

**Elise L. Ayers**

**Date of Death:** 11/23/2014



Elise began her service with U.S. Agency for International Development in 2000. She moved to Uganda and played multi-faceted leadership roles in combatting AIDS. Her work received a "Superior Honor" Award in 2011 for her tireless efforts to improve health and education. In her most recent position as Director of the Office of Country Support in Washington, D.C., she advanced global partnerships aimed at fostering a supportive relationship between Washington and the field. Elise's approach to everything was total immersion, and her personal life was no different. She built a community for herself in Kampala that still centers around her orbit. Her co-workers and friends alike were drawn to her

humor, intelligence, warmth, exuberance and ability to cut through to what was most important. It was in Uganda where she met her husband Ben and children Ditton and Lucy. Their family expanded with the arrival of their daughters, first Issadora, then Zalira.