



**Christopher Quackenbush '75
(1957 – 2001)**

Chris graduated from Bay Shore High School in 1975 and carried on a family tradition by attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He graduated with honors from UNC, received his law degree from New York University Law School in 1982, practiced law for several years with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, and then became a founding partner of the investment banking firm, Sandler O'Neill & Partners.

Success and happiness hallmarked his life. Chris married his high school sweetheart, Traci Strine, in 1984. Their first child, Whitney, was born in 1990, followed by son C. J. in 1992, and daughter Kelsey in 1995.

Known for his big smile, warm heart, and generous spirit, Chris believed in sharing his good fortune. He felt it was an obligation as well as a privilege to be able to help people in need. While Chris and his family lived in Manhasset, he always had a soft spot for his hometown of Bay Shore. Chris once spearheaded an effort to convert a house in Bay Shore into affordable low-income apartments, and took joy in sponsoring a Christmas party for needy children in the district.

In 1995, he helped set up the Jacob Marley Foundation to fund education, literary, and religious programs for underprivileged children. In Bay Shore, the foundation has funded an annual summer camp, college scholarships, and trips to see theater shows in New York City. Chris even sponsored a trip for over 600 Bay Shore and Manhasset students to see a Mets baseball game.

Chris touched so many lives. Young students, underprivileged children, the mentally ill, the hungry and the hopeless all benefited from Chris' dedication to giving back to society. One of his business partners recalled something that Chris once said and which defines him: "I've made money, lost money, and given money away, but the most rewarding has been giving it away".

Chris lost his life on September 11, 2001, in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. His good deeds will continue through the Jacob Marley Foundation and his memory will live forever in our hearts.