

# A Remembrance of Terry Moore

April 13, 1954 - June 28, 2009



*“Go forth into the busy world and love it. Interest yourself in its life, mingle kindly with its joys and sorrows.”*

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Could there be any better quote to capture the essence of Terry Moore? His legacy is his unfailing positive attitude, his generosity, and his humor. There are as many stories about him as there are people who knew him. People in his neighborhood will point you to the playground that he had built. His church family enjoys a beautiful labyrinth that he initiated and saw to completion. Many people will attest that he was their inspiration and a source of strength. But that most of all he was a good and faithful friend.

Terry was a beloved “uncle” to a great

number of children. There were always kids running in and out of his house, hanging out, snacking on his food and talking to him. He really listened and cared about what they had to say.

For the past fourteen years Terry worked as the Medical Social Worker for the state’s Traumatic Brain Injury Program where he was a tireless advocate for survivors of brain injury and their families. He loved Camp Hickory-Wood and for the tenth anniversary season was named “King of Camp.”

Terry made people feel loved and important. He wanted all the details of your stories. He worked hard but was always ready to laugh. When he was determined to accomplish something you can believe that he would make it happen. He was always available to listen to people’s problems and managed to put them into perspective. But he rarely complained himself. Instead he sought inspiration and shared it with others. On his last day in the office before he left for a routine surgical procedure, he e-mailed the above quote from Emerson and added the following words:

“Are you living your life to its fullest? Life is obviously what we make it and we can choose to feel downtrodden in the negativity of the world or feel joyful in the wonderful blessings that are given us daily. Go for it... make your life the best that it can be and help that to radiate to others.”

Charles Terry Moore was born April 13, 1954 and died on June 28, 2009. For fourteen years, he was my colleague and my friend and I miss him terribly. But I am also grateful that we were able to share a path for all that time. My life is immeasurably richer from having known him.

—Jean Doster, Director, Traumatic Brain Injury Program; TN Dept. of Health