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(360) 573-0429 • FAX: (360) 573-0491 VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.ForHisKids.org

A Lasting Legacy of Love

CC has lost its founder, Alcyon Fleck, who was also my mother. After a short illness, Alcyon passed to her rest on May 25. We mourn her passing, but we also celebrate her life, for she leaves behind a lasting legacy of love.

I'd like to take a moment to tell you a little about her – and about the role you played in her life.

From her early childhood, Alcyon had an interest in helping orphan children. She eagerly followed the antics of the little cartoon character, Orphan Annie, and this made a deep impression on her. Even at a young age she felt drawn to help orphan children. In later years, when she and my father, Ken, served as missionaries in Central America. she was keenly aware of the conditions of many orphaned and at-risk children. Her compassion for these children often lead her to provide temporary care for some of the most needy cases. Little did she realize at that time that the Lord was preparing her to help create the ministry of International Children's Care.

Through the years, Alcyon was a driving force for this ministry. Her foresight and vision helped her create a model of care for orphans that closely resembles a natural family. Her love and compassion for children ran deep, and she was affectionately known as "Mommy Fleck" to hundreds of children. Her care and con-

cern for the children's well-being motivated her to reach out to caring individuals like you.

Alycon was always amazed at the way you came to the rescue of the ICC children, especially when they needed it most. Actually, you have been a driving force for ICC. Your support, your prayers, your interest encouraged Alcyon, and she never took for granted the important role you have in rescuing and restoring the lives of orphan children.

Alcyon loved the children. And they loved her in return. When news spread around the internet that Alcyon had died, many of the children posted comments on Facebook about what Alcyon meant to them. One boy wrote that he had lost his "angel." It's symbolic, for sure, but it tells of the deep love

and respect he had for Alcyon. In a sense, you give ICC children the love of angels when you give a gift to the Alcyon Angel Fund.

— Continued inside —



Ken and Alcyon Fleck in the early days of ICC

A Lasting Legacy of Love – cont.

This fund helps us provide care to a child like Maria who desperately needed a loving home when she had no other place to go. Even though Alcyon has passed away, her legacy of love lives on through this fund that bears her name. Help to rescue and restore a child's life in her memory by sending a gift today.

It was a little over a year ago that Alcyon wrote what would be her final personal message for the Que Pasa. It was for the May 2014 edition. It was a fitting final message as you can see from this excerpt:

Dear ICC Family,

It has been a long time since I have written a letter to you... Most of you know that I lost Ken, the love of my life, with bone cancer. It has been a challenge to learn how to run my own life without his valuable help. But he fell asleep in Jesus and I know I will see him again on the resurrection morning. I can hardly wait for that day to come.

International Children's Care is still a priority in my life, and all of these needy children are the objects of my prayers. I thank the Lord every day for our ICC family and your faithful support for our children...

These little children who have come to us to find a home have also learned to know the Jesus who loves them.

We are looking forward to the day when that same Jesus will welcome them to their Heavenly home, and that will be a permanent home.

In closing I just want to thank each of you for your loyal cooperation in helping us care for so many of these precious children whom I know are precious to Jesus too.

With my love to each of you,

Alcyon

While all of us at ICC are saddened by the passing of Alcyon, we are encouraged by the blessed hope we have in Jesus, which she believed in with all her heart – that one day we will be together with our Lord and reunited with all our loved ones in an earth made new.

Thank-you for your loving care and concern for our family and the ICC family during this time of loss. Please know that you, too, are leaving a lasting legacy of love through your support.

In Loving Service for His Kids,

Rick Fleck



In response to the news of Alcyon's passing, these are but a few of the messages that have been received by ICC through posts and messages on Facebook.

"We are sure she will inherit the kingdom of God, as she had lived for Jesus and done the best for His precious children.

"In honor of her, we will try to do our best to carry on the task she started that we may meet her in the new earth to come."

David — ICC administrator

"How sad to learn of the loss of my mother, my Mommy Fleck. Oh how much I loved her, and she knew it! Thank God for that Angel who gave us life... What we are today we owe to that beautiful family which forged values and principles within us for eternity."

From one of "His Kids"

"I love you Mommy, you who are everything, and thanks for helping all of us from the children's village. You and you alone are our heroine most loved in this world."

From one of "His Kids"

"A person filled with love, generosity and service. Mommy Fleck always gave love in our lives. We carry her in our heart, but we realize that we will see her in Heaven together—the family that we are."

From one of "His Kids"

"The feeling of all of us who were impacted by the unconditional service of Mommy Fleck is the same, sadness. But we know she rests in peace. I wish I would have been able to tell her personally, 'Thanks for changing my life.'"

From one of "His Kids"

"We Thank God for People Like You"

or over three decades, Alcyon Fleck wrote faithfully to you. She knew you made this ministry for orphan children possible. Any accomplishments she experienced were directly related to your ongoing support.

Alycon regularly wrote for the *Que Pasa* about her experiences with children who touched her heart. This story shows the difference you made for a little girl at the El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico. The story was published in April 2005. In memory of Alcyon and her husband, Ken—our beloved founders—we're pleased to share this excerpt with you.

A number of the children came to see us in the living area of house one... A little girl crawled up on my lap, and I noticed that Sharon had her arms full of children too. They sang songs for us, and Ken played some games with them. Soon they were all called back to their individual homes. Then one of the aunts, who is a helper in the homes, came and told us to come over to the volunteer center. As we drove up no one else was in sight. But when we opened the door, the room was full of children,



Thanks to you and Alcyon, this little girl has someone she can reach out to

house parents and other staff. They all yelled, "Surprise!" They had a special program and party for us...

The same little girl who had been on my lap at the house, found me again, and stayed with me through the whole program, except when she had to perform. As the program went on, she fell asleep in my arms. It was an interesting experience which I don't remember having before in all of my times with the children. In her sleep she kept trying to get closer and closer, reaching out to me with her arms. That little girl reminded me again of the desperate need these little children have for love and security. Awake, she was vivacious and happy, but, in her sleep, the old feeling of the need for a mother and love was still there. I don't know what had happened to that little girl to bring her to us, but every child that comes has had a devastating experience of loss or abandonment or rejection...

We thank God for people like you who have a heart for hurting children. I wish that each of you could sit and hold one of these precious children and you would agree with us that it is worth everything it has cost, the struggling years at the beginning with anxious times when we prayed for enough money each month to feed them all. We are still praying those same prayers today as we strive to continue to raise the funds that it takes to care for these precious lives. The results and the rewards are beyond our imagination. I can't wait to see them in Heaven – hundreds and hundreds of children who have learned to know the God who helped us make all this possible.

God bless each one of you for your part in making it all possible.

With our love, aleyow and Ken

Editor's Note: If you'd like to give a gift to help children in honor of Alcyon, please send it in today with the enclosed reply card. Thank you!



Maria's father abandoned the family leaving her mother alone with Maria and her brothers. It was too much for the mother, and the children suffered. The mother is not able to provide for them.

When you give a gift to the Alcyon Angel Fund, in a sense you become an "Angel of Blessing." You play an important part in rescuing and restoring the life of a child like Maria. What a blessing you are to her! And now, for a limited time, your gift will be matched to do twice as much good!





ICC began caring for orphan children in 1979. It was a small beginning—one child in one home. That was 36 years ago. Would you consider giving a memorial gift of \$36 to the "Alcyon Angel Fund" today? A special matching grant for this fund is available this month. It will make your \$36 gift stretch to \$72. The impact of your gift will double. What a blessing that will be for children like Maria!

Use the enclosed response card and send in your gift today. You can also donate securely online at www.forhiskids.org or call in your gift to 800-422-7729.

"Thank you, each of you who have made this program possible. We count on you to help us help suffering children."

Alcyon Fleck writing in the May 2007 Que Pasa

