

# Memorial Gift Will Help Restore Piano

**JAMES KINSELLA | Posted: Friday, April 10, 2015 10:52 am**

Jill Elisabeth (Lööf) Haley was born in Sweden, but she loved Sandwich.

She met her husband, longtime Sandwich resident F. Daniel Haley Jr., while she was an exchange student at the University of Denver during the late 1970s.

On April 2, Ms. Haley died at her home on Popes Meadow after a long battle with cancer. She was 55.

The following day, The Sandwich Enterprise ran a story about the town's struggle to find funds to restore the historic piano inside town hall.

Mr. Haley read the story and made a decision. To commemorate his wife, his love for her and her love for Sandwich, he would give \$10,000 toward the restoration of the piano.

He told selectman R. Patrick Ellis, a childhood friend of Mr. Haley and an advocate for the piano.

The Haley gift would go a long way toward reaching the \$16,000 or so needed to restore the inner workings of the instrument, which now needs retuning after every performance.

At least a century old, the piano was used to accompany silent movies shown in what is now town hall's second-floor meeting room.

The selectmen previously agreed to place an article on the May 4 Annual Town Meeting warrant for \$10,000 toward restoring the piano.

The Town Hall Preservation Trust has also scheduled an event, "Tempo & A Teapot" to raise funds toward the piano restoration. Tea, goodies and lemonade will be served at the event, which is set from 4 to 6 PM on Sunday, April 19, at town hall.

Mr. Haley, who asked Mr. Ellis to speak to the newspaper about the memorial gift, was brought together with his wife by skiing.

Ms. Haley was a native of Gävle, Sweden, and a member of the Swedish National Ski Team. The



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sport brought her to Frisco, Colorado, in 1976 as an exchange student.

Ms. Haley earned a spot on the ski team at the University of Denver, where she met her husband. They were married for 35 years.

In addition to her husband, survivors include two sons and a daughter, two grandsons, a brother, and extended family in Sweden and the United States.

A celebration of her life will be held at the Haley household at a later date.