

passages



Holiday Edition 2005

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We Need Your Help!



Your Gifts Make The Tree of Memories Grow!

The Tree of Memories will soon spread its love and warmth as it begins its seventh season at the Mall of Georgia, reaching out to those who have lost loved ones and providing a haven of comfort, remembrance and healing. This bereavement support event encourages shoppers to share their favorite memory of a loved one on a memory card and place it on the Tree of Memories. With a financial gift, the shopper also receives a beautiful gold-bordered butterfly ornament to take home. This event has become more and more meaningful since 1999—both to shoppers and to the 250 Tree of Memories volunteers—and has become an important community event for the Mall of Georgia, the Foundation and our Outreach Programs.

Your gifts will make a huge difference! Over the years you have given financial support to our mission and work—and we thank you. This year we are expanding the Tree of

Memories to include all United Hospice Foundation supporting partners. For the thousands of UHF partners who aren't able to visit the Tree of Memories, we are asking you to support the Tree with an annual gift. Your gift to this Holiday event will insure that our Hospice

Education and Bereavement Support Programs continue growing.

Please join us as a **Friend of Hope!**

Businesses can give as a **Partner of Hope!** If you

work for UHS-Pruitt Corporation, or another healthcare provider, we hope you will

become part of our **Foundation of Hope!** The Holidays are a special time of giving, of sharing, of expressing the love we have in our hearts. Giving a memorial gift expresses the appreciation we have for our loved one — and the hope of the future. Join us as we place our gifts underneath the Tree of Memories! Join us in *Celebrating Lives and Legacies* of your family. Send your gift today!



Camp Cocoon Grows To Capacity



A Magical Weekend at Camp Cocoon grew to near capacity when 66 campers and 45 volunteers gathered at Camp Chattooga in Tallulah Falls, Georgia. It was by far the best Camp Cocoon yet! Mr. Neil Pruitt, CEO of UHS-Pruitt Corporation, and his wife, Mebane, as well as Mr. Chris Bryson, COO of UHS-Pruitt Corporation, joined 42 other volunteers offering their support, care and hope to the campers and each other. After a profound loss it is sometimes difficult to trust and love again. Through the commitment of those at Camp Cocoon, stories were told, crafts were completed, emotions were shared openly and honestly, and the pain of the past was faced with love, courage, tears and celebration. Each camper participated in the journey of "finding life after loss."



Friday night started with a terrific magic show offered by Bill Packard. Saturday morning Mrs. Sharon Rugg, professional children's grief therapist, led the whole camp through a "Healing Hearts" game. Saturday was filled with crafts and swimming, an evening bon fire, and the ever "famous" Camp Cocoon Talent Show. Sunday is a day of reflection, Questions and Answers with Dr. Groover, and a Memorial Service that included lighting sand candles made the day before, and a live butterfly release. United Hospice of Swainsboro, through "Camp Cocoon Commute" was instrumental in chartering a bus and bringing 26 children to camp from central Georgia. United Hospice/Corporate Lilburn offered scholarships for 10 campers through "Karing for Kids."



You can be part of Camp Cocoon, too! Your financial help is needed to insure that this children's bereavement support event occurs every year. Eating, laughing, crying, praying, singing and hugging are plentiful. Seeing the courage of young people who are facing the pain of grief and loss is truly an inspiration. Even in the face of some of their greatest fears, we see resilience, grace, healing and transformation. However, we need your help! Sponsor a camper for Camp Cocoon 2006! Each camper's expenses are approximately \$200.00. Your gifts to Camp Cocoon will make a tremendous difference in the lives of these children who have been affected by death and loss. Please send your gift today!



Our Mission:

United Hospice Foundation...

- ◆ Works with communities to prepare and promote activities that raise public awareness and understanding of end-of-life issues.
- ◆ Advances the hospice philosophy so more people living with life-limiting illness and their families can find comfort care.
- ◆ Makes grief and bereavement support available for those suffering from loss.
- ◆ Provides the information and resources necessary to stimulate end-of-life discussions among family members to assist them in the development of advance directives.
- ◆ Assists with healthcare providers in developing ways to ensure patients' end-of-life wishes are realized.
- ◆ Offers religious and spiritual support through chaplaincy services.
- ◆ Adheres to the highest level of ethical and moral values as we develop, manage and grant support for this cause.

Please fill out, cut out and mail out to
3945 Lawrenceville Highway, Lilburn, GA 30047

HOLIDAY Tree of Memories

FRIEND LEVEL

- I would like to be a **Friend of Hope**
for the Tree of Memories:
 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$_____

BUSINESS LEVEL

- We would like to be a **Partner of Hope**
for the Tree of Memories:
 \$250 – Garland Level
 \$750 – Red Ornament Level
 \$500 – Tree Lights Level
 \$1,000 – Gold Ornament Level
 \$1,200 – Tree Top Star Level

EMPLOYEE LEVEL

- I would like to be a **Foundation of Hope**
for the Tree of Memories:
 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

today's date: _____

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____

state: _____ zip: _____

phone: (_____) _____

e-mail: _____

Please make your check payable to
The United Hospice Foundation and mail it
with this card to 3945 Lawrenceville Hwy,
Lilburn, GA 30047.

This gift is:

- in memory of in honor of

(tribute name)

Your thoughtful generosity
is greatly appreciated.

From the Director's Chair...

We Need Your Help!! How many times, recently, have you read or heard that appeal? Over the past two years, hurricane catastrophes, tsunamis, earthquakes, and other disasters not only have taken front page news, but taken the front page concerns of our hearts. Human suffering has risen to unimaginable proportions. Families have been scattered, lost, and destroyed. Emergency relief efforts have been stretched beyond capacity, and in some cases, disaster relief aid has not met need.

We Need Your Help!! *Your partnership is vital!* Over the past two years, the general public's giving habits have shifted. The magnitude of destruction and the multiple occurrences of disasters have certainly affected each of us. Many people's hearts have been touched by human suffering and they have given to help their brothers and sisters here at home and around the world. That generosity is remarkable.

We Need Your Help!! *Your gifts make a huge difference!* We depend on good folks like you so that we can fulfill our mission and work. We don't have large grants from funding foundations. We are not an endowed foundation that has few financial concerns. Our mission and work is supported by YOU, supported through memorials, honorariums, special gifts and fund raising events. We are committed to serving the public with the very best hospice education and information, advance directives seminars and planning guides, and bereavement support programs like Camp Cocoon, our grief camp for children, and adult bereavement support training.

We Need Your Help!! *Your generosity has touched the lives of suffering people!* During the Holiday Season, I invite you to make a special one time gift to United Hospice Foundation. Your gift will support all of our programs as well as reach out to those who are grieving the loss of their loved ones; children who have lost parents, grandparents, brothers or sisters, aunts, uncles, neighbors.

We Need Your Help!! *You can be a blessing to others!* Your gift to the Tree of Memories will insure that we build on our huge success with Camp Cocoon; that our Advance Directive program will continue to assist people in making solid, informed, intelligent decisions; that bereavement programs and resources will be available for everyone who needs them.

Please send us your Tree of Memories gift today! I am counting on you! If you will make a gift of \$100.00, I will send you one of our beautiful butterfly ornaments that adorn the Tree of Memories at the Mall of Georgia. This ornament is bordered in gold and has rich, colorful wings. It will remind you that your gift is *helping bring life after loss!* Please don't delay. Make your gift today. As you have in the past, let your heart be reflected in your giving. Even the smallest gifts touch lives in a very big way!

With a grateful heart, I am sincerely yours,

Daniel A. Nail
Executive Director

In Depth— The Holidays Can Be Less Than Jolly For Those Who Are Grieving



This year at the Tree of Memories, United Hospice Foundation will provide a complete resource for the Holidays through *CareNotes*. These brochures are distributed with this logo: **Take One—and take heart. Give One—and give hope.** Giving hope is what we want to occur at the Tree of Memories through the distribution of these pamphlets. Here are some of the titles with a brief description of the hope they offer...

Ten Ways To Honor A Deceased Loved One At Christmas—“Honor is a decision we make to place high value, worth, and importance on another person by viewing him or her as a priceless gift and granting him or her a position in our lives worthy of great respect; and love involves putting that decision into action.”— Gary Smalley and John Trent Giving a gift to a special cause in the name of your loved one tops the list. Second is making a simple holiday ornament that symbolically represents your loved one.

Grieving At Christmas: A Family Guide—The Holidays are a perfect time to cherish our memories of a loved one lost, even if they bring tears. Tears during the Holidays are not a bad gift to lay under the tree for your loved one!

Holidays Are For Giving And Forgiving—Pray for the relationship in need of healing. Ask God to give both of you the desire to let go of injury. Thank God for the grace of forgiveness you have received. Prepare the way for healing. Write a short note to your adversary— simply offer your best hope for peace.

Feeling Depressed At Christmastime—Somehow (during the holidays) persons feel pushed into hiding, denying the reality of sadness, fear, and tension. Perhaps what is needed most is simply a more honest embracing of ourselves, others, and the realities of life.

Getting Through The Holidays When You've Lost A Loved One—Keep your loved one's finest qualities alive. This can be your ongoing gift.

Facing The Holidays When A Family Member Is Seriously Ill—Remember that you can't do everything yourself, and that many of your friends and family would like to help out if they only knew what you needed!

Using Good Memories To Help Heal Your Grief—In times of grief, prayer and ritual can bring a sense of balance and peace. They give us an opportunity to say goodbye, to express our pain, to remember our loved ones and place those “remembrances” in the context of the present.

Living With Loss While Others Are Celebrating—Try to remind yourself that the people around you are not bit players to your starring role. They love you, are concerned for you, but each of them is the central player in his or her own life. They will do what they can to be supportive, but they have responsibilities of their own.

When You Can't All Be Together For The Holidays—The holidays can be bleak for people who are—or feel they are—alone. Friendships help fill the void; so can community service. Volunteering during the holidays can offset loneliness and affirm our own sense of appreciation for what we do have.

CareNotes can be obtained from United Hospice Foundation or by calling, *CareNotes* at 800-325-2511, or address your correspondence to: One Caring Place, Abbey Press, St. Meinrad, IN 47577

Scholarship Available!

United Hospice Foundation offers a \$1,000.00 scholarship to nursing and pharmacy students who have shown an interest in End-Of-Life Issues, Hospice care and treatment. If you or someone you know is presently studying nursing or pharmacy in Georgia, has a “B” or better average, has an interest in hospice care, we would like to talk to you! Please call us at 770-279-6201 or 800-956-5354, or by letter at 3945 Lawrenceville Highway, Lilburn, GA 30047, or dan@unitedhospicefoundation.org.

How Can You Help?

Charitable Giving and Tax Laws: The tax laws intentionally encourage charitable giving. Because of the income tax charitable deduction, individuals who make a charitable gift—and itemize—can reduce their income taxes for any given year!

The United Hospice Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization that depends on contributions from individuals, businesses and the community to fulfill its mission. We always appreciate your gifts through:

- Volunteer Time • In-Kind Gifts • Wills and Bequests • Cash Gifts • Deferred Gifts • Life Insurance •
- Memorial Gifts (in lieu of flowers) • Gifts of Property • Stocks and Bonds • Life Income Gifts •

No one publication can tell you everything you need to know about giving opportunities and which method would be the most advantageous for your particular situation. Check with your accountant, tax attorney, or other tax advisor for additional information on how these general rules apply to you.

We would be pleased to provide you with additional information and assistance with any gifts you may be considering. Please contact us at **United Hospice Foundation, 3945 Lawrenceville Highway, Lilburn, Georgia 30047-2817**, or contact us at **770.279.6201** or **800.956.5354**. Thank you for your interest and support.

- I would like to pledge my support of the United Hospice Foundation and its mission.
I will contribute \$_____ every month quarter six months year for the next _____ years.
- I would prefer to support the United Hospice Foundation with the enclosed one-time gift of \$_____.
- Please send me more information about becoming a volunteer including United Hospice Foundation in my/our will
 other giving options hospice advance directives grief support

today's date: _____ name: _____

address: _____

city: _____ state: _____ zip: _____

phone: (_____) _____ e-mail: _____

This gift is in memory of in honor of _____ (tribute name) HOLIDAY05

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How to contact us

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Lilburn, Georgia 30047

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toll-free 1.800.443.4788
fax 770.338.2039

dan@unitedhospicefoundation.org



Hurricane Hospice Relief Fund Grows...

In response to the Hurricane disaster in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, United Hospice Foundation, in partnership with the Pruitt Corporation, has set up a Hurricane Hospice Relief Fund with a goal of \$100,000.00. All funds given to this fund by employees will be matched by the Pruitt Corporation. The present total is \$16,000.00. These funds will be used to send medical supplies to hospice agencies, hospitals, and nursing homes in that region. During this time of need, many offices of the Pruitt Corporation have given gifts of money, furniture and food to displaced families that have been relocated to local facilities. Co-workers have also given their time to help in the clean-up efforts. If you would like to give to this humanitarian need and fund, please send your gift to United Hospice Foundation, and mark it in the lower left corner, HHRF. Your entire gift will go to purchase medical supplies. United Hospice Foundation receives no funding from these donations.

Critical Conditions Training and Expansion

CRITICAL ConditionsSM
Make your final health care decisions

Critical Conditions,

(for Georgia residents)

and **Five Wishes** (for those living outside Georgia), United Hospice Foundation's programs that help all ages think about end-of-life issues and decisions, has expanded throughout Georgia and the southeast. Through the training of Mrs. Beverly Tyler, Executive Director of Georgia Health Decisions, United Hospice offices throughout Georgia have a trained leader on their staff.

If you or your organization would like to have the **Critical Conditions Planning Guide** presented, or the **Five Wishes** planner made available, please call United Hospice Foundation and schedule a program for your group. These programs usually require at least 90 minutes to allow time for presentation, discussion and questions. Also, the United Hospice Foundation staff is trained to support you with presentations and answer your questions. **Call the Foundation at 770-279-6201 or 800-956-5354, or visit us on our website at www.unitedhospicefoundation.org.** The call is free!



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