



13 years after doctors at his birth had predicted Mattie wouldn't make it even a day, he used his light to inspire the millions who saw him on my show. When you lose a loved one, you gain an angel. That is how all those who knew this brave, ebullient and wise boy will remember him.

- Oprah Winfrey, Eulogy for Mattie, June 28, 2004

INFORMATION FOR SWIMMERS & GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

This is an opportunity to share in the spirit of peace and hopefulness that Mattie J.T. Stepanek (1990-2004) so graciously and bravely encouraged. Despite suffering from the debilitating symptoms of a severe form of muscular dystrophy, Mattie's strength and spirit enabled him to positively affect the lives of anyone who reads his touching "Heartsongs." Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the installation and dedication of a statue of Mattie and his service dog, Micah, at the 26-acre Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park at King Farm in Rockville, MD. Additional funds are also needed to expand the handicapped accessibility of the park.

The event will take place on June 14, 2009 at the Rockville Municipal Swim Center, 355 Martins Lane, Rockville, MD, from 8 - 10 a.m. The "back" parking lot and gate will be used to enter & exit the pool area.

This registration form due by June 10, 2009. Swimmers are responsible for obtaining & collecting sponsorships for this two-hour swimming marathon event on the downloadable sponsorship form. **Sponsorship form(s) and collected funds are to be turned to your MCSL team "Heartsong Representative" if you are an MCSL swimmer. If not affiliated with an MCSL team, mail to Mattie's Heartsong Swim 402 King Farm Blvd., Suite 125, Rockville, MD 20850-5899 or e-mail info@MattiesHeartsongSwim.org if you want to arrange an in-person dropoff. The Target Sponsorship Goal for each swimmer is \$50, but all swimmers are welcome.**

An adult must accompany swimmers under age 18 and remain on pool deck for the duration of the Heartsong Swim! Food and drink will be provided, and each swimmer will receive a commemorative souvenir for participating. Additional information about Mattie's Heartsong Swim is available at www.heartsongswim.org.

Cut along line & return lower portion of registration sheet with your completed sponsorship form(s)

Swimmer's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Emergency Contact Person & phone number (s): _____

MCSL or other Swim Team/League (if applicable): _____

Release & Indemnification: By electing to participate in *Mattie's Heartsong Swim* sponsored by the King Farm Swim Team, Inc. and the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation, Inc., I agree to instruct and ensure that my child follows the rules and regulations of the pool and the directions of the lifeguard staff on duty and the volunteer organizational staff. I further realize & acknowledge the risks involved with my child participating in this event. I acknowledge and agree that the King Farm Swim Team, Inc. and the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation, Inc. shall not be liable and I shall indemnify and hold the King Farm Swim Team, Inc. and the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation, Inc. harmless for any claims, demands, injuries, damages, actions or causes of action whatsoever to me, my property, my child's person, or my child's property arising out of, because of, or connecting with the participation in *Mattie's Heartsong Swim*. I understand that I am indemnifying the King Farm Swim Team, Inc. and the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation, Inc. as stated above and that the indemnification is a condition of my child participating in this event. I certify that I have read & understand all of the foregoing and intend to be legally bound by the provisions obtained herein.

Parent or Guardian Signature and Date: _____

Printed Name: _____