement!



See back page for details

Remembering Scott Kennedy

It is impossible to think of Interfaith Peace-Builders without giving enormous credit to Scott Kennedy. His efforts laid the foundations for IFPB and his leadership informed our growth and development. Scott left us shortly before this newsletter was scheduled to go to print. It is only fitting that we make space here to honor him and his work for peace in Israel/Palestine.



With Jeff Halper, founder of the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions, in Jerusalem (2011).



With Nasser Abu Farha, founder of the Palestine Fair Trade Association, in Jenin (2009).

"We will not forget you, you are in our hearts, we will tell our children about your activities. We still love you Scott, your body passed away, but you will stay with us all the time."

- Issa Amro, Youth Against Settlements (Hebron)

"Scott Kennedy's death is a loss to not only family and friends, but to the larger family of nonviolent soldiers he has taught, shared with, laughed with, and loved. I'm fortunate to consider myself a member of his compassionate and passionate army. Not many people manage to make a dent in the world of conflicts, but Scott's work in the Middle East defies all cynicism and hopelessness. . . May he make the crossing smoothly and joyfully."

- Joan Baez, singer and co-founder of the Resource Center for Nonviolence

"I have known Scott for only a short time but have considered him a friend of the best kind, a friend of the soul, one who dedicated his life to justice and peace for all God's people of every nation and faith. . . I have been inspired by his ability to articulate what is right and just. I have been touched by his love of nonviolent methods to change the world. Thank you Scott. Well done, good and faithful servant"

- Rev. Sandra Mackie, IFPB Board of Directors

Leading IFPB delegates on a tour of the Wall in the West Bank (2009).



With IFPB delegates at the Natsheh home in Hebron, the Palestinian family he regarded as his own (2003).



"Thank you Scott for everything you did to promote peace and justice in the Holy Land. You will be truly missed and we carry your message forward."

- Sami Awad, The Holy Land Trust (Bethlehem)

We have posted more photos and tributes on our website:
www.ifpb.org/about/scottkennedy.html



Leading an IFPB delegation in the West Bank often meant negotiating Israeli checkpoints (2003).

“Scott, there will never ever be somebody like you and how you were devoted for restoring humanity in this world and devoted for your family, we will always remember you and your memory is carved in hard rock and every stone in Palestine, hard to believe it, rest in Peace my friend *Abu Butrus*, rest in Peace because all the people whom you worked with and devoted your time to, will continue your message of Nonviolence and will keep the torch lit, rest in Peace.”

- George S. Rishmawi, founder of the Siraj Center for Holy Land Studies (Bethlehem)

“Scott was unwilling to let fear of criticism constrain his voice and public action. Still, self-examination and personal practice lived at the core of his understanding of Gandhian nonviolence. He was my partner. And many others can say the same!”

- Peter Klotz Chamberlin, IFPB delegate and co-founder of the Resource Center for Nonviolence

“It is with great sadness that I learned a dear friend, Scott Kennedy, has died. . . Just two weeks ago, he was here in Israel and Palestine, leading the Olive Harvest Delegation of Interfaith Peace-Builders and the Resource Center for Nonviolence. . . I will miss him greatly and I know that there are many others in Israel who feel the same.”

- Dorothy Naor, New Profile (Israel)

One of several meetings with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Pictured with Scott (left to right): Karim Alkadhi; Yasser Arafat; Gene Knudsen Hoffman; and past director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Richard Deats.

“Scott was an amazing, tireless, and dedicated activist for a just peace in Palestine/Israel. His loss is inestimable. My fondest memory of Scott is of him driving me around his beloved and beautiful Santa Cruz during an organizing tour he arranged and listening to him describe how, as mayor, he commemorated the killing of Rachel Corrie by declaring an official Rachel Corrie Day in her memory.”

- Josh Ruebner, National Advocacy Director, US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation



At B'Tselem's Jerusalem offices (2006).



“Scott led my 2004 life-changing delegation to Palestine-Israel. I remember him for his patience with my ignorance. I remember him for his friendships, so obviously genuine, with both Palestinians and Israelis. I remember his joy as he greeted old friends, Muslims, Christians, Jews. . . That trip, for me, led to passionate involvement in the cause of justice for Palestine. . . His delegations, I like to think, have resulted in many of us bringing the story of Palestine - yes, and of Israel - to friends and family back home so that one day, maybe in the not-too-distant future, his vision of peaceful coexistence will become reality.”

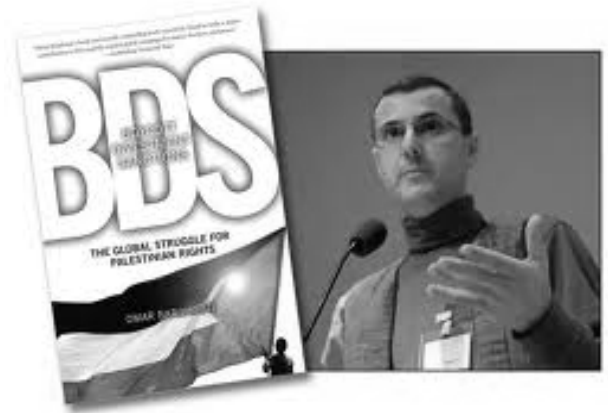
- Andrea Whitmore, Citizens for Justice in the Middle East (Kansas City)

If you knew Scott or were touched by his work, we invite you to send any condolence letters (letters only, please) to IFPB (1326 9th St., NW, Washington DC 20001) and we'll bundle them together with other notes to share with his family.

Donate \$200 and Get Omar Barghouti's Groundbreaking Book on the BDS Movement!

Or Become an IFPB Sustainer by donating \$20 a Month!

International boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) efforts helped topple South Africa's brutal apartheid regime. In this urgent book, Omar Barghouti makes the case for a rights-based BDS campaign to stop Israel's occupation, colonization, and apartheid against the Palestinian people. This considered, convincing collection contributes to the growing debate on Israel's violations of international law and points the way forward to a united global civil society movement for freedom, justice, self-determination, and equality for all.



For years, Interfaith Peace-Builders delegates have met Omar Barghouti in Ramallah for a nuanced and powerful presentation on the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement. Now you can take home his groundbreaking new book!

Donate \$200 or more to IFPB today, or sign up for monthly donations of \$20 or more, and we will send you Omar's book as a special gift for your donation.

Your donation will help us maintain IFPB's crucial work and spread the message of peace based on human rights and justice.

Thank you for your support!

"I have been to Palestine where I've witnessed the racially segregated housing and the humiliation of Palestinians at military roadblocks. I can't help but remember the conditions we experienced in South Africa under apartheid. We could not have achieved our freedom without the help of people around the world using the nonviolent means of boycotts and divestment to compel governments and institutions to withdraw their support for the apartheid regime. Omar Barghouti's lucid and morally compelling book is perfectly timed to make a major contribution to this urgently needed global campaign for justice, freedom and peace."

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL/PALESTINE WITH INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS

UPCOMING DELEGATIONS

- **May 19 – June 1, 2012**
An Environment Under Siege: Occupation's Effects on People and Nature Plus, an optional add-on trip to the Gaza Strip: June 2 - 9, 2012 (tentative)!
- **July 14 – July 27, 2012**
Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders: Ramadan in Palestine!
- **October 21 – November 3, 2012**
Trees of Peace: Olive Harvest Delegation
- **October 21 – November 3, 2012**
2012 African Heritage Delegation (for individuals of African descent and heritage)



Now is the time to go! Find out why so many credit an IFPB delegation with changing their life!

Get the latest on upcoming delegations at ifpb.org/delegations/upcoming.html

Please donate and help IFPB and the movement for peace and justice in Israel/Palestine grow today!

ifpb.org/donation