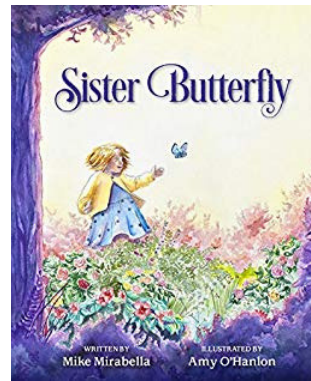


Pam Mirabella Advocate and Speaker For Education and Special Needs Students



Click on book image for more information

Pam Mirabella has a mission: to be “a voice for education.” Her passion is lobbying legislators to address the needs of all our children, especially those of our most challenged students. During the Clinton administration, Pam twice testified at the White House as to the need for adequate federal funding for Special Education.

Her purpose was and still is, to serve as resource and advocate for parents and students. Pam enjoys community outreach and welcomes opportunities to speak small or large groups about special education. Her passion and determination spring from her experiences as the mother of a special needs child.

She has recently joined her husband “Papa Mike” Mirabella in his efforts to publish children’s books with songs. Their series of 3 books focus on inclusion, belonging and compassion: *Sister Butterfly*, *I Used to be Shy* and *Special People*.

Pam and Mike fondly recall their time raising their daughters Carla and Kelly. On a cold morning December 6, 1972, their first child Carla was born at Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco. Mike and Pam were given the option by the hospital staff to give her up for adoption. This was not the option they chose. They remember the parish priest telling them that Carla was a gift, but at the time, Pam and Mike didn’t understand what gift they’d been given. They went through the five stages of grief, since their expectations of having a “normal” child were not met. And, they faced the unknown as new parents in shock and feeling overwhelmed.

New mom Pam was visited and supported by staff of Catholic Charities and the North Bay Regional Center. When Carla was about 3 months old, Pam attended her first Individual Education Plan (IEP) meeting with 13 professionals at the George Miller Center in Richmond, CA. That was the beginning of Pam’s steep learning curve.

By necessity Pam was the key supporter and advocate for Carla. Pam served on the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Special Education Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and was Chairperson for 6 years. She founded and is past President of Parents and Advocates for Special Education in WCCUSD and created support groups for parents and siblings of the disabled. In 1980, Pam received the PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) Honorary Award. **Find a more detailed biography for Pam, at <https://mirabellabookswithsongs.com/pam>.**

Contact either Mike or Pam at any time if you’d like them to speak to your group or read from their books: info@mirabellabookswithsongs.com.

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