



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“IN MOURNING BANDS™”: CHANGING THE WAY OUR CULTURE MOURNS

May 28, 2005 -- Western culture has no contemporary symbol for mourning after a loved one has died. Yet, grief is as real as love.

In an effort to change the way our culture mourns, the MISS Foundation, in association with the Elisabeth Kubler-Ross Foundation, has designed the "In Mourning Band™", a black wristband intended to serve as an outward symbol of a person who is newly bereaved. They are available for only \$2.00 through the MISS Foundation.

The MISS Foundation, an Arizona-based, international nonprofit organization that helps grieving children and adults after a child's death, has been working to create awareness, supporting the concept of compassionate communities throughout the grief experience. Joanne Cacciatore, MSW, founded the MISS Foundation in 1996, after the death of her baby daughter. Joanne worked closely with Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, world renowned psychiatrist, prolific author, and her friend and mentor. During the course of her work, Joanne authored the acclaimed book "Dear Cheyenne" and often told others that she had five children: four who walk and 'one who soars.' Thus, the foundation is also offering a white "One Who Soars Band™" to represent healing and hope after a death experience, one of the basic tenets of both organizations.

“There is no greater imperative for compassion and empathy- no more profound call to the community for kindness- than when death strikes...death changes us forever,” says Cacciatore. “There needs to be some way to communicate to others, “Be gentle. I am wounded.” The idea behind both bands is to bring families and communities together in support of individuals who have lost a loved one to death. The bands are an outward, visible representation of a person who may be in need of more support and compassion from others.

To find out more information or to order the "In Mourning" and "One Who Soars" Bands™, visit <http://www.inmourningband.org> or contact the MISS Foundation at www.MISSFoundation.org.

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