

Billotti-Wood Family Statement – April 21, 2009

“The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.” – Job 1:21

At this time of great sorrow, the Billotti and Wood families and friends choose to remember and celebrate the lives and love of the Chris and Francie Billotti-Wood family. Having been married for six years, Chris, 34, and Francie, 33, shared many wonderful experiences, together with their three beautiful children—Chandler, 5, Gavin, 4, and Fiona, 2. After spending the first five years of their marriage living in Florida near the children’s grandparents, Chris and Francie decided to move the family to Middletown, Maryland (Francie’s hometown), a year ago. Since arriving in Frederick County, the Wood family has been active at Holy Family Catholic Community Church. They played and coached soccer, were active with T-Ball and together recently participated in a family marathon.

Chris and Francie shared a love for each other that was evident in their daily lives and interactions with others. Their devotion to their children was apparent to anyone even modestly acquainted with the family. Francie and Chris will always be remembered as beloved children, treasured siblings, and affectionate parents. While their time on this earth may seem too short from our finite perspective, family and friends continue to focus on the beautiful moments shared with the children, and with Chris and Francie. We will always remember the sound of their laughter. And we rejoice in the knowledge that we will see them again someday when our Heavenly Father calls each of us home to his side. The LORD gave and the LORD took away. Yet we praise the LORD for the gift of this family, and for the many ways that Chris, Francie, Chandler, Gavin, and Fiona have touched our lives and the lives of others, changing us all for the better.

In these most difficult times, the Billotti and Wood families stand united, loving on and comforting one another as Christ Jesus directs. It is through the strength of family, the love of friends, and the support of our hometown communities, that we are able to boldly embrace the future, choosing to live each day without regrets. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated. Despite the hardships of living in this world during these difficult times, our family’s prayer for you is that you consciously choose to focus on what’s true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—we pray you may think about such things (Phil. 4:8). And cling to your family, honestly embracing one another in love, no matter the circumstances. God’s ways are not our ways. Yet, there is a plan.

May the peace of God be with you and your family.