



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL COMMUNITY TAKES TIME TO REMEMBER

Give Thanks. Give Life. ...

Ronda, N.C. – On Saturday, July 24, 2010, Kevin Reece will host a celebration of the life of Derie Reece, his wife who became an organ donor May 26, 2010. Friends, family and neighbors will gather from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. at Ronda Town Hall in Ronda, NC, to hear how her generous organ donation saved a number of lives.

Mr. Reece remembers his shock, anger, and complete helplessness when doctors gave him the devastating news that Mrs. Reece had not survived a brain hemorrhage. A representative from Carolina Donor Services inquired about Mrs. Reece's wishes to be an organ donor. Mr. Reece recalled their discussion about his wife's uncle who died while waiting for a lung transplant and the deep care Derie had for her community and how her desire was to bring everyone in the community together. Derie always said, "A community working together could accomplish anything." He immediately conveyed her wishes to donate organs.

Mr. Reece will share his wife's story and strive to educate others about the importance of life- saving organ, eye and tissue donation. Friends and relatives of Mrs. Reece will share stories of her generous and loving life. Without their "Star Quarterback" the most important thing Mr. Reece wants people to understand and do is take the steps to insure that their family knows your wishes about donation. Kevin believes that we all should follow the three steps:

1. Indicate your wishes to becoming a donor on your driver's license
2. Register on-line at www.donatelifenc.org
3. Share your wishes with your family

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Beth Hinesley of Carolina Donor Services will distribute information about over 3,000 North Carolinians who are on a waiting list for transplants. She will provide opportunities for enrollment on the state registry and explain the legal significance of the heart symbol on the driver's license. "Mrs. Hinesley believes that through education and talking to your family about becoming a donor can save many lives."

The public is invited to attend this informative celebration of the life of Mrs. Derie Reece.

About Carolina Donor Services

Carolina Donor Services is the federally-designated, non-profit organ and tissue donation organization serving 6.8 million people in 78 counties of North Carolina and Danville, Virginia. Carolina Donor Services maximizes the passing of the heroic gift of life from one human being to another through organ and tissue donation. In North Carolina, over 3,300 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant, and nationally, over 108,000 people are on the organ waiting list. For more information, visit www.carolinadonorservices.org; call 1-800-200-2672.

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