



Gilbert "Gib" Rannick, Jr.

Our Tribute to "Gib"

March 20, 1965 – April 15, 2010

By Gary W. Spangler

March 20, 1965 was a great day for Riverwood. Actually, this date was 16 years before CCFH began its ministry. But it was the day that Gilbert "Gib" Rannick, Jr. was born.

We began our life with Gib on February 3, 1987. Gib loved life and was a joy to know. He knew how to make you laugh and yet sometimes he would be quiet and to himself. I can tell you he loved the Tennessee Volunteers and Corvettes and held a special place in his heart for Paula. He really loved to read Scripture and on his birthday one month prior to his death, he read from Philippians 4: *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present*

your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

So today, we rejoice in the Lord as always because we had the privilege of knowing Gib. Now he is in a place not built by human hands but with his Lord and Savior. To this we give praise and honor to our Father in heaven and look forward to the day we will begin another great day with Gib; a day of eternity.

Special Olympics 2010 - By Rhonna Sanford

Wednesday, April 28, 2010, Riverwood residents again participated in the annual Spring Special Olympics. Riverwood residents look forward to this day. Everyone was up and ready to go by 7:00 am and the air was filled with excitement. By 8:30 we were on our way.

This year's events generally stayed the same, but we had a new resident, Kim, who was experiencing Special Olympics for the first time and was quite nervous. She was registered for the 400 meter walk. There were people everywhere and hundreds of eyes watching every step. She thought about just staying on the sidelines, but her friends encouraged her to participate. Her name was called to come to the starting line, and you could see the anxious anticipation in her eyes. Participants lined up, the gun fired, and off they went. She began with a slow walk but realized others were walking faster. With that revelation, the "afterburners" kicked in and it was full throttle from that point on. It was a sight to see as she began to pass others and make it to the front. After receiving her gold medal, she wanted to call her cousin, Leisa and share the good news. Leisa was unavailable but Kim left this message, **"I won a gold medal. I did it. Call me."** Later that evening Leisa called me. She was pleased that Kim had won but was more pleased that she had the opportunity to participate. Leisa went on to play that message for the rest of the family and said **"we have a gold medalist in our family."**

This is a lot like life and reminds me of 2 Timothy 4:7. We experience excitement, anxious moments, uncertainty of what's going on around us, and even fear. But we are encouraged by others and head for the finish line. At that point we can say like the Apostle Paul, *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."*

From the President:



The Christian Church Foundation for the Handicapped was chartered in 1983, and since that time we have held strong to the belief that we are called upon by Christ to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19) without prejudice. We are also required to “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves” (Proverbs 31:8).

Throughout the years, we have done great things and enhanced the lives of many people. Now it is time for yet another accomplishment. “Handicap” and “Handicapped” are words commonly used in different venues of life. It may be on the golf course or on a parking lot sign. But to many who have a disability or a family member with a disability, these words promote a negative connotation and cause pain.

Our ministry has always been one of exhibiting and promoting compassion for others and keeping with that focus, we want to remove “Handicapped” from our name. This fall we will change our “business name” to **Christian Churches Disability Ministry** or **CCDM**.

This is a job that will not be an easy task but my father taught me a long time ago to remember these letters, **W W T I N R S**. These letters were an acronym for **Without Work There Is No Real Success**. They were written at the front of his classroom in the 1940s and remain true today. There is no question of success or failure because I know we can do everything through Him who gives us strength (Philippians 4:13).

With that said, I simply ask that you remember us in your prayers as we prepare to make this change and as we seek the Holy Spirit’s guidance. This will lift up our God as we put our compassion into action. I remember an old song that ended with these words.

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

You will receive additional information as we move closer to implementation.

Thank you and God bless you,



Use the National Calendar to Stay Current

Visit <http://www.healthfinder.gov/nho/nho.asp?year=2010> to view the National Health Observances calendar. The calendar targets specific diagnosis as well as general health issues such as obesity. Go to the site for information on available resources.

Stay informed and aware.

Educational Spotlight: *Making the Church Inclusive for Members With Disabilities*

Jackie Mills-Fernald, director of ACCESS Ministry at McLean Bible Church in Vienna, Virginia, and Jim Pierson, *President Emeritus* of CCFH Ministries in Knoxville, Tennessee, agree that serving people with disabilities in the church should not be special. It needs to be approached with the love and concern the Lord has put in the hearts of his followers. When the need arises, meet it—even if a program is not available.

Their interest in meeting the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of people with disabilities has made them friends and colleagues.

They met in Knoxville, Tennessee, and discussed what information they wanted to share about the topic. After a couple of days of talking and taking notes, they divided the topics and wrote; then the two manuscripts were blended. The results are the contents of the booklet, *Making the Church Inclusive for Members with Disabilities*.

Please click the link on our blog page to access a copy of the publication. Visit our website, www.ccfh.org to preview *Exceptional Teaching Online*, our premiere interactive program for training workers. Other resource titles are available in our Online Store.

Thank you for your gifts in memory of and in honor of...

April 1, 2010 to May 31, 2010

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The Servant

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Where You Can Find Us

We hope you will stop by and visit us at the North American Christian Convention in Indianapolis, IN, July 6-9. We will be in **Booth #1337**.

Thank You for Remembering Our Residents on Their Birthdays

June	9	Stacey B.	September	18	Kathy P.
June	26	Frank M.	September	23	Rebecca T.

Cards should be mailed to Riverwood, 1323 Pride Road, Louisville, TN 37777.

Your Generosity is Appreciated

Thank you for considering our ongoing need for donations of paper goods, cleaning supplies, craft materials, and toiletry items for Riverwood.

Some specific requests are: household items such as Tupperware or Rubbermaid products; over the counter meds including Tylenol, Tums, Band-aids; paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, napkins; drinking cups/glasses; cleaning products; eating utensils.

Donations of items are accepted at our office located at Riverwood Christian Community, 3123 Pride Road, Louisville, TN 37777. Please call our office at 865-984-5178 to arrange for a time to deliver your donations.