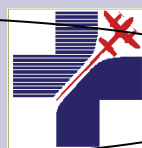


MMA Insider



Quarterly
newsletter of
Mercy
Medical
Airlift

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Partnership Aids Child with Rare Disease

Derrick is only eight, but he has already suffered a lifetime of pain. Afflicted with a rare and highly painful disease called Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS), he has legs of different lengths, capillary and vein malformations, and soft tissue hypertrophy and bone atrophy.



With no known cure and no known cause, the disease baffled Derrick's doctors in northern California to the extent that they refused to perform surgery.

His best hope was Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where he could receive specialized surgery. But travel expenses were prohibitive.

That's when Mercy Medical Airlift (MMA) and US Airways stepped in, providing a charitable round-trip flight for Derrick and his mother, Christine, to Rochester where

the boy underwent a surgical knee procedure called vascular synovitis to relieve his continuous pain.

Since 1996 the two groups have partnered to provide charitable air transportation for patients like Derrick and his mother. US Airways recently renewed its alliance by donating \$50,000 in gift cards to Mercy Medical Airlift to be used to purchase airline tickets for those needing distant, specialized treatment.

Jim Smith, vice president of operations for Mercy Medical Airlift, reports that MMA was able to purchase tickets for 211 flights in the fiscal period from July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008.

"US Airways continues to be the 'champion' in public benefit flying," he said. "For over a decade, US Airways and Mercy Medical Airlift have joined hands to help thousands of families seeking medical treatment but lacking the financial means to get there. US Airways has responded to the need by making it possible for patients to receive life-saving treatment that is available only at distant facilities."

Derrick's surgery was successful, his mother said, but he faces more operations. "He's really good with it all—except for needles," she noted. Christine plans to call on Mercy Medical Airlift and US Airways for future travel needs. "You all have been a great help," she said.

Mercy Medical Airlift Memorial Honor Roll (January–October 2008)

MMA can carry on its important work because of our generous donors, including those who gave through the memorial program. In the following list of memorial donations, gifts are listed under the name of the memorialized individual.

TODD ALGER
Mr. and Mrs. Melvyn Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Corso
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Buranich III
GEORGE BALDWIN

Mr. James May
ANNA MARGARET DAHL
Nathanael Dahl
JASON FLOWERS
Ms. Wanda Broadway

JOSEPH GRAZIANO, JR.
William Cimino
ANNE MATTHEWS HRANICKY
Ms. Katherine Becker
LUCY

Cornerstone Service Intervention
MARIA OSTAPYK
Ms. Sophia Peters
DR. DAVID R. ROSENDALE
Mr. Walt Rosendale

Save Lives by Giving Miles



Edward R. Boyer

Change is coming. I'm not talking politics, I'm talking about plans for this newsletter to switch to an electronic format. Hopefully you can handle email. Expect to hear more from us on this soon.

Sitting on a lot of unused airline frequent flyer miles? My wife had about 83,000 U.S. Airways miles built up over time with her credit card. She filled out the MMA U.S. Airways FF Donation Form last month—and

this month, using her donation, MMA flew three patients for distant specialized medical treatment.

Could you help save a life by donating FF miles? We can use miles from U.S. Airways or United Airlines. To get a donation form, go to www.MercyMedical.org. Click on the "American Legion FF Mile Program" wording on the left side of the home page. Fill out the form and mail it to MMA. Let's do this job together!

Mother Writes That Flight Lessened Stress and Pain

"I wanted to say a huge thank you for the flight provided to us by Mercy Medical Airlift. Our flight from Colorado Springs to Houston was a smooth one. In our previous trip to Texas Children's Hospital, we drove for three days to enable our four-year-old daughter to participate in a clinical trial related to her diagnosis of Angelman Syndrome. Not only was this long drive financially stressful for our family, it further exacerbated the pain our daughter experiences in her leg. This time, as a result of the generous flight provided by MMA, we were able to make the trip in just a few short hours."

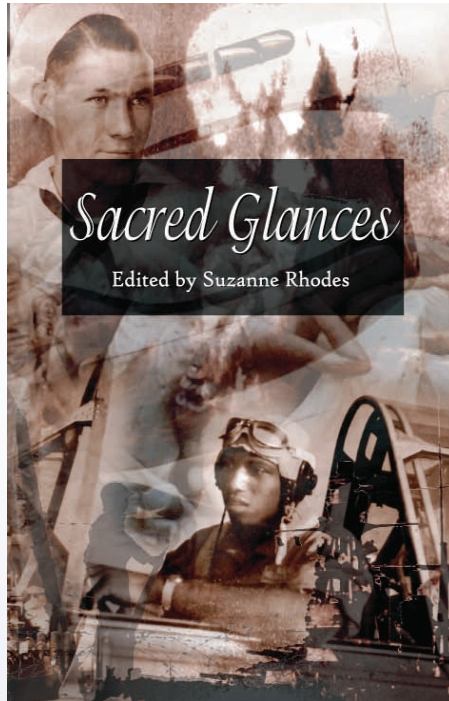
(Editor's Note: This is from a thank-you letter written by Theresa, a mom from Colorado. MMA receives such expressions of gratitude from patients every week.)

Mission Report

Fiscal Year To Date

(July 2008--October 2008)

- Missions Coordinated...1,577
- Missions Completed.....1,458
- Child Missions.....138
- Veteran Missions.....1,144



New Book Gives Fascinating Glimpses

- Stories based on interviews with 42 WWII and Korean War vets living in Hampton Roads
- Rare vintage photos alongside current images of veterans
- Articles by MMA staff, students and volunteers
- A gift to treasure for only \$20 (includes S&H)

"America has learned that each day, some 1,500 veterans of WWII and Korea are leaving us for good. The book provides a platform—if even a small one—for the veterans living among us in Hampton Roads to speak their stories while they are still here."

The words are from the introduction of *Sacred Glances*, a book released in time for the second annual Halos and Heroes, held on October 4 at the privately-owned Virginia



Frank Pogue is one of 42 veterans featured in book.

Beach airport. The event was a fundraiser for Air Compassion for Veterans, a program of Mercy Medical Airlift that promotes the healing of veterans, service members, and their families by providing medical air transportation when the government can't assist.

Ten of the veterans featured in the book told their stories to a captivated audience, including accounts of kamikaze attacks, imprisonment in a Japanese camp, and dangerous missions into enemy territory.

The book, created by MMA's director of public affairs, Suzanne Rhodes, is composed of photos of the veterans then and now, and narratives written by high school students, MMA staff members, and community volunteers who conducted interviews over a six-month period. The idea for the book, which can be obtained for \$20, came from President and CEO Ed Boyer.

To purchase *Sacred Glances*, make your check payable to Mercy Medical Airlift and send it to MMA, 4620 Haygood Rd., Suite 1, Virginia Beach VA 23455.

An Excerpt from Sacred Glances

"As he was out in the water, he kept pinching himself and saying, 'This is all a bad dream. I'm going to wake up here in a minute.' He finally realized that it was actually happening. He was floating in the water covered in thick, black oil, and the *Perry* was sinking."

For information on making a donation or to learn more about MMA, please visit our website: www.mercymedical.org. Phone: (757) 318-9174.

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