

Horizons

MAY 2013

Mission Services

Looking Forward and
Embracing the Future



now, two years later . . .

see update beginning on page 6



**Reggie
Hundley**

Editor,
HORIZONS

and

Executive Director,
Mission Services
Association

We welcome your letters to the editor. Letters no longer than one typewritten page are more likely to be published. Include your name and address on all correspondence. Only signed letters can be printed. Letters may be edited for the sake of length and clarity.

E-mail: editorial@missionservices.org

editorial

Ministry is Never Easy: Let's Make Sure "We" Do Not Make It More Difficult!

Not long ago, I received a text message from a good friend serving in ministry. The message was short, "Reggie, I'm drowning here." Since the message came via text, I was sure he was not literally drowning, but his plea for encouragement was as urgent and sincere as if he were. I responded to the text message and followed that with a telephone call.

There is no way that anyone can make their way through life "easily." Life itself is difficult, with days of emotional and physical pain, confusion, frustration, and despair. These are unavoidable, no matter where we live, our social standing, our financial situation, or our occupation. The tragic deaths that were the result of recent tornados across the midwest of the USA affected many. When it was announced that children did not survive the damage to an elementary school, emotions of strangers came rushing to the surface. We can only imagine those of the families involved.

No scripture contains a promise from God, direct or implied, that we can make our way through life without these experiences. Quite to the contrary, God states directly and via inference that His grace and the presence of His Spirit are our sources of comfort when difficulties arrive. Early in Paul's second letter to the church at Corinth he wrote that we receive God's comfort in times of trouble in order that we may share that comfort with others later (2 Cor. 1:3-7). One of the great blessings of being in the community of Christ is the ability to comfort one another and bear each other's burdens.

Unfortunately, I recall times when members of congregations have told me, "You do not know what it is like to live in the REAL world." I am not sure whether I should cry or laugh

Horizons

May 2013

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HORIZONS is a mission-oriented magazine of the undenominational fellowship of the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ. Mission Services, as publisher of HORIZONS magazine, publishes articles written by field missionaries rather than staff writers. We believe this offers a clear image of the variety of opinions that exists between missionaries within the historical Restoration Movement.

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when such sentiments are uttered. I have heard similar statements made to ministers, missionaries, college professors, ministry leaders and more. Ministry IS the real world as much as any occupation in the world. Individuals are not insulated from sin, pain, marriage stress or financial difficulties simply because their income is derived from a religious group. Ministry is rewarding to be sure, but not easy!

Many years ago when I was considering a life in ministry, my father asked if I was willing to "walk that road?" A minister told me, "If you can do anything else with your life and be happy, do that." Both were offering words of wisdom from a love for me and respect for the calling of the church. Readers of these editorials are, by definition, interested in missions and those involved in ministry. Pray for those you know serving in ministry and do it today! Together, let's lift the burden Satan wishes to use to crush them. Ministry is not easy, but "we" can help lighten the load! You think about that!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reggie".

6 the missions network

≡ Programming Information for Inspiration

Mission Services launched **the missions network**, a new communication service dedicated to employing new technology, in June of 2011. Since that time, it has enjoyed success beyond the initial expectations of all the staff and Board of Directors. This network has been mentioned in journals focusing upon world missions and those serving the church at-large. We thought that this might be an opportune time to answer a few of the questions we have fielded. Many of these have been asked by journalists reporting on the work, but these also reflect questions that have come from friends, supporters of Mission Services, and missionaries.

Mission Services is committed to continuing the dream of our founders. We will continue disseminating news of the Kingdom. How we will do that is yet unknown. The future is exciting, because God is in full control!

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11 the missions network

coming events

2013

JULY 9-12

North American Christian Convention

Louisville, Kentucky

Theme: "Victorious"

President: Matt Proctor

Contact information: North American Christian Convention
513-772-9970 / www.gotonacc.org

JULY 21-27

2013 Lake James School of Missions

Angola, Indiana

Contact information: Kent Shady, Program Chairman
260-824-2132 / kdshady@adamswells.com

NOVEMBER 14-17

International Conference On Missions

Kansas City, Kansas

Contact information: David Empson
317-539-4231 / david@theicom.org

NOVEMBER 15-17

Eastern Christian Conference

Hershey Convention Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania

President: Ben Cachiaras

Contact information: Eastern Christian Conference
410-836-6102 / info@easterncc.com
www.easterncc.com



the missions network

Programming Information for Inspiration

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Q. Why did you create the missions network?

A. We decided to create the new service because it fits the nature of the work Mission Services was founded to become! Sadly, the short attention span of our human nature seems to allow us to often forget the history and values surrounding the origin of a ministry or organization. While Mission Services Association had employed printing presses of several varieties and purchased innumerable barrels of printing ink, this was never a ministry devoted to “printing” of anything. Yes, we have printed and mailed millions of newsletters and issues of *HORIZONS* magazine. Yes, after returning from service in World War II, Harrold McFarland did tell his bride Adele that his dream was to publish a magazine. However, the dream for this new venture in 1946 was not to put ink upon paper, but to *disseminate information* concerning the Kingdom of God.

Printing was simply the method that God led our founders to use. Magazines and newspapers were still in their ascendancy in the United States. Nearly every city had one daily newspaper in 1946. Large cities often had more than one newspaper, and almost all towns and smaller communities had weeklies. Doctors offices, barber shops and beauty salons were replete with current issues of Look, Time, LIFE, Newsweek, U. S. News & World Report, Vogue, Better Homes & Gardens, Boys Life, Motion Picture, Cosmopolitan, Popular Science and more! Television

was in its infancy and many homes did not own a television set. Radio was still AM only and the airwaves carried as much static as music and news reports. When it was time to communicate something important, something vital, it was time to put that information in print and send it through the mail!

Over the next sixty-five years, the delivery system for all formats of information changed. Print (sadly for those who knew the smell of paper and ink as a child) was on the decline. Many of the magazines mentioned above no longer existed. Books are as likely to be read via a tablet as in a bound edition. Radio (audio information) and television (video information) are as likely to be transmitted via satellite or Internet and be received via cell phone or tablet as in any other fashion. It was time to harness these incredibly cost effective technologies for world missions and the work of Mission Services continues to be the communication of Kingdom news to and about people in every part of the world.

Q. Who is using the missions network?

A. The short answer is a wide variety of people in an amazingly large number of nations. Greater detail is that congregational leaders, individuals interested in world missions, missionaries, ministry leaders, forwarding agents, students preparing for a career devoted to serving across cultural barriers, and people interested in learning more about Christianity are all connecting with information provided on **the missions network**. While the majority of those connecting with **the missions network** reside in the United States, we know that individuals living in 138 nations have found information about God’s Kingdom!

We also know that the information provided on the network brings people back to it repeatedly. Over the twelve months ending April 30, 2013 people connected with the network more than 2,000,000 times. The information these individuals found brought them back to the network more than three times each month, spending (on average) an hour each time watching, listening or reading. Network programming has been downloaded more than 128,000 times. Once a video (for example a report from a mission), or an audio (for

Twelve Most Recently Added Videos & Audios

[The Global Gospel - 49 - Peter's Confession of Jesus](#)
Friday, May 10, 2013
Good News Productions, International

[Dansa's Story](#)
Thursday, May 09, 2013
Pioneer Bible Translators

[the work of Polish Christian Ministries in 2013](#)
Wednesday, May 08, 2013
Polish Christian Ministries

[Haitian Christian Outreach in 2013](#)
Thursday, May 02, 2013
Haitian Christian Outreach

[2012 ICOM "Seeking Shalom for the City"](#)
Wednesday, May 01, 2013
Missions Knowledge Base

[A Seminar on Having a Proper World View - Part 2](#)
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
Insight Resources International, Inc.

[Helping Change the Future](#)
Monday, April 29, 2013
The Restoration House of East Tennessee

[The Global Gospel - 48 - Feeding of the Four Thousand](#)
Thursday, April 25, 2013
Good News Productions, International

example a workshop from the International Conference On Missions) have been downloaded it is impossible to know how often it will be used, how many will have heard, or how far its influence will have spread!

Q. What will I be able to find on the missions network?

A. Would you believe you can find anything? Well, “anything” may be a stretch, but it is safe to say that the programming available covers a WIDE array of information devoted to world missions. Is your preference to watch, listen to or read information? All three forms of programming are available. If you are interested in learning about ministry needs and openings that may fit your God given talents and skills, that too is available through our network information. The base website for the network, <http://themissionsnetwork.com>, is menu driven with newly added video and audio information highlighted on the home page.

On the left side of the home page of the website, it is easy to find the basic network menu. Selecting the “Ministry Communication Network” allows anyone the opportunity to view video information describing the ministry and work of hundreds of missionaries and mission works around the world. All are available for streaming online or for download to be watched during worship or in a small group setting. Choosing the “Missions Knowledge Base” opens an impressive collection of both audio and video programming that is designed to train, nurture, encourage and inspire those involved in ministry preparation, service on the field, or serving

- **Home**
- Ministry Communication Network
- Missions Knowledge Base
- Ministry Personnel Needs
- Ordinary People - Extraordinary Stories
- HORIZONS magazine
- News & Prayer Letters from Ministries & Missionaries
- About the missions network & online donation
- Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before Us

in a support role. These programming choices are the result of such events as the International Conference On Missions, the Lake James School of Missions (Lake James Christian Assembly), the Eubanks Institute for Missions (Johnson University) and more. The menu item labeled “Ordinary People-Extraordinary Stories” is a compilation of inspirational video accounts of how God writes great stories through the lives of people who would never believe themselves capable.

For more than sixty years, the work of Mission Services has been synonymous with missions information delivered via newsletters. As mentioned earlier, cultural changes and the cost of printing and mailing have forced missionaries and ministries to seek new ways to communicate information. The newsletter platform continues to be viable, but it is now available



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Christianity
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LINKS

Website
Report a Concern

the missions network knowledge base

the missions network >

Details


Ratings and Reviews

Related

Description

the missions network knowledge base will provide a variety of workshops, seminars,

▲ Name

- 1 2012 ICOM "Seeking Shalom for the City"
- 2 Do We Really Need Missions Reminders
- 3 How can I explain the Trinity to those who think it means 3 Gods? 
- 4 2012 ICOM "Christian Libraries: A Non-threatening Way to Serve the Com..."
- 5 2012 ICOM "Effective Prep for Cross-Cultural Short Term Ministry:What R..."
- 6 2012 ICOM "Church Planting in a Postmodern and Pluralistic World"
- 7 2012 ICOM Bridging the Gospel to the Muslim Mind
- 8 2012 ICOM "How Short-term Missions Can Have a Long-Term Impact"
- 9 2012 ICOM "Creating and Sustaining a Business In a Mission Field"
- 11 2012 ICOM "Accelerating Global Evangelism Through Media"
- 12 2012 ICOM "The 10-30 Window Why Global Youth are the largest unreact..."
- 13 2012 ICOM "Canada - The Amazing Mission Field Next Door"

online rather than in the mailbox. By selecting "News & Prayer Letters," missions interested people can read about ministries on almost every continent. This information is arranged by continent and missionary.

HORIZONS magazine has been, and continues to be the flagship publication of Mission Services. Since 1951, this periodical has told of the work of God accomplished around the globe via missionaries and ministries affiliated with the Restoration Movement. We continue to publish this magazine via subscription in print. Now, issues since 2011 are available at no charge via the Internet to anyone around the world.

Q. How can I best access information from the missions network?

A. How quickly do you want it? Mission Services makes the best use possible of new social media outlets to communicate news of God's Kingdom. Should you be interested in nearly immediate updates on news that is published on the network, all that is needed is to follow us on Twitter (@MSA1946) or like us on Facebook (<https://facebook.com/msa1946>). For the hashtag aficionados, you may also find many of our tweets at [#worldmissions](#).



Podcasting is a relatively new programming delivery format that provides instant updating on new feed availability. For podcast enthusiasts, we have two podcasts that are available on iTunes, PodBean,

Godcast1000 and other outlets around the world, or may be followed by RSS feed. Should you wish to find us on iTunes, look for the missions network video podcast and the missions network knowledge base podcast. Our RSS feeds are:

**<http://themissionsnetwork.com/tmnvideo.xml> and
<http://themissionsnetwork.com/tmnknowledge.xml>.**

Of course, accessing the network via the base website allows the greatest flexibility and access to the greatest amount of missions information at any time.

Q. What is being planned for the missions network?

A. If you have continued through these questions, you can probably imagine the answer to this question. “We have a great number of additions planned, but we have no idea where God is leading us.” Our next planned addition is historical documents. Missions did not happen overnight, and though there is great missions interest among today’s young people this is not a first time occurrence. Thousands of pounds of first-hand accounts of mistakes, hopes, dreams, challenges and God given victories await addition to the network in our facility in Knoxville, Tennessee. When this will begin and how long it will take to add is not yet known. We are busy working through ideas of the order in which it should be added! Beyond that, we have other ideas. This is an ever changing culture for communication of information. One hundred years ago, no one knew what a television was. Since its creation, television has evolved through incredible changes. The pace of change is accelerating. All we know is that Mission Services is committed to continuing the dream of our founders. We will continue disseminating news of the Kingdom. How we will do that is yet unknown. The future is exciting, because God is in full control!

**For more than 65 years,
Mission Services
Association has had
effective communication
at the heart of its mission.**

For much of our history, printing has been a staple of the communication process. Over the recent past, communication via electronic media has increased dramatically. Its efficiencies make it a dominant communication choice. In response to current communication trends, we would like to introduce **the missions network**, an innovative, Internet based communication network.



the missions network serves the communication needs of

- **missionaries,**
- **ministries.**
 - **individuals, and**
 - **congregations**

committed to world evangelism

What is undeniable is the potential **the missions network** has serving the needs of missionaries, ministries, individuals, and congregations. We invite missionaries and ministry leaders to discover how **the missions network** might build upon your existing communication strategy. We invite congregational leaders, ministry team leaders, and all who are committed to world evangelism to use **the missions network** to deepen your understanding of and passion for global ministry. Our vision is for thousands to connect with the information available each month. Only God knows how He wants it to be used.

focus on

Prayer Needs & Praises

Africa

- Please pray for Pete, Fran, & Denzil Laughren (South Africa) as they have made the decision to return to the US and begin a new ministry here.
- Pray for Beth Ramos (PBT-Guinea) as she works in the area of literacy and is in the process of overseeing housing construction for herself and future mission workers in the village.

Asia

- Tom Schneller and Disciple-Makers, Inc. requests our prayers for their trained evangelists ministering across Nepal.
- Give praise and also pray for Lanna Theological Center's graduates who minister among 13 language groups in 3 different countries in Southeast Asia.

Central America

- Bill & Margy Hoff, along with Mark & Joy Hoff (Honduras), give praise for more than 24 students who completed the 2-year leadership training seminar last year.
- The Hoff's also request prayer for continued renovations at the Honduran Bible Institute to make it more suitable for camps.

South Pacific

- PBT-PNG requests prayer as the NT in the Tay language is scheduled to be completed this year, with the Mborena Kam, Waran, and Apal New Testaments following soon after. Pray that God will protect the people and resources involved in finishing these translations.
- Jesse & Karie Pryor (Papua New Guinea) give praise that several of their locally trained teachers have been accepted into the Papuan New Guinea Education Institute. Keep these teachers and their families in prayer as they will not be able to go back home until December.
- Give praise that the Pryor family's work permits have been processed and they will very shortly be headed back to PNG.

Europe

- Rick & Della Deighton (Overseas Outreach) request prayer for more students for all the Christian campuses in Ukraine.
- Pray for the Polish churches as they disciple believers and develop leaders for the next generation.
- Pray for the Polish churches for a deepening desire for ministry accountability among preachers and their church leaders.

Global

- Pray as Good News Productions translates *The Global Gospel Project*, a series of 88 stories on the life of Christ, into the top 25 languages of the world by the year 2015. (To view these, go to www.themissionsnetwork.com)
- Bob & Connie Sheffler give praise for the development of TEE classes in Ethiopia and the Philippines.
- Ask God to bless the efforts of Bob Sheffler, Jaimie Castro, and Josh Neal to start TEE classes in Mexico and Haiti this year.

U.S.

- Freeman & Carolyn Bump request prayer for Iglesia Cristiana del Este, the new Spanish church in El Paso and its continued growth.
- Please pray for the family of Don Dugan (Florida) who passed away May 14th. He and Virginia have been a vital part of His Seed Sowers in Jeremie, Haiti, for many years.

Team Expansion

- Join Dave & Donna Linn (Venezuela) in praying for 120 churches to be started by 2020.
- Pray for Jorge & Diana Lugo (Venezuela) for their marriage, children, and a new location for the church to meet.
- Join Jorge & Sara Navarrete (Venezuela) in asking for God's divine appointments to be used for his glory.
- Join Diana Molina (Venezuela) in praying for healing for her neck and good health that would allow her to return to work among the Warao people.
- Join M & S in praying for language acquisition to continue in the new field in which they are working.
- Pray for D & M as they return to a sensitive field after spending time with family in the US.
- Pray that God would continue to connect Z & M to new ministry partners, both individuals as well as a healthy sending church.

Thank You!

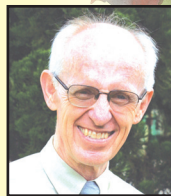
MSA greatly appreciates these individuals who have given to our recent "A New Era of Mission Communication" appeal as of May 20th, 2013. So far a total of \$7,617.40 has been given. Thank you!!! Be watching for a full report on Reggie's 100-mile ride!

Bailey, Rose
 Barnes, Jerry & Laura
 Barnes, M/M Larry R.
 Beam, M/M Rick
 Bragg, M/M J. Maynard
 Brown, Arvill & June
 Cousin, M/M Frank
 Crabtree, E. Richard
 DaSilva, Valdecy & Mirna
 Fellows, Gerry & Carmen
 First CofC, Bluffton, IN
 Gateway CC, Aurora, CO
 Greenamy, Neva
 Grubbs, David & Eva
 Hammond, Larry & Jean
 Hawks, Inez
 Heller, Ronald
 Herbsleb, Darlene
 Holmquist, Gerald & Mary
 Hughes, Warren & Mary Lou
 Huhn, M/M Robert J.
 Hundley, M/M William R.
 Illman, Dr. Dwain C..
 Kelley, D/M W. Ray
 Kendall, Kay
 Keralis, D/M Michael
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 Lowry, M/M Roland D.
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 McSpadden, Jason &
 Stephanie
 Merritt, Harold & Rosalyn
 Meyer, M/M Stephen K.
 Miller, Howard D.
 Nilson, M/M Ole
 North Terrace CofC, Zanes-
 ville, OH

Nott, Alicia
 Ogburn, Jonathan & Susan
 Otto, Steve & Vicki
 Parish, M/M Robert K.
 Pickering, M/M John
 Proctor CofC, MT
 Richardson, M/M Jack
 Rickabaugh, Corinne
 Ridlen, Louise
 Roland, William
 Rosenik, Philip & Judy
 Sandefur, M/M David
 Sandefur, Shirley
 Schaeffer, M/M Conrad
 Sharpe, Georgia A.
 Sharpe, Betty
 Simpson, Edith Jean
 Smith, Roberta S.
 Smith, M/M Gayle
 Smoot, Col/M Charles V.
 Spani, Zella
 Spencer, Edward B.
 Spencer, Forrest
 Spratt, M/M John
 Stafford, Roy & Marlene
 Stiles, Ray & Merelyn
 Stoll, Don
 Stout, Peggy
 Taylor, Clarence R.
 Truman Cof C Women's
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 Trumbull, C. Harrison
 Wanda Church, Eugene, OR
 Weaver, M/M Norman L.
 Weston CofC, Ladies Mis-
 sionary Society, OH
 Wiener, Paul
 Wigton, Charles D.
 Wiley, Colleen
 Williams Lee Roy & Connie
 Woods, Rick & Janice Kidd
 Worrell, M/M Bill
 Yost, M/M Jerry L.

in memory

Kenneth Smyth



Ken Smyth, mis-
 sionary to the Phil-
 ippines, entered his eternal reward
 on April 9, 2013 in Aritao, Philippines
 where he was holding an Inductive
 Bible Study retreat. He died imme-
 diately from a stroke following which
 his heart just stopped. The next
 several days was a whirlwind of activ-
 ity as decisions were made, services
 were planned, and family arrived.

Community services were held
 each evening from Tuesday until
 Friday when Ken's body was moved
 from the home where he had passed
 away to the Aritao church building
 across the street. The funeral on the
 13th of April lasted 3 hours. The next
 day, Saturday, his body was trans-
 ported to Manila where a group from
 Manila Bible Seminary had a short
 program before the cremation. A me-
 morial service followed on April 21st
 in Hong Kong (where we were living).
 We were privileged to have our
 brother in Christ, Wing Wong here to
 preach for this afternoon service.

Ken's wife, Linda, shared these
 words in an e-mail to their Prayer
 Partners: "Besides shock and sadness,
 I felt a sense of relief! It was like,
 WOW! Ken is finished . . . he's won
 the race! I can't say I was excited
 about the finish, but I did have peace
 about it!"

Ken leaves behind his wife, Linda;
 a son, Scott; three daughters, Sara,
 Grace and Priscilla; and his mother,
 Lyla; as well as brothers and sisters.

Cards of condolences my be sent
 to Linda in care of her daughter,
 Priscilla Cushing, 1845 Cedar Street,
 Gering, NE 69341.

in memory

Stephen Ellis Sharpe

December 28, 1956 - April 18, 2013

Steve was born in Atlanta, GA on December 28th, 1956 and soon thereafter his family moved to St. Cloud, FL. He was a 1974 graduate of St. Cloud High School and a 1979 graduate of Johnson Bible College (now Johnson University) located in Knoxville, TN.

From 1979 - 1984 he worked as a nursing home administrator for Community Care Centers of Indiana. In 1984 the family moved to Knoxville, TN where Steve became employed by Mission Services Association, first in the circulation department, then as a small press operator and later as the pre-press technician. He was employed there for 28 years. During this time Steve also worked part time for several years with Rural Metro Fire Department first as a fireman and later as an emergency medical technician. At the time of his death Steve was on permanent disability due to numerous health issues.

Steve was preceded in death by his father, Sidney Howard Sharpe. He is survived by his wife of 32 years Georgia Sharpe; son, Stephen Erik Sharpe and wife Jennifer of Antioch, TN; daughter Monica Sue Sharpe Whitehead and husband Benjamin of Sevierville, TN; grandchildren include Sadie Raine (6), Sophie Grace (4), and Josie Anne Sharpe (3 months); Lilyann Clover (3) and twins Theodore Danger and Lydia Sage Whitehead (7 months); mother Barbara Sharpe of Knoxville, TN; sister, Ruth Lau of Knoxville, TN and several nieces and nephews.

The memorial service was held April 21st at Woodlawn Christian Church, Knoxville, TN with Rev. Charles Beckett and Rev. W. Reggie Hundley, Executive Director of Mission Services, officiating. Graveside service and inurnment were held on April 22nd at Atchley's Memory Gardens in Seymour, TN. Memorial gifts may be sent to Woodlawn Christian Church, 4339 Woodlawn Pike, Knoxville, TN 37920 or Mission Services Association, 2004 East Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917.

Your prayers for the family are greatly appreciated.



Gifts

in memory of

Steve Sharpe

Frank & Alice Baker
Knoxville, TN

M/M Larry Hammond
Seymour, TN

Reggie & Carol Hundley
Knoxville, TN

Steve & Vicki Otto
Seymour, IN

David & Kathy Sandefur
Ellettsville, IN

Shirley Sandefur
Seymour, IN

Betty Sharpe
St. Helena Island, SC

Georgia Sharpe
Seymour, TN

Nellie Weller & family
Seymour, IN

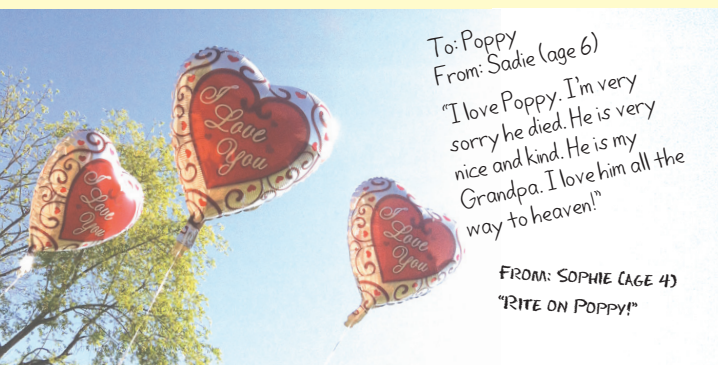
Rick Woods &
Janice Kidd
Knoxville, TN

Gary Elliott

Rick Woods &
Janice Kidd
Knoxville, TN

Charles Ridlen

Louise Ridlen
Morristown, TN



To: Poppy
From: Sadie (age 6)
"I love Poppy. I'm very
sorry he died. He is very
nice and kind. He is my
Grandpa. I love him all the
way to heaven!"

FROM: SOPHIE (AGE 4)
"RITE ON POPPY!"



Address

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