



Geeta was a phenomenal teacher, a gentle woman and a wise philosopher. Her gift was the ability to walk into the room and size up the class in just a few moments and then teach to what was missing in that particular group; to understand what that group needed most and to be able to reach out to everyone. Her last classes were an embodiment of the total of Iyengar Yoga: her message to us was “Yoga is action”, we need to practice, to find the joy in the subject, the light, (and lightness, as we found when we did with the children one morning!) and to penetrate beyond the self to find the Self. No matter our age or condition we need to practice and explore and go beyond to “break down the resistance” but to never forget at the same time to be humble with ourselves.

When Geeta quietly left the stage on Wednesday afternoon after the last class we had no idea that it would be her last. She had been strong, her voice vital and clear and her humor and smile as quick as ever over the five days she taught. Always a commanding presence on stage as a teacher she also showed a side in the afternoons during a couple of ‘chit-chats’ with Abby and Prashant that was open and warm and funny. She was present in the hall for the beginning of the Centenary Celebrations on Thursday but I think not seen on the birthday Friday. By Saturday many of us began to leave Pune and Sunday morning we had word that she had died peacefully at home. Many were also still in Pune and were welcomed into the Iyengar home to pay their last respects and to participate in the funerary to wish Geeta well on her last journey and to grieve with the family.

She will be missed but will always be with us.