

September 29, 2014

Dear Indy Aquatic Masters Swim Team,

It has been on my mind for the last three months to thank you all for your generous and kind support of the Verbal Behavior Center for Autism in memory of my husband, Chris Clarke. I have simply been overwhelmed with all the love that I have felt from this extraordinary organization that Chris was so proud to be a part of. As you all know, Chris and myself founded the school eleven years ago, with Chris being responsible for steering the non-profit himself for the last several years as CEO and President. Since June, I have again become more involved with the VBCA and have seen first hand what a great job he did and why he remained so dedicated.

Indy Aquatic Masters was by far the most generous supporter of the VBCA through proceeds from the memorial fund set up for Chris. I initially felt so much concern and love from fellow swimmers on June 22nd when I entered the waiting room at the hospital that day and found it packed with friends, some who's hair was still wet. Although it has taken me this long to express my gratitude in words, I hope Mel, Ben, and all the members know how much I appreciate all the extraordinary support you have given. Chris talked about so many of you all the time and was so motivated to go to each practice. He planned many of his days around the IAM schedules and would have all the workouts and locations printed out for the week ahead. I hope you all continue on with that excitement.

I am also attaching a picture of myself, John Duffin, and Breanne Hartley at the VBCA. John and I are on the new Board and Breanne is the Executive Director of the school. We are standing by the front door and I have the new key fob in my hand that goes with the security system we were able to install with the memorial proceeds. The new system is easier to use and much more secure than the old one for the student's safety.

Thank-you all again for all the love that has come our way and for supporting the Center. Chris was extremely proud to have known you all.

Jane Clarke