



## **The Clinton T. Walker Foundation, Inc.**

We dedicate our service to the community in memory of Clint Walker who was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome as a young man.

We use our personal knowledge of his struggle for services to guide us in the quest to help others. Clint was a trailblazer for those who came after and he was an inspiration for those who were fortunate enough to know him well.

Family and Friends of the Foundation are currently working together to publish the story of Clint's lifetime struggles with Asperger's Syndrome. Clint's battle to overcome these hurdles makes his story truly remarkable.

Clint also attended the University of Tennessee from 1998 until 2003. He went on to graduate from the Tennessee School of Therapeutic Massage. He was very proud of his massage office on Gallaher View Drive in West Knoxville which he opened in May of 2005. He called the business Total Massage & Energetic Bodyworks.

## Mission Statement

Our purpose is to offer educational and supportive services for people with Autism. One of our goals is to provide access for persons with Autism to participate in Art, Music, and the Performing Arts. We want to enrich the lives of the Autistic Community and share our experiences in order to help others.

We believe that to help a child is to help the world in that helping a child helps a family which helps the community which helps the world at large.

## What is Asperger's Syndrome?

Asperger's Syndrome is a neurobiological disorder which takes its name from a Vienna physician named Hans Asperger who published a paper in 1944 stating his observations of a small group of young boys who exhibited autistic like behavior but had normal language development and communication.

Only recently has there been so much information available to assist parents and educators to maximize the potential of the kids who once were referred to as "little professors" because of their fixation on some particular topic of study.

We recommend the following websites for more information:

### *Autism Speaks*

We are very impressed with this organization. The website is awesome in the quality and the quantity of information it provides.

There, you can find a Family Services Resource Guide which provides guidance to families who have just received the Autism diagnosis. This advises what they should do for the next 100 days. It is written in both English and Spanish. It is found on the webpage under "In the News".

This is only one of the many valuable resources that this organization provides.

<http://www.autismspeaks.org>

### *O.A.S.I.S*

The Completely Revised and Updated Edition of THE OASIS GUIDE TO ASPERGER SYNDROME is now available at the website below.

The Founder of the organization, Barbara L. Kirby, is the parent of a child diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome.

Website: [www.aspersgersyndrome.org](http://www.aspersgersyndrome.org)

### *Dr. Temple Grandin*

Dr. Grandin is, herself, autistic. She is an author and speaker. You can also find her on Youtube. She has published numerous books and is well known in the Autistic Community.

One of her books that we recommend (which won the Foreword Book of the Year Award in 2006) is:

*The Way I See It: A Personal Look at Autism and Asperger's & Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships*<sup>1</sup>

Website: [www.templegrandin.com](http://www.templegrandin.com)

### *Stephen Shore*

The author of Beyond The Wall: Personal Experiences with Autism and Asperger's Syndrome, Stephen Shore has been to The University of Tennessee to speak at the State Conference on Asperger' Syndrome.

Website: [www.AutismAsperger.net](http://www.AutismAsperger.net)

## Events we Sponsor

Each April, the Clinton T. Walker Foundation sponsors a walk a thon. See the 1st World Autism Awareness Day Walk-A-Thon in Knoxville, TN (See pictures of Walk-A-Thon on the website:

[www.ClintonTWalkerFoundation.org](http://www.ClintonTWalkerFoundation.org)

We call the Walk-A-Thon, "I Walk the Walk".

## Terianna's Tears

Terianna's Tears was established as a fundraiser for the foundation.

This beautiful jewelry is lovingly handmade by Wanda Walker, the 1999 Tennessee Mother of the Year, in memory of her son, Clint, who passed away February 15, 2008.

The jewelry is made of genuine Austrian Swarovski Crystals, gemstones, freshwater pearls, cat's eye, jade, and Sterling Silver.

The earrings are called Terianna's Tears in honor of her son, Clint, who created this beautiful character in which to play online games while he was battling cancer. He called the character Terianna; she helped him to escape the reality of 2 stem cell transplants and chemotherapy for the last 18 months of his life.

The jewels represent the beauty of a mother's love. They are made into teardrops to represent the tears of a mother grieving for her child.

The profit from each sale is donated to the Clinton T. Walker Foundation, Inc. in order to provide educational services and help families who are struggling with Autism.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.templegrandin.com/templegrandinbooks.html>