

Brandeis University
Class of 1978 30th Reunion

Name: Ellen Brower Gately

Maiden name? Brower

Mac or PC? PC

LP, CD, or IPOD? IPOD

What was your major? Did you continue in that field?

I majored in Psychology. I went on to get a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Antioch New England about 10 years later.

Career? Do tell! I

spent the first 10 years after college working in manufacturing, ending as Director of MIS for a business that manufactured children's clothing. The business closed at about the same time that I was re-thinking my career choices. I got my masters and started working in community mental health. I focused on trauma work – working with children and families in one aspect and with perpetrators of sexual abuse in another. I developed an adolescent sex offender's program before leaving the agency. For the past 10 years, I have been working in the Juvenile Court Clinic in Western Massachusetts – doing evaluations for the court and some treatment. I have also established and coordinate a program for Juvenile Firesetters in Franklin County Massachusetts.

Favorite memory from Brandeis days?

There are so many – good friends, interesting classes and new experiences.

Favorite Brandeis professor?

I couldn't possible choose – the grounding I got in experimental and social psychology, history, Shakespeare, Linguistics, Art History and Theater has been of value to me through the years.

What have you done since graduation that you are most proud of?

Though my career and the difference I think I am making means a lot to me, I am proudest of the three fine young people I have helped to raise.

Are you single or married? Tell us about your family:

I had the good fortune to meet the man I married shortly after graduation. We have now been married for almost 29 years. We have three children – The eldest is 24. He is currently living near Manhattan doing production work on movies and in television. My middle child is 21. He is living in Colorado, taking a "break" from college and supporting himself by delivering "lost" luggage for the airlines. My youngest is 15. She is a sophomore in a local Charter School for Performing Arts.

They are all strong, independent and well-centered. My husband ran a construction company until about 6 years ago. He had been the chair of our local school board and discovered how much he loved it. He went back to school, gaining a Masters in

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Education. He is currently working in the local high school and seeking a job in administration.

What goals have you set for yourself for the next ten years?

I am content in my current career. As my children are maturing, I am looking forward to gaining more time to follow artistic and other pursuits. Grandchildren will be very welcome when the time comes.

What items are on your bucket list?

My husband and I own a 30 foot sailboat that we would like to spend a lot more time on. We dream of setting sail for long periods of time. I have made each of my children promise that when they become multi-millionaires that they will buy me a “cottage on a hill overlooking the ocean” where I can create masterpieces to my heart’s content. I have given them the choice of whether that cliff will be in Maine, Southern California, Italy or Ireland. I would love to go back to England or Italy, with my husband this time. I keep dreaming of getting a Doctorate, but have decided that it will never be “cost effective”. I’d love to write a book. (Is that enough, I have many, many more).

Please provide a joke, a current photo, and a photo from your time at Brandeis.

I’d make a joke about our current president, but I don’t think he’s funny.

