

# For One of the Least

During the fall of 1982, a frightened woman took refuge in the woods near the campus of the University of Maryland, gave birth to a baby, and abandoned it. Weeks later, the decomposed body of the child was discovered by police.

When Sherry Frohlich, whose husband is a police officer, heard the body was that of a deserted infant, she was concerned. Learning that under Maryland law an abandoned body could only be released to a relative or friend, she determined to qualify. After clearing legal hurdles and fulfilling requirements of the medical examiner's office, she explained what she and her church, Landover Christian, hoped to do for the child for whom she qualified to receive as a friend.

An interesting scenario followed. The Frohlichs named the child Terry Lynn Frohlich, which would fit either gender. A burial plot was selected. A funeral home contributed its facilities and services, including the casket, without charge. Individuals bought an appropriate headstone.



Pastor Joe Jones of the Landover Church conducted the service. He concluded the worship with these words: "One day I think we'll meet with the child. I think Terry Lynn will thank us for being here today and will be grateful that we cared."

This moving story of Christian concern brings into sharp focus the powerful words of Jesus: "As you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

In the work that we are called to do in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, those to whom we minister may suffer all sorts of physical affliction and varying degrees of loss of memory. And as Pastor Jones reminded, one day, when we all have new bodies, we will meet with them and they will thank us for what we did, and they will be grateful that we cared.

– Beecher Hunter