



## Transition of Our Beloved Second-Generation Brother, Christopher Mackin

Joshua Cotter  
July 13, 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our precious second-generation brother, Christopher Arlen Mackin, passed away on Sunday, July 8, 2012 in Milford, Connecticut. He is the beloved son of Thomas and Eva Mackin and lived a wonderful life filled with a deep love for nature, his parents and his family.

Let us support Chris's family during this important time and pray for his victorious transition to a glorious new life in the spiritual world.

Following is a biography from his pastor, Rev. Richard Buessing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Cotter".

Rev. Joshua Cotter  
Executive Vice President  
HSA-UWC USA

### Victorious Life of Christopher Arlen Mackin



Christopher (Chris) Arlen Mackin was the first son born to Thomas and Eva Mackin on April 14, 1985 at 1:45 am in Bangkok, Thailand. His first name means "Christ-bearer" and his middle name "Pledge". His mother, Eva, was a missionary in Thailand for 15 years and his father, Thomas, for seven years. Tom worked directly with IRFF providing assistance to Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. In addition to his parents, Chris is survived by one older sister, Rebecca, one younger sister, Jessica, and one younger brother, Patrick.

Chris and his two sisters born in Thailand spoke the Thai language fluently. When the Mackin family moved to the USA in 1990, it was difficult for five year-old Chris to adapt to the new environment due to the different culture, climate, and language. Chris was however able to persevere and master the English language in a short period of time.

Chris attended kindergarten and the first grade in Streamwood, Illinois. In 1992, the entire family moved to Connecticut, where his paternal grandmother Joan lived. This allowed them to be close during a time when her health was failing. Chris attended elementary school in Redding, Connecticut and Ridgefield,

Connecticut, each for two years. In 1996, the Mackins purchased a home in Milford where the family still resides. Chris studied at Harborside Middle School and Jonathan Law High School. He also attended Bridgeport International Academy and the regional Aquaculture School in Bridgeport.

During his elementary and middle school years, Chris attended Sunday School regularly. He also went to several church-sponsored summer workshops in Illinois, New York, and New Hampshire. When he was in high school, Chris participated in Service for Peace, a program that involves young people with their community. In 1999, Chris attended a 40-Day Workshop in Jardim, Brazil, with his mother and siblings. In 2004, he took part in True Parents' 44th Holy Wedding Anniversary Striped Bass Fishing Tournament. His team took home second place!

After high school graduation, Chris held jobs at restaurants, retail stores, car dealerships and landscaping businesses. At different times, he contemplated working in the fishing industry or becoming a chef, but his dreams did not manifest.

Chris always loved to be outdoors. He played baseball and basketball. He was a Cub Scout and Boy Scout for many years. His favorite activity was fishing. He would go to rivers, lakes, and the ocean and spent many hours fishing. Many were the times when small Christopher would return with a huge bluefish or striped sea bass only to have his mother exclaim, "Christopher! What am I supposed to do with this giant fish!" Yet, more often than not, Chris would release the fish he had caught. He loved plants, animals and all living things. Whenever one of the family pets died, Chris shed genuine tears. It did not matter if it was a cat, rabbit, iguana or butterfly, Chris always made sure that the plants were watered and the pets were fed.

In June of 2011, Chris was diagnosed with stage-four pancreatic cancer. Based on the severity and aggressive nature of his illness, the doctor said he should only expect to survive for another year. Since the prognosis, Chris spent much time with his parents, siblings and numerous activities. Christopher never complained about his pain or prognosis and constantly conveyed an upbeat attitude with those around him.

In May 2012, Chris wrote the following words to his mother, which reflects his sincere heart:

"Mama,

I want to wish you a happy Mother's Day! You are the best mother I could ever ask for. It has been real tough for me these past months and you are always there for me. It means a lot to me even though I am not the best in putting my emotions into words. There are so many parents that would have had enough of my actions and would have kicked me out and kept me out. Anyway, I just wanted to let you know that I love you very much and that love for you is forever.

Love, your son, Chris."

Family and friends may call on Friday, July 13, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 Broad Street, On the Green, Milford, CT, to spend some time with Chris' body and his family. Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home or brought in person.

The Gwihwan Ceremony (wake) for Chris will be on Saturday, July 14, at 9:00 am at the Cody-White Funeral Home.

The Sunghwa Ceremony starts at 10:00 am. Immediately after that follows the Wonjeon Ceremony at the King's Highway Cemetery on Cherry Street in Milford.

There will follow a reception for family and close friends at The Bridge House, 49 Bridgeport Avenue, Milford.

To support the Mackin family at this time you may send checks and cards to Tom and Eva Mackin, 26 Eddy Street, Milford, CT, 06460.