



Life Saver Ministries  
83 Middlesex Street  
N. Chelmsford, MA 01863  
(978) 251-8191

February 2019

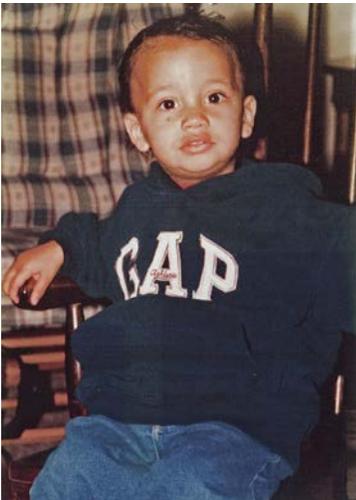
Dear Life Savers,

A few weeks ago, Cathie and I attended the celebration of life service for Carl Potter. Carl and his wife Louise, along with their daughter Angelica, were our first house family. We could not have opened My Father's House without them. Carl was a wonderful man. He will be missed.

At the service, Sheila, one of our first residents, was there with her children. Sheila's family and Carl and Louise's family have been close all these years. Seeing Louise, Angelica, Sheila and especially Sheila's son Al, who lived at My Father's House, brought back so many memories. It prompted me to dig out a newsletter from way back then. Here it is.

May 1999

Watching the children at My Father's House grow and learn is as fascinating as it is enjoyable. They easily grasp some concepts at a very young age. Other things require a lot of repetition. Let me use Hurricane Al as an example. Al turns two this week.



The Hurricane and I are working on identifying colors. Actually, I'm pretty good at colors – I can usually get at least seven out of ten. I'm just helping Al. As part of his morning routine, Al visits me in the office before he heads off to daycare. During these visits, I point to things and ask what color they are. A typical visit goes something like this.

"Hi, Al. How's it going?" *"Up."* "Okay, climb on up here, buddy. Let's see how you're doing with your colors. What color is this piece of paper?" *"Lellow"* (No matter what I point to, Al's first guess is almost always "lellow," so I usually point to something yellow first.) "That's right, Al. That's excellent. You must have been practicing.

"How about your shirt? What color is your shirt?" *"Lellow."* "No, buddy. The paper is yellow. Your shirt is blue." *"Bue!"* "Very good, Al. Yellow paper, blue shirt. What color is my shirt?" *"Lellow!"* Tickling him, I say, "Yellow? That's not yellow. That's green. Green, Al, greeeeeen." I'll point to everything again and say, "Yelllllllow, bluuuuuue, greeeeeen."

"Geen." "That's right, green. Let's try my pants. What color are my pants?" *"Geen!"* "Green? Al, my pants can't be green. My shirt is green, and my pants are a different color. See, my pants are the same color as your shirt. What color is your shirt?" *"Lellow!"* "Al, I think we need to work on this some more, but scoot now, Mommy's calling you."

While the Hurricane hasn't quite mastered colors, there is a concept that he has mastered quite well. I'll give you an illustration. The other day, Al's mother, Sheila, gave Al some M&Ms. Of course the first thing Al did was drop a couple on the floor. Sheila said, "Pick them up, and put them in the trash, Al." Al very quickly scooped one up and popped it in his mouth. His mother said, "No, Al. The ones on the floor are dirty. Pick the other one up, and put it in the trash." Al very dutifully picked up the piece of candy, and walked the ten feet to the trash can. From where she stood, Sheila couldn't see what Al did next, but I had a clear view from another

angle. As he reached the trash can, and with his back to his mother, the Hurricane popped the "dirty" M&M into his mouth. Then in one motion, he lifted the lid of the trash can, let it close, turned to face his mom, and with a big grin on his face, showed her his empty hand.

As I said, these little guys grasp some concepts quickly and easily, while others take a lot of time and patience. The same is true for all of us, isn't it? I'm good with numbers and pick up math concepts pretty quickly. On the other hand, even though music is very mathematical, music is Greek to me. (And believe me, foreign languages are all Greek to me.)

More important than math or music (or Greek) is God's love for us. This is a concept that is difficult for the girls at My Father's house to understand. They quickly learn the practical skills of keeping the house clean and safe, and basic baby care; but accepting God's love is much harder for them. As hard as we try to show them God's love, and as patient as we try to be (which admittedly sometimes isn't very patient), it is difficult for them to believe that God really loves them. Maybe, because some of our girls have never experienced the unconditional love of a father, they can't relate to our Father's unconditional love. Maybe, because some of our girls have been rejected by their families and by the fathers of their babies, they can't believe that God hasn't rejected them as well. Maybe it's just that no one has ever told them that God loves them, and that He has a wonderful plan for their lives. One of the first Bible verses we give to every young lady is Jeremiah 29: 11, *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Telling them of God's love is easy. Helping them understand and believe it is the hard part.

You play a very important role in helping our girls understand and accept God's love. Once they discover that the government does not supply the funds to operate My Father's House, they ask why people who don't even know them would give their money to give them a place to live. Every time we have an orientation for volunteers, girls peek into the room to see who these people are that are willing to give of themselves to spend time with them. What wonderful opportunities this gives us to tell these young mothers that all of us, donors, volunteers, and staff, are reaching out to them because God reached out to us. We are only conduits of God's love. It is their Father who loves them so much that He has touched our hearts with a love for them. Our desire to help them reach their full potential is merely a weak reflection of God's enormous love for them. Thank you for the indispensable part you play in God's plan for their lives.

## **Comedy Show** **BIG LAUGHS** **FOR** **LITTLE LIVES**

Join us for a Laugh Filled Night featuring  
**Dan Boulger**



Dan is a winner of the Boston Comedy Festival and has appeared on Comedy Central and The BBC and has made multiple appearances on The Late Show and Comics Unleashed.

and some of the funniest comics in the area.

### **Friday, March 22**

**Chelmsford Elks**  
300 Littleton Rd  
Route 110  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

Refreshments – 7:00 P.M.  
Show Starts – 8:00 P.M.  
Cash Bar  
Admission: \$30 per person

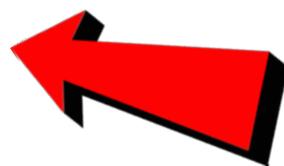
Scan for Tickets



For Tickets: [mfhouse.bpt.me](http://mfhouse.bpt.me)

In His service,

*Kevin*  
Kevin Coffey



**Don't**  
**Miss It**