

The Lamp Newsletter International

Special Edition

In Loving Memory
of

MR. DONALD BROOKS,

Dr. Mary Darlene Edwards' youngest son

Donald Brooks' article reprinted from January 2018



ACT OF KINDNESS

COLD WEATHER. WARM HEART

By Don Brooks

It was a cold blistery day in December. One of those days when all I wanted to do was stay in bed under the nice warm covers. But I had already hit the snooze alarm once and I knew if I hit it again, I would be late for work. So, I pulled myself out of bed and headed for the job.

Riding down the street, I saw a very strange site and asked our driver to go around the block, which he did. That's when I saw him: a nicely-dressed man with clean jeans, new-looking Timberland boots, a zip-up sweater, and holding the collar close to his neck as you would if you were

cold. He was also wearing a nice gold watch and rings on each finger. The reason I could see his clothing is that HE HAD ON NO COAT! We knew something was wrong. I told the driver to pull over.

I got out of the truck and asked the man standing there if he was okay. (Not a very bright question, considering the weather and his appearance. It was about 20 degrees outside.) When he didn't respond, I asked, "*What's your name?*" He quickly responded with his first and last name. "*Are you lost?*" Still there was no response. "*Do you need to use a phone?*" I asked. He nodded. When I asked him his number, he said he didn't have his card. I knew then he had a situation.

With his non-helpful answers and my observations, I instructed him to get in our vehicle. Chris, our driver, quickly dialed up the heat and gave John his own gloves to put on to help in the warming process. Again, I asked John his name to make sure his response was the same. He quickly replied with the same name. His responses still were not useful. Even so, putting him out of the truck and leaving him on the street was not an option. So I exited the vehicle to flag down a couple of cars as Chris positioned the truck properly. We had parked on the wrong side of the street when we approached John. I exited the truck and asked a couple of cars driving by if they knew our lost friend. They didn't, but after I explained the situation, they were mutually concerned.

While we were still there trying to figure out what to do, a lady walked up. We asked if she knew the man. To no avail, she didn't know our friend either. Another concerned lady stopped. She didn't know John either. With those two ladies still on the site, a third person approached the intersection. I flagged him down. Again, I asked, "*Do you know the guy in the truck? To everyone's amazement the driver said, "That's John. I haven't seen him in three years!!."*" So, I asked, "*Do you know where he lives? With certainty, he replied, "Yeah, down the street."*"

That's when we realized a miracle had just taken place. Within a five-minute span of time and stopping three people to see if they knew John, we preceded to follow the guy to John's house with John still in our custody.

We arrived at the house, which was on the same street where we discovered John, Sorrento and Six Mile Road. It was A HALF MILE AWAY! John had walked a very long way in the cold without a coat!

We knocked on the door, while John remained in the truck. After several knocks on the door, it was answered. I asked, *“Do you know the guy over there in the truck?”* He said, *“Yes. That’s my brother. He has Alzheimer.”* The resident appeared to be under the influence of a negative substance, hadn’t missed John, showed no concern, and didn’t ask any questions. Not even a “thank you.” I asked him to tell me our friend’s name and he replied correctly.

We released John, wished him well, and left. Needless to say, it bothered us. But there didn’t seem to be anything else we could do but let him enter the house. One consolation is that we got him out of the elements on a very cold day.

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Praise the Lord for men who care about their fellowman.



**“Three Wisemen”
Chris Downer, Don Brooks and Chris Holmes**



A Word from the Founders of...

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr., Manager

Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside, Publisher

Dear Readers,

This Special Edition newsletter is a reprint section from the January 2018 issue which featured an amazing report from Mr. Donald Brooks, the son of Dr. Mary Edwards. We hope that you were blessed by Donald's heart of a Samaritan, life as a Humanitarian and a Wise Man.

Since 2008, Dr. Mary Edwards has been our loyal editor. She has faithfully served in this office from the beginning of our newsletter.

Our hearts are truly touched and sincerely sorrowful by the death of Donald. He was very dear to us. We loved him.

**We have a full staff of dedicated and talented writers
across the USA, Australia and the UK.**

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