

From Beyond the Grave

How valuable would it be if a loved one could speak to you from beyond the grave? What message would he or she deliver? How would it be received? Most likely, the words would have a powerful impact upon those closest to the deceased.

In a very real sense, that has happened to a Life Care associate and her family.

On July 12, 2005, Wayne Hall, a former Life Care associate who had worked with the Media Resource Group and then in Corporate and Community Relations at our offices in Cleveland, died at the age of 41 from an aneurysm in the brain. He left behind a wife, Susan, and three daughters: Lindsey, 15, Logan, 9, and Laura, 3. Susan is a receptionist for Life Care, and hers is one of the voices callers to the corporate office will hear.

Recently, as she was going through some of Wayne's effects, Susan opened the personal calendar that he carried. On the inside cover, Wayne had handwritten:

Enlarging My Vision

I'm going to do something great.

I'm going to excel in my career.

I'm going to enthusiastically serve other people.

I'm going to break out of this mold and rise to new heights.

At the conclusion, Wayne noted Ephesians 4:23: *And be renewed in the spirit of your mind.*

Susan, when she read the words, responded: "Wow! To think what he was already thinking." In that vein, Wayne's words seemed prophetic about what lay shortly into the future for him.

But in another light, Susan believes his words transcended his earthly life, bringing hope and encouragement to his wife and daughters. They become principles to live by – the foundation upon which short-term and long-range goals can be planned.

But more than inspiration for them, Wayne's notes challenge us all to reach beyond the routine and the mediocre, and to be all that God plans for us to become.

--Beecher Hunter