

## THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

This is the true story of how the Artisans Dining Club helped someone with their tuition to become a nurse and how she in turn reached out to help a family during their time of need.

On the weekend of December 18, 2010 the parents of a nine month old infant girl were told that there was nothing more the hospital could do and they should prepare themselves as their little girl was going to be taken off life support. The parents took personal effects such as a stroller and some toys they kept in the little girl's room as they somehow prepared themselves for this unthinkable event. On Monday, December 20, 2010 the little girl lost her struggle with life and passed away in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The Nurse in charge of this patient that weekend, Nicole Lee, was responsible for washing and dressing the child, then taking the remains to the Hospital Morgue to await a funeral. Nicole came to find out that the parents were poor and could not afford a proper burial for the child, they hardly had enough money for a cremation, which they did not want for their little girl. Consequently, they were extremely upset at the fact that they could not afford a proper burial for their angel who had just passed away.

She related that truly sad turn of events to her parents and they told her to have someone at the hospital call them, because they wanted to find a way to give these heartbroken parents what they wanted most in their time of great sorrow and need, especially during this Holiday Season.

The hospital called her Step-Father and after arrangements had been made with a Funeral Director, he contacted the Board of Directors of the Artisans to pay for the balance of the funeral. None of which hesitated to help this family.

Another amazing aspect of this story is that the Funeral Director reduced his costs by more than \$3,800.00, two funds were tapped from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Artisans picked up the balance. When all was paid, personal donations started coming in from Board Members, other members, Assemblies and Associations. Everyone wanted to give a little, to help, because of this heartfelt action started by Nicole Lee, RN.

*It turns out that the Artisans started partnering with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 1921. We used a gala Ball to raise money when the hospital dedicated their social center. Men of the Artisans Dining Club and their wives were hosts to over a thousand children on two afternoons. Entertainment was supplied, with gifts and candy to each child.*