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Attn: Katie Marsh

Dear Katie,

I remain shocked and saddened by the passing of Sheikh Nasser; he was just such an exceptional person who took a keen interest in everyone around him.

While I regret not seeing more of him in recent years, I remember our early days together, as we were both young and traveling throughout West Africa to negotiate shrimping ventures. In all of those sessions, Sheikh Nasser was not only the consummate businessman, making hard decisions on behalf of Gulf Fisheries, but also a friend determined to build solid relationships, both business and personal.

In that regard, I continue to think back to one time when we were in Cairo together and he happened upon a Kuwaiti friend (I believe it was one of the Al-Ghanims who ran the GM dealership in Kuwait). With great pride and a huge smile on his face, Sheikh Nasser introduced me to his friend as "This is my lawyer, Brian. Not only is he American, but he is also Jewish!" Sheikh Nasser just had a way of exuding quiet confidence and putting everyone at ease. The word that always comes to mind is authenticity. And I should add that the same applies to Sheikha Hussa, who was the first to call me in Paris when the planes hit the World Trade Center in NY on 9/11, just to make sure that I was OK. I will always remember those acts of kindness that are so touching and appreciated.

I deeply mourn the loss of Sheik Nasser and extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire family.

