

## A Life That Matters: *The Legacy of Terri Schiavo*

Paperback, \$14.99 on Amazon.com

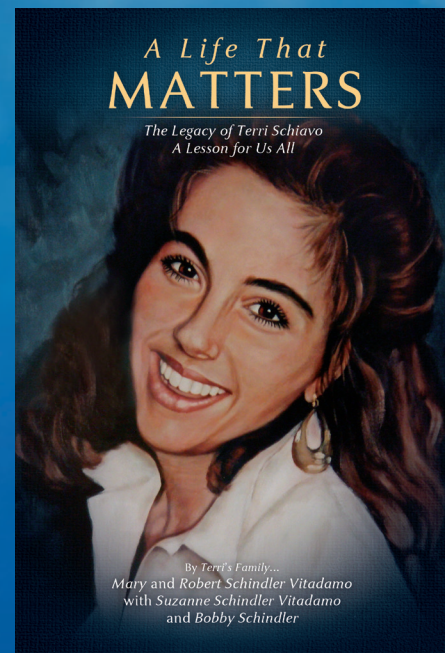
In marking the ten year anniversary of the release of “*A Life That Matters: The Legacy of Terri Schiavo*,” co-author Bobby Schindler is excited to announce the book’s permanent paperback availability through Amazon.com.

“I wrote the story of my sister’s fight along with my family in the weeks and months following Terri’s death. This book is one way I hope Terri’s life and witness can continue to positively impact lives. Young people, in particular, didn’t experience my family’s fight and my sister’s witness first-hand. For so many of the youngest people I speak to, Terri’s story is simply a history lesson. This book is a way to bring her alive in their imaginations in particular.”

New, paperback copies can be ordered 24/7 on Amazon.com, by searching for “*A Life That Matters: The Legacy of Terri Schiavo*.”

“I’m always interested in hearing reactions — and especially questions — from readers. I invite anyone to reach out to me anytime by emailing me at [bschindler@lifeandhope.com](mailto:bschindler@lifeandhope.com).

I’m grateful and hopeful that this book can be a gift for people, especially within the pro-life community, to understand someone whose name has become an indelible part of American history.”



## #GIVINGTUESDAY

— Pencil in the date/event —

**What:** Giving Tuesday — Make an online gift of any amount.

**Why:** Support our 24/7 Crisis Lifeline Resources Fund for at-risk patients and families.

**Where:** [lifeandhope.com/givingtuesday](http://lifeandhope.com/givingtuesday)

**When:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Created just a few years ago in 2012, Giving Tuesday is “a movement to create an international day of giving at the beginning of the Christmas and holiday season,” according to its organizers. It was founded in New York as a response to the commercialization and consumerism of the holiday season, and falls on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving each year. In 2015, more than \$117 million was raised across the country by charities participating in their own Giving Tuesday-themed fundraising efforts.

The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network is proud to participate in Giving Tuesday. The Network asks supporters and active donors to give what ever amount possible on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 toward our \$10,000 Giving Tuesday goal. This is a new tradition that we hope will spur increased awareness of our mission, while at the same time encouraging vitally needed funds that will directly benefit at-risk patients and families.

Thank you and may God bless you.



follow us on Facebook  
by visiting [www.lifeandhope.com](http://www.lifeandhope.com)



# life&hope

Publication of the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network

2017 Edition | [www.lifeandhope.com](http://www.lifeandhope.com)

## CONSERVING Terri Schiavo's Story

A PERMANENT HOME FOR THE TERRI SCHIAVO  
ARCHIVES AT AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

*Helping families fight for those who cannot fight for themselves*



# Theresa of the Forgotten, Pray for us!

Every March 31st marks an anniversary of Terri Schiavo's court ordered death from dehydration and starvation. This reprehensible and unjustifiable act brought to the forefront the vast number of vulnerable persons, like Terri, who are being led to slaughter every day in the name of "dying with dignity."

Terri's Catholic upbringing in the Schindler family taught her that every human person created in the image and likeness of God has inestimable value and is worth protecting at all stages of life. A close friend of Terri's recalled a comment she made when they were younger, while watching a program about Karen Ann Quinlan who sustained a severe brain injury and whose parents fought to legally have her taken off of life support. To the surprise of many, she began breathing on her own and lived for nine more years. Moved by Karen Quinlan's story, Terri said, "Where there is life, there is hope." In some cases, even a ventilator can be used temporarily to help bridge a vulnerable person's recovery.

Sadly, the "culture of death" continues to mobilize, and the weak, disabled and elderly are being targeted now more than ever. We need powerful intercessors in Heaven to beseech our Lord's help for our vulnerable brothers and sisters. After all, "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." *EPHESIANS 6:12*

There are cardinals, bishops, priests and many lay faithful who are praying for and have voiced great interest in seeing a cause taken up for Terri's Beatification. We have enclosed a prayer card for the cause of "Theresa of the Forgotten," to be used in asking her intercession for your special intentions.

To report favors or to request prayer cards, please contact 855-300-HOPE (4673) or [info@lifeandhope.com](mailto:info@lifeandhope.com).

Theresa of the Forgotten, pray for us!

by Brother Conrad Richardson, fbp  
Franciscan Brothers of Peace,  
Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis



## Plan Ahead to Avoid Guardianship

To be a 'guardian' simply means to be a protector — to be someone who looks out for another person. In the healthcare system, however, it can mean making decisions for someone who can't make those decision themselves. "Guardianship," in the context of healthcare, means that a patient in question is in some sense "helpless," and that the guardian must step in to care for them. In some cases, guardians can end up having to guess about what sort of medical care a person would want — and sometimes guardians aren't even family members, but simply representatives appointed by a committee or judge.

It can also be dangerous, as guardianship can cause disputes within family and even lawsuits when disputes arise between family members about how best to care for a loved one. The best way to avoid guardianship, and the risks involved with it, is to ensure you have completed your Advanced Directive (sometimes called a "Living Will") and that you have a legally designated advocate as your power of attorney. Do this while you're healthy, to avoid a potentially life-ending or family-altering guardianship situation later.

**WHAT WE DO:**  
Provide a 24/7 Crisis Lifeline service to at-risk patients and families.

*We express this mission through public advocacy of essential qualities of human dignity, which include:*

**The right to food and water.**  
**The presumption of the will to live.**  
**Due process against denial of care.**  
**Protection from euthanasia as a form of medicine.**  
**Access to rehabilitative care.**

**WHAT WE DON'T DO:**  
**Wrongful death claims.**  
**Distribute grants.**  
**Insurance claims/disputes.**  
**Legislation efforts.**

### CASES *Continued...*

best interests), removed from hospice, and her food and water were resumed after almost two weeks of being starved and dehydrated.

Tabetha is currently at a rehabilitation facility and doing quite well, but her case is ongoing. Amazingly, Tabetha's mother, who admitted her to the hospice facility and instructed her caregivers to stop her food and water, is fighting for guardianship.

Tabetha's story validates a disturbing change that has manifested itself within our healthcare system that we all need to realize — a pernicious "quality of life" mentality is guiding many of the life and death decisions made by healthcare professionals.

Certainly, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) passed into law by Congress and President Obama in 2010, will increase the massive negative ramifications to the quality of individual healthcare — again, in an attempt to control costs — but there are many elements involved with what is happening in today's healthcare, exposing our medically vulnerable to premature death.



*The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network, a 501(c)3 (charitable non-profit) organization, was established by the family members of Terri Schiavo to defend the rights of the medically vulnerable. These rights include the protection from the removal of food and water (via a feeding tube) which has been redefined as medical treatment instead of basic and ordinary care. The Life & Hope Network has communicated with and supported more than 2,000 families, and has been involved in hundreds of cases since Terri's death.*

To learn more about the work of the Life & Hope Network, please visit:  
[lifeandhope.com](http://lifeandhope.com)

## An Appeal from Tom Shakely, Executive Director

The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network's community of supporters is central to our mission of service to those in crisis. Since our founding, we've relied on the spiritual, medical, legal, and financial support of supporters across the country and internationally to ensure that those facing medically imposed death are respected, protected, and in many cases given a chance at rehabilitation.

As we celebrate the successes of our first ten years, we're also looking ahead to what the next decade will bring. There's simply no way we have a future without you and your continuing support.

### Sustaining Allies

We ask you to consider becoming a Sustaining Ally—a monthly donor—today. Our monthly donors contribute anywhere from \$1 per month to hundreds per month, as they're able. The average monthly gift across our community of supporters is \$30/month. Each gift, and the stability that monthly gifts bring, helps us focus on life-saving mission work rather than spending needed funds.

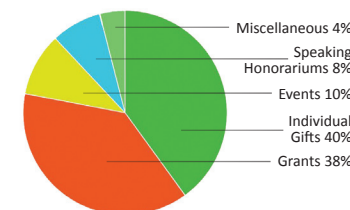
Are you willing to support us with a monthly gift? You'll impact not only the lives of those we're able to help, but also benefit from our nonprofit status. Call (855) 300-4673 to sign up, or visit [lifeandhope.com/sustaining](http://lifeandhope.com/sustaining) to sign up now.

*Thank you and God bless you!*

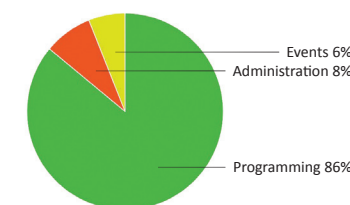
## Annual Report — The Network in Numbers...



### 2016 Revenue:



### 2016 Expenses:



**24/7 Crisis Lifeline: (855) 300-4673 (HOPE) or [lifeline@lifeandhope.com](mailto:lifeline@lifeandhope.com)**



...AS SEEN IN NATIONAL REVIEW

# What Terri Schiavo Still Can Teach Us

March 2016 | By Bobby Schindler

Terri Schiavo. Her name — my sister’s name — is seared into the national memory as a face of the right-to-life movement, but it’s now been more than a decade since her death. Many are now too young to remember her witness, or they have forgotten. At the age of 26, Terri experienced a still-unexplained collapse while at home alone with Michael Schiavo, who subsequently became her guardian. After a short period of time, Michael lost interest in caring for his brain-injured but otherwise young and healthy wife. Terri was cognitively disabled, but she was not dying, and she did not suffer from any life-threatening disease. She was neither on machines nor “brain dead.” To the contrary, she was alert and interacted with friends and family — before Michael placed her in a nursing home and eventually petitioned the courts for permission to starve and dehydrate her to death.

It was this decision by Michael that made my sister’s story a national story rather than simply a family story. It was this decision — to deprive my sister of food and water — that transformed our family’s struggle. Rather than trying to work with Michael to care for and rehabilitate Terri as aggressively as possible, we now were battling against Michael to fight for my sister’s life.

Michael finally testified, after many years of legal maneuverings against my family, that Terri had told him before her accident that she would not have wanted to live in a brain-injured condition. It was this hearsay evidence that led the media and others to deny Terri’s right to life, and instead speak of “end of life” issues and advocate for her “right to die.” On the order of Judge George W. Greer, and despite the efforts of Saint John Paul the Great, a president, Congress, and a governor, Terri was deprived of water and food. After 13 days, my sister died of extreme dehydration on March 31, 2005.

We couldn’t save my sister, though millions of advocates did succeed in speaking for the fundamental dignity of every human life, regardless of circumstance or condition.

It was the trauma of our experience fighting for my sister that led my family to create the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network a decade ago, both in memory of my sister and in service to medically vulnerable persons today. Unbeknownst to my family at the start of our struggle, the method of Terri’s death — the fatal denial of food and water — was not altogether uncommon. It has only become more

common in the decade since her passing, as Wesley J. Smith so routinely documents.

Indeed, new “rights” to death are paradoxically being enshrined through the international medical system, reshaping a vocation meant to care for and heal the sick into one that eliminates suffering by eliminating the sufferer. Increasingly, medical professionals do this — end life — even without the patient’s consent. A stranger, in other words, may very well decide how and when you die.

It was once true, for instance, that food and water were considered “basic and ordinary care.” Yet now the presence of a tube (as distinct from a spoon) to deliver food and water means that basic nourishment is considered “extraordinary” and a form of “medical treatment.” Yet tubes are often used for the same reason that automation is revolutionizing the work force: They’re cheaper and more efficient than round-the-clock human care. It is now legal in every U.S. state to deny food and water, leading to fatal dehydration. This is simply one step on the path to controlled and regulated access to all forms of food and water, including whatever a bureaucrat decides can be placed on your mother’s nursing-home supper tray.

Hospital ethics committees are often leading the effort to reshape medicine, giving themselves unilateral power to decide whether a patient deserves to receive treatment or whether life-affirming treatment will continue when there is a dispute within a family. The tragic case of Chris Dunn, who was filmed last year literally begging for his life in a Texas hospital, illustrates all too well what happens when an ethics committee decides to appoint itself as a legal guardian in order to deny treatment — even when such a course is opposed, as it was in Dunn’s case, by both the patient and his guardian-mother.

Not only is death often imposed, it is now also encouraged as if death itself were a form of medicine. As of last year, more than half the states in the country were considering a form of physician-assisted suicide legislation. It appears likely that suicide will, within the next five years, be enshrined as a personal “health” right in most of the country. In this, we would only be following some of our European neighbors. In the Netherlands and Belgium, as Wesley Smith recently documented, Alzheimer’s patients, infants with disabilities, the aged, and the chronically ill are routinely encouraged to die or have death imposed upon them.

Brittany Maynard, who committed suicide in November 2014 after already having outlived her doctor’s terminal-brain-cancer prognosis, was able to choose her death by suicide, but how many now will die not because they embrace that sort of death but because they feel pressured — by smiling physicians or hovering children and heirs — to accept it? To die without hope seems the furthest thing from death with dignity. Other, less fortunate patients will face what Smith explains is considered “termination without request or consent,” a wonderfully anodyne way to describe murder through terminal sedation or the denial of food and water.

My experience in fighting for my sister, and the experiences of assisting more than 2,000 patients and families through the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network over the past decade, have strengthened my resolve and my belief that we can do better as a culture, and for those requiring authentic medical treatment, than what our present attitudes and laws suggest.

It’s why the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network affirms essential qualities of human dignity, including the right to food and water, the presumption of the will to live, due-process rights for those facing denial of care, protection from euthanasia as a form of medicine, and access to rehabilitative care. Each of these were rights my sister was denied, and they are rights of every patient that are often at risk or contested outright.

As we mark the anniversary of my sister’s death, I’m hopeful that we can remember some of these genuine means of upholding human dignity. If we do, we can be assured that when we face crises in our own lives and the lives of those whom we love, we will meet the moment with a dignity and grace that elevates us in our weakest moments — regardless of the outcome.

That was the promise of medicine once, and it’s what my sister continues to inspire me to fight for daily.

Bobby Schindler is president of the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network, author of “A Life That Matters: The Legacy of Terri Schiavo,” and an internationally recognized pro-life advocate.



# CASES

The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network continues to experience significant numbers of crisis and information requests through our 24/7 Crisis Lifeline for at-risk patients and families. When a caller reaches out by phone, website, email, or text to the 24/7 Crisis Lifeline, their specific situation is reviewed and assistance is offered within hours or minutes.

“I spoke with a man a few weeks ago,” relates Bobby Schindler, “who was so thankful that we even answered his call for help. This was even before we provided him with the information and resources that he needed for his vulnerable loved one. He told me, ‘I can barely get a response from most of the people who say they’ll be there for me, but you picked up and helped.’”

“We can’t ensure a positive outcome in every situation,” explains Schindler, “but we can do everything in our power to help, and we always make sure that the best, most life-affirming options are clear to patients and families in crisis.”

A sampling of the sort of cases that Bobby Schindler and the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network handled help illustrate the diversity of situations that arise.

**Significant information coming out regarding the Jahi McMath case! Wesley J. Smith reports that a video has been released showing that Jahi’s breathing seems to be improving.**

## Jahi McMath Breathing on Her Own?

By Wesley J. Smith

Readers may recall Jahi McMath — the teenager declared brain dead in California. Her family — assisted by the Terri Schiavo Life and Hope Network and the Life Legal Defense Foundation — fought the determination in court.

A settlement led to Jahi being declared dead by California as the family was permitted to take her to New Jersey, where she remains. Now, a few years later, her body has not deteriorated as usually happens in brain death, and indeed, her family claims she is slowly improving. California courts have ruled that the family may attempt to prove in court that she is not actually dead. Her family has now released a video, in which a breathing measuring machine is seen, with her mother urging Jahi to take breaths without mechanical assistance. According to the narration, she takes fourteen or fifteen breaths on her own in a minute.

If that is true, Jahi is not dead because it means that she can hear and that at least her brain stem has continuing function. Every time I write about Jahi’s case, there are angry reader responses insisting she is dead. I am not sure why people have such an emotional investment



in Jahi’s demise, but if she isn’t dead, it is a matter of urgency that the truth come out. The needs of science require it, as this may be an unprecedented event.

The integrity of the system demands it. And Jahi deserves it.

## Mary Schindler Case

Successfully assisted a husband to locate a medical air ambulance/transport company for his wife who needed to be transferred to a facility close to his home in Florida. This was in response to a Vermont hospital, threatening to remove his wife’s life-sustaining care.

## North Carolina Case

A concerned friend contacted the Life & Hope Network on behalf of a family whose 27 year old son was involved in a serious auto incident and experienced a severe brain injury.

We were subsequently contacted by the young man’s mother who shared with us that within 24 hours of her son being admitted to the hospital, his physicians were declaring that he was “brain dead” and pressuring the family to remove his life sustaining care.

We immediately used our available resources to put her in touch with a physician who was able to help the family remove the immediate threat of the facility removing her son’s care. We also began the process of locating an attorney in the case the hospital re-initiated



Photo credit: istockphoto

steps to end her son’s life. Sadly, the young man passed away less than a week after his accident — however it was while being under the care of his family.

## Tabetha Long

Indeed, I could give dozens of accounts of families who have called us for help that would send chills down your spine, but consider a call we received just last month: the story of Tabetha Long. It’s an amazing story of perseverance and recovery, but also an alarming example of how far we’ve drifted from properly caring for our medically vulnerable.

Tabetha had a cardiac episode this past spring. As a result, she experienced an anoxic brain injury. Her doctors were optimistic with her initial test results. In fact, in the few weeks following her incident, she had varying degrees of responsiveness. Accordingly, she was considered to be a good candidate for rehabilitation when she began to answer questions and track objects.

Incredibly, and what is still difficult to explain, her mother, who was making her medical treatment decisions, decided to admit Tabetha into hospice where, subsequently, she was denied access to food and water.

After Tabetha’s boyfriend began asking questions when he learned that she wasn’t being fed, he contacted the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network. We immediately put him in touch with an attorney, who acted quickly. After an emergency court hearing, Tabetha was appointed a guardian-ad-litem (to investigate her

Continued on page 11...



# Bobby Schindler speaks...



Bobby Schindler has spoken to hundreds of audiences across America and internationally on three continents over the past dozen years. He presents at any length and can speak about one topic in particular, or several combined topics. He speaks to priests, health care professionals, university and medical students, churches, law associations, civic groups, and others. Arrange for Bobby to speak at your event. Contact the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network at (855) 300-4673 or by emailing [info@lifeandhope.com](mailto:info@lifeandhope.com).

## The Terri Schiavo Case

Was Terri Schiavo dying? Was she brain dead or in a coma? Were there any machines keeping Terri alive? Was this an “end-of-life” issue? Why did the Judge in her case ignore 40 affidavits from health care professionals regarding Terri’s true condition? Is death by dehydration peaceful and painless? Bobby will shed light on what is to this day rarely, if ever, reported by the mainstream media regarding Terri’s case and condition. From the perspective of an ordinary family, put in the position of having to defend the life of their daughter and sister, Bobby will share a powerful testimony of his sister’s case and inhumane two-week death — something no family should ever have to experience.

## Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network

Following Terri’s tragic death on March 31, 2005, Terri’s family gave up their full-time jobs to become pro-life advocates for the medically vulner-

able. Since that time, Terri’s Life & Hope Network has touched more than 2,000 at-risk patients and families and has been involved in hundreds of cases, saving the lives of those targeted for encouraged or imposed euthanasia or denial of care.

## Media Ethics and The Bioethics Movement

Who is a person? Who are human non-persons? What is “personhood theory” and why is it being taught in universities? What is “futile care theory” and how can it affect you? What are “ethics committees” and how can these committees make decisions contrary to your advanced directive?

## Are feeding tubes extreme treatment?

Why is basic care (food and water delivered by feeding tube) now considered extraordinary treatment? How common is tube feeding today? Can nursing homes include spoon feeding and food brought on a tray to a patient as “medical treatment?” Why are the elderly, the cognitively disabled, those with Alzheimer’s and so many more having their feeding tubes removed every day?

## The Catholic Church’s Perspective

What is Catholic teaching when it comes to situations like Terri Schiavo’s? Are Catholics always obligated to care for persons in a condition labeled as being a “persistent vegetative state?” Why did a Catholic priest testify on behalf of Michael Schiavo? What are our Catholic leaders saying in regards to caring for those like Terri? Why did Pope John Paul II issue an allocution specifically addressing Terri’s situation in March of 2004?



# Safe havens for patients at risk of imposed death



By Judie Brown, American Life League president and co-founder  
Reprinted with permission from the American Life League.

How would you feel if a loved one needed help, but you were powerless to do anything?

For quite some time experts in the field of treating those with conditions that some describe as brain death have grappled with the accuracy of that diagnosis. Bill Beckman recently wrote of cases involving living children with severe injuries who were falsely diagnosed as brain dead. Jahi McMath, for example, is alive today, two years after she was wrongly diagnosed and called a “corpse” by her caregivers!

Israel Stinson, another child who was diagnosed as “brain dead,” was airlifted out of the hospital that wanted to end his life and transferred to a hospital in a different country where he was treated for a time. But then, sadly, he was brought back to the United States and died “because of the heartless action by a hospital in the midst of an appeal, according to his loved ones and his lawyers.”

The reason the hospital acted against the wishes of Israel’s parents is not important. What is important is that the state of California has a “brain death law” that enabled this horrific decision by the hospital to kill this baby. And the killing is legal!

In yet another recent case, we learned of seven-year-old Allen Calloway who “may be still alive in St. Vincent’s Hospital in Billings thanks to a court order making his mother, Tasha, his guardian and giving her the power to veto a test the hospital sought to determine whether he was ‘brain dead.’”

The common thread in these cases — and there are many more — is that, according to expert Paul Byrne, MD, there is no such thing as “brain death.” He articulates that “brain death” is actually a “pretend death” diagnosis used by those who wish to advance the acquisition of organs from patients who are not dead, but whom doctors or caregivers feel will die anyway!

This is a macabre way of looking at the human person, but medicine has travelled down a path now for more than 40 years that has treated human beings — beginning with the preborn baby — as something less than human and as fair game for the killing machines of the culture of death. Bradley Mattes confirms this in his article “Hospitals Are Quick to Declare Patients Brain Dead to Harvest Their Organs. Here’s Why” and explains that there are big bucks to be made in the organ donation industry.

Bobby Schindler of the Terri Schiavo Life and Hope Network writes: “It has become apparent that brain death diagnoses are being made so quickly that in many cases, the patient is given no opportunity to prove the doctors wrong. Oftentimes the diagnosis is made within hours of a loved one being admitted to the hospital. All in what seems to be an effort to harvest the patient’s organs. If families object, and want to try different treatment options, the hospital will either override the family, or will place enormous pressure on them to rapidly accept the hospital’s decision.”

This presents a serious challenge to the pro-life community, yet at the same time it offers us immense opportunities for doing good. One such option is the identification of “safe haven” hospitals and other care facilities where families of patients misdiagnosed with brain death or who are in danger of imposed death for any reason can be cared for in a loving environment grounded in one of the founding principles of the medical profession: “Do no harm!”

American Life League has joined Pro-Life Healthcare Alliance in working to identify where such safe haven facilities are located. We are searching for locations where “quality of life” judgments are replaced with love and respect for the dignity of the human person.

Patients like Jahi, Israel, Allen, and countless others deserve our diligence in the quest to restore moral sanity to the care of the vulnerable. For that to be effective, we need your help.

We must stand in the gap and do all we can to find and promote safe havens for such patients. If you are aware of such a place, please let me know.

Combat the evil with truth! Join American Life League in defiance of the culture of our day — this culture of death. Through your actions and words, become a part of our movement to build a culture of life. Pray, be informed, and educate others.

- For pro-life information, go to [all.org](http://all.org).
- For pro-life educational tools, visit [cultureoflifestudies.com](http://cultureoflifestudies.com).
- To see documented proof of Planned Parenthood’s debauchery and to learn ways to stop its spread, go to [stopp.org](http://stopp.org).
- To join with youth outreach for a pro-life generation, go to [lifedefender.org](http://lifedefender.org).





# Terri's Day

Since Terri Schiavo's March 31, 2005 death, members of her family have worked with the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network to commemorate her anniversary. Known simply as "Terri's Day," this commemoration has taken place near her passing, with a Catholic mass celebrated in her memory, and with a focus on prayer and support for those medically vulnerable, at-risk patients and families facing similar life-threatening situations today.



Terri's Day has been celebrated in a number of locations since its founding — first in Ave Maria, FL, and more recently in Philadelphia. "Despite the growth of Terri's Day," reflects Bobby Schindler, Terri's brother, "no single event that occurred at a single time and place would reach as many people as we'd like. This is why we've decided to take a new approach."

The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network is pleased to announce that Terri's Day will be marked with a nationally televised mass through EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network), celebrated by the nationally-recognized Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia.

"Pope Francis and Archbishop Chaput celebrated the global World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in 2015," remarked Tom Shakely, executive director. "These two figures are model witnesses to a culture of life and hope, particularly for those most marginalized and most vulnerable to society's worst dehumanizing impulses. It's exciting that Archbishop Chaput will be celebrating Terri's Day, and we're thrilled that EWTN will be making this annual commemoration to Terri and all vulnerable persons accessible to a national audience for the first time in its history."

Terri's Day takes place in April, with specifics available by visiting [lifeandhope.com/terrisday](http://lifeandhope.com/terrisday).

## ...and he goes back to school.

Bobby Schindler, President of the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network, is studying for his Certificate in Catholic Health Care Ethics through the National Catholic Bioethics Center. This course of study lasts through May 2017, at which time Bobby will continue on toward earning an M.S. in Bioethics from the University of Mary.

"Fighting for my sister, Terri, is what led me and my family into the fight we continue today through the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network," explains Bobby. "Our experience fighting for my sister, and seeing just how many Americans accepted the idea that it was ethical to fatally starve and dehydrate someone, continues to motivate me every day in advocating for at-risk patients and families."

"Over the past dozen or so years, the National Catholic Bioethics Center has come to be a key ally in helping provide life-affirming,

ethical guidance to many of those we serve at the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network through our 24/7 Crisis Lifeline. When I learned about their Certificate program, and the Master's degree that was possible through it, I decided it was time to take this next step toward earning this Bioethics credential. I didn't train for this work in college, and everything I know I've learned 'on the job,' so to speak, over the course of fighting for my sister and in these past dozen years fighting for more than 2,000 patients and families."

"I'm especially excited to be studying with the National Catholic Bioethics Center," continues Schindler, "because I've seen first-hand how valuable their ethical guidance can be for those who reach out for our help. In a time when our healthcare system seems more and more about rationing to reduce costs, rather than providing care to ensure life, it's more important than ever for national advocates to be properly equipped for the fights to come."

### ABOUT NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER:

The National Catholic Bioethics Center was founded in 1972 in St. Louis, Missouri, to provide expert moral analysis in the fields of medicine and the life sciences. The NCBC works to promote and safeguard the dignity of the human person in medicine and the life sciences through education, consultation, research, and publishing, and is regularly called upon to provide medical-moral analyses for bishops and priests of the Holy See. Health care professionals and institutions also engage the Center for its consultative services. The NCBC provides more than 2,000 consultations annually and customized seminars reaching thousands of individuals. In addition to serving those in pastoral ministry, the Center's ethicists advise physicians and their patients on difficult beginning-of-life and end-of-life issues and advise health care systems on highly sensitive issues related to hospital mergers and joint ventures.





# CONSERVING Terri Schiavo's Story

A PERMANENT HOME FOR THE TERRI SCHIAVO  
ARCHIVES AT AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

*Terri Schiavo's 2005 death by starvation and dehydration marked the start of the cultural slide toward normalizing euthanasia and sanctioning assisted suicide. Knowing the true story of Terri's fight is increasingly important for students and researchers seeking to understand the roots of the culture of death in America.*

Since Terri's death, her family — parents Mary and Robert Schindler, and siblings Bobby and Suzanne — envisioned there being a supportive, permanent home for the public records that tell the story of Terri's fight. Thanks to Ave Maria University's Canizaro Library, the Schindlers have found that home.

"We knew that my Terri's death wouldn't be the last time someone was fatally denied food and water in this country," reflects Mary Schindler, Terri's mother. "She had a brain injury. She wasn't terminal, she wasn't dying. She was conscious. We knew when she was killed that she was just the first victim of a new American euthanasia mentality."

It was this conviction that led the Schindlers to preserve dozens of boxes worth of materials that work together to tell the story of Terri's fight, with the belief that future researchers inquiring into the history of American euthanasia would need to understand Terri's story in an unbiased and straightforward way. Ave Maria University represented an ideal candidate for such a home, and the university's Canizaro Library turned out to be a trusted, permanent home for such precious materials.

"After my father's death," recounts Bobby Schindler, "our family held his funeral Mass at Ave Maria's Oratory. So the town has been special to our family since its founding. When we realized that Ave Maria University could be a home for these records, we were so pleased with the idea of these materials finally having a permanent place."

The Terri Schiavo Archives will be available for privileged access

to students, researchers, and visitors interested in learning more about Terri's fight, available by inquiring with Ave Maria University's Canizaro Library directly. The archives include key materials from the Schindler family's legal and medical battles on behalf of Terri, as well as international correspondence pertaining to Terri's case and an exhaustive collection of newspaper articles in the years leading up to her death. The Terri Schiavo Archives represent the first ever comprehensive collection of the records pertaining to Terri's fight, and the first time these materials are available to the public.

"We were thrilled to donate these materials to Ave Maria University," reflects Tom Shakely, executive director of the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network. "We know Terri's case remains profoundly important not only in itself, but also in relation to the larger fights for the dignity of the human person."

"Terri lived and died only hours from where Ave Maria has grown, but more than that this town and university embody a stark and distinctive way of life from the rest of secular culture. If there's any place that the Terri Schiavo Archive belongs, it's here, where Christians pray literally feet away in a 24/7 Adoration Chapel. This university carries on the faith Terri lived, and this town enculturates the values that inspired her family's heroic fight to save her life from an indifferent husband while combating the distortions and lies that portrayed Terri as comatose, unresponsive, 'on life support,' or otherwise something less than human."

A special symbol of Bobby Schindler's appreciation to Ave Maria University for hosting the Terri Schiavo Archives can be found just feet from the main entrance to the Ave Maria Oratory, which is the community's place of worship directly in the center of town. This symbol is a specially engraved paver stone honoring "Mary and Robert Schindler, loving parents of Terri Schiavo."

Ave Maria University is located in Southwest Florida, roughly 45 minutes from Naples on the west coast, and approximately 90 minutes northwest of Miami/Fort Lauderdale. Ave Maria was founded by Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza, as an orthodox Catholic university.

