

For Immediate Release

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S.I.D.S. Foundation Pool Tournament



L to R: Steve Tracy – 1st Place; Chris McCurly – 2nd Place; Churk Fordyce – 3rd Place; Bryce May – 4th Place; Mike Williams – 5th Place & Rocky Ford – 5th Place.

The 1st Annual Nathan Michael King SIDS Foundation Pool & Poker Tournament was held Sunday, May 31st at the Lakewoods Viking Club in Milan. Nathan Michael King was the 3 ½ month old son of Bradley & Laura King of Bryan TX and grandson of Cheryl King of Galt. Nathan died unexpectedly on Thursday, November 13, 2008 while at daycare. After an autopsy and an extensive investigation, Nathan's death was ruled as SIDS.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome is the sudden, unexplained death of a perfectly healthy child under the age of 1 year and is the leading cause of death in infant's age 1 month to 1 year.

The tournament was a benefit to raise money to be earmarked for this area to assist with SIDS research, to further SIDS awareness and provide financial assistance to parents for

grief counseling, funeral, burial, and monument expenses after the loss of a child to SIDS.

At the beginning of the event, Cheryl King spoke briefly regarding her affiliation to this community and her family including the timeline of November 13th. Brad followed by speaking more in depth about the events of that tragic day, tips for reducing the risk of SIDS, and the mission of the NMK SIDS Foundation. “Forty-eight minutes after the 911 call, a doctor came to us, advised us they were stopping CPR and within a blink of an eye our lives were changed forever,” explained Brad, “but we knew there had to be a plan God had for this. We have found it in honoring our son through the work of this Foundation by spreading awareness in an attempt to reduce the risk of infant mortality due to SIDS.” Brad spoke of the importance of placing children on their backs to sleep, relinquishing smoking during pregnancy, keeping infants away from second hand smoke, removing soft items and objects from the crib when a baby goes to sleep and avoiding overheating your baby with too much clothing. Brad mentions that, “We wanted to be able to do something different than other Foundations by being a financial resource for parents so that they can concentrate on the grieving process and not be burdened with expenses surrounding a death from SIDS.” A video was shown with pictures and video clips of Nathan’s life before turning the event over to Mike Williams, the tournament coordinator.

A Calcutta Pool tournament started around 4:30 p.m. and a 64 person bracket was used due to the large number of entries. Throughout the afternoon and evening, there were raffles for numerous “pool” related items and silent auctions were held on many items.

Texas Hold’Em Poker was held with trophies awarded to Cheryl Hoover-1st Place; Tiffany Weaver-2nd Place and Donnie Dunlap-3rd Place for the afternoon session and Tiffany Weaver-1st Place; Steve Tracy-2nd Place and Donnie Dunlap-3rd Place for the evening session.

The Pool Tournament ended with Steve Tracy winning Championship 1st Place; Chris McCurly-2nd Place; Chuck Fordyce-3rd Place; Bryce May-4th Place; Mike Williams-5th Place and Rocky Ford, also placing 5th.

A plaque was presented to Rick & Jody Hanen by the NNK SIDS Foundation in recognition of their support and sponsorship of the Break for S.I.D.S. Pool Tournament.

“We feel that this event was a huge success. It showed us the support a small community has for each other, by coming together and raising money during tough economic times. The money raised will be used specifically for this community if that need arises,” stated Brad. “We are extremely thankful for the support of Lakewoods Viking Club, the donors and the citizens that came out to be a part of this great cause and we look forward to other events here in the future.”

Safe sleep tips and SIDS resources can be found at the Nathan Michael King SIDS Foundation website at www.nmksids.org