

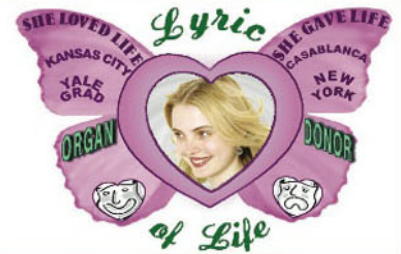
## LYRIC of LIFE

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# LOL

September 2007 • Lyric of Life • Issue 6  
Terry Benson / LOL Director / Father



## “Finding Lyric” Draws Emotions

Most of the evening was spent with fun lip-sync performances and loud, memorable music for every dance style. But in the first part of the fourth annual LOL benefit at the Uptown Theater, there was an attentive hush during a film that spanned Lyric Marie Benson's life.

It helped everyone's quest for "Finding Lyric," the name of Ray Doran's compelling documentary. Even family members and those who knew Lyric could find something new about her in this 45-minute version. Doran's video interviews with family, friends, agents, professors, and associates gave insight into a beautiful life that had unlimited potential. The sadness of a life cut tragically short could only be tempered somewhat by Lyric's gifts of life, her organ donation.



Amanda Davis, Ray Doran, Sarah Janicke, Ann Spitz

### Pretend Singers Entertain!

It's almost impossible to not be amused in some fashion when the lip-sync "stars" take the stage. The bar was set pretty high when Ray Doran opened the show with a stirring rendition of Michael Jackson's "Billy Jean." His costume, makeup, and dance flurry brought Michael to life.

Other performances included: Wynne Mihura and Al Boan (*I Will Survive*), David and Emma Welch (*Diva Mega Mix*), Amanda Davis, Sarah Janicke, and Ann Spitz (*Respect*), Joan Hartung (*Money and Tootsee Roll*), Lisa Trainer, Jane Carter, and Terry Benson (*Momma, He's Crazy*), Loretta Davis, Lowell Davis, Randy Davis, and Mark Scrivner (*Piece of My Heart and Me and Bobby McGee*), Terry Benson, Lisa Trainer, Al Boan, Mike May, and Erica Sherman (*Copacabana*).

Providing the tunes for lip-sync and dancing was the dapper and dynamic D.J. Brian Cooper. The professional sound system of the tuxedo-donned Cooper kept everybody moving throughout the night. Cooper also wowed the audience with his first attempt at video music.

### In Memoriam

The emotional difficulty of dealing with a death can often be devastating. LOL has stepped in recently to help the families of the following deceased loved ones. Each was an organ donor and processed through Midwest Transplant Network.

Graeyling Bradley, 51,  
aneurysm, 3-15-07

Eddie Joe Washington,  
49, head trauma from car  
accident, 3-28-07

Alexander Kruger, 21,  
anoxic brain injury, 5-6-07

Sadie Beerbower, 58,  
asphyxia, 7-2-07

Hope Rhodes, 45, head  
injury, 7-12-07

### Kate King Earns LOL College Help

Attending the April LOL benefit was the fourth LOL Theater Scholarship recipient, Kate King. She was president of Turner High School's thespian club and will be attending Kansas City Kansas Community College with an emphasis in theater. Ken Church was Kate's theater instructor.



To receive a DVD of *Finding Lyric*,  
Send request w / \$15 plus \$2 postage to

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This picture is part of a plaque that will be unveiled to commemorate Lyric on her birthday, September 20, at the New York Organ Donor Network. Lyric died in NYC. ♥

Lisa and Jane as the Juggs



# Schott . . . From the Heart



Marty

HIGH-PROFILE INDIVIDUALS INTERACT WITH THE LOWER-STATUS EVERY DAY. THOSE CONTACTS MAY NOT ALWAYS PRODUCE STORYLINES. I WAS QUITE SURPRISED WHEN MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER INTERRUPTED ME. I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.

IT BEGAN ON A VERY COLD MID-WEEK MORNING IN FEBRUARY, 1990. LYRIC WAS NINE YEARS OLD, AND THERE WERE INEXPENSIVE FLIGHTS ADVERTISED TO CHICAGO FROM KANSAS CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. LYRIC ALSO REMINDED ME THAT SHE HAD NEVER FLOWN, AS IF SHE WERE LACKING IN "AIR TRAVEL DEVELOPMENT" FOR HER TENDER AGE GROUP. BUT I AGREED IT WOULD BE A FUN COUPLE OF DAYS FOR THE TWO OF US.



Lyric in Chicago

AFTER THE PLANE WAS DEICED FROM THE FREEZING RAIN, WE WERE ON OUR WAY. PAM WEIR, A COLLEGE FRIEND FROM PITTSBURG STATE (KS), WAS NICE ENOUGH TO MEET US AT MIDWAY AIRPORT TO SHOW US AROUND THE FIRST DAY. AMONG OUR STOPS WERE THE SHEDD AQUARIUM, MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY, HARD ROCK CAFE, AND ROCK'N'ROLL MCDONALD'S. THE BRIEF TRIP WAS SOMEWHAT SLOWED BY COLD, SNOWY WEATHER, BUT ENJOYABLE NONE-THE-LESS.

AFTER THE SECOND NIGHT, LYRIC AND I WERE READY TO HEAD BACK TO K.C. PAM CAME TO THE AIRPORT TO SEE US OFF. WE WERE IN A VERY UNCROWDED PART OF THE AIRPORT WHEN I SPOTTED SCHOTTENHEIMER (THEN K.C. CHIEFS HEAD COACH) AND CARL PETERSON (STILL GENERAL MANAGER/PRESIDENT OF THE CHIEFS). I'M NOT ONE TO MAKE A FUSS ABOUT NOTICING HIGH-PROFILE PEOPLE IN PUBLIC, BUT NOBODY ELSE WAS AROUND THEM. I DECIDED TO WALK OVER WITH LYRIC JUST TO SAY HI.

SCHOTTENHEIMER AND PETERSON WERE BOTH VERY APPROACHABLE. I INTRODUCED THEM TO LYRIC, HAD A BRIEF EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES, AND THAT WAS ABOUT IT. I THINK I WANTED THEM TO MEET LYRIC MORE THAN ANYTHING. I WAS VERY PROUD OF HER. SHE COULDN'T HAVE CARED LESS ABOUT BEING INVOLVED, BUT SHE WAS ALWAYS SO GRACIOUS, EVEN WHEN SITUATIONS MAY HAVE BEEN MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. WHEN WE RETURNED TO OUR SEATS, LYRIC LOOKED AT PAM AND SAID, "THAT'S MY DAD. YOU GOTTA LOVE HIM."

A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER, I WAS AT A RESTAURANT IN THE K.C. AREA TO MEET SOME FRIENDS. IN THAT GROUP OF PEOPLE WAS SOMEONE I THOUGHT LOOKED LIKE PAUL SPLITTORFF. AS IT TURNED OUT, IT WAS SCHOTTENHEIMER. I APPROACHED HIM AND SAID:

"HI. I'M TERRY BENSON. A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, I SAW YOU AND CARL PETERSON AT MIDWAY AIRPORT AND I INTRODUCED YOU TO MY DAUGHTER...."

HE CUT ME OFF IN MID-SENTENCE AND SAID, "LYRIC."

I WAS STUNNED. A LUMP FORMED IN MY THROAT. **HOW** DID HE REMEMBER? **WHY** DID HE REMEMBER? SCHOTTENHEIMER MADE QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON ME THAT NIGHT . . . NOT UNLIKE THE ONE LYRIC APPARENTLY MADE ON HIM.

## \$\$ LOL Contributions Improving in Fourth Year \$\$

To date, 37 individuals / families have been assisted by LYRIC of LIFE since the middle of 2004. During that time, LOL has received over \$60,000; \$20,000 of that in the first half of 2007, the best year so far. Though LOL derives virtually all of its funds from individuals, a couple of corporate contributors also made their mark this campaign. Midwest Transplant Network, after considering what LOL had accomplished in three years, voted to donate \$5,000. Comedy Partners, parent company of "Comedy Central," sent \$1,000. Lyric had a small role in a sketch for the Dave Chappelle Show on Comedy Central.



Jean and Roger Davis

Family and friends were among the most generous individuals in 2007 as "Grand Contributors." Roger and Jean Davis, Lyric's maternal grandparents, allowed their financial support to assist in raising the amount for the LOL Theater Scholarship. Jeanie Bond sponsored a highway LOL billboard to help raise awareness for organ donation. Randy and Sheila Davis contributed

generously in honor of their friend, Jeanne Glidewell, who fought diabetes for 20 years before being transplanted April 24, 2006. Ironically, Lyric was shot April 24, three years earlier.



Lip-sync Visuals: Tootsie Roll; Joan; Michael Jackson Ray; Janice Joplin w/ Big Bro & Holding Co.--- Mark, Loretta, Randy, and Lowell.



**Recipients Overcome Tough Times** --- Sybil Frost (pictured left) is an example of an optimistic and hard-working person. At 34 and 4'6", Sybil has had a donor kidney for 14 years, yet she now owns a home and has trained to be an EMT. Insurance and medication necessities sometimes slow a recipient's progress. LOL helped in that capacity for Sybil. Other kidney recipients assisted by LOL since February are Charlene Slaughter, Raymon Brewer, Jerry Freeman, Michael Lawrence, Sandy Helm, Rhonda Reyes, Mark Hicks, and Deborah Steele. LOL covered Goldie Shepard's dental prep for a hopeful liver transplant.