Cathalina Staye-Walsh – Athletic Development Program Coordinator – Sydney, Australia

Harry didn't just coach me; he completely rescued and reshaped the trajectory of my life. Before I ever stood on a starting line, Harry believed in me, looking past where I was to see exactly who I could become. The day he saw me running with my dogs in Prospect Park and inspired me to take up track and field, he instilled a deep belief that I could achieve greatness, handing me a vision of a future I didn't know was possible: the gift of a free education through a college track scholarship. As the only sprinter he coached in the midst of all the road runners he prepared, he used his immense knowledge and the natural talent he recognized I had to hand me the tools to do something truly positive with my life. Because of the work ethic, determination, and resilience he instilled into my character, I went from chasing my dogs on the grass fields of Prospect Park to becoming a multiple NYC Borough, City, State, and National high school champion, a full-scholarship athlete at Villanova University, and ultimately, a World Championship competitor. My fondest, most sacred memories remain the quiet moments after grueling sessions, sitting together on a park bench, freezing and exhausted, sipping hot minestrone soup he would buy from the deli across the road while he taught me about life and how to be a student of our sport. Every single day as a teacher and coach, whether leading a high school program or standing on the world stage as the Head Relay Coach of the National U20 program and the Head of the Australian Senior Women's Relay Team, I am simply a reflection of Harry's profound belief in me. He paved the way for my education, my career, and my purpose, and I am humbled each day to be in a position to pass the incredible light of resilience and open mindedness he gave me onto the next generation of athletes.

Thank you for believing in me, Harry. Your light runs on in everyone I guide. Rest in eternal peace.

Peter Canning – Prospect Park Track Club

I think the history books should simply say: That, in Prospect Park, there is not just a plaque or a bench in honor of Harry but a whole wall! That is how much Harry means to New York running. He always had time for you no matter how fast you were. I doubt that I would have qualified for Boston in 1978 if it weren't for Harry's coaching and encouragement.

This past June I celebrated my 50th year as member of Prospect Park Track Club and I am, happy to say, still running. There is no question in my mind that I would not be here today running if Harry hadn't been there for me those many years ago. He was a kind and beautiful person - one of the nicest people I have ever known.

Ted Corbitt said the following:

“Harry Murphy was a long distance runner who served in the US Army during World War 11and who worked for the Post Office. Harry ran for several different running clubs. He helped to found the NY Road Runners Club and helped it survive with much volunteer work in its early years. He made the first rough survey of the distance from the toll booth at the Verrazano Bridge to Columbus Circle and to the United Nations confirming that a marathon distance was possible to those sites.

Aldo Scandurra in a 1978 letter schooling Fred Lebow on running history said the following:
“It was Harry Murphy that brought about water and refreshment stations in competition. He taught me and I made it a rule.”