# give us strength







We started writing Thanksgiving letters to our customers a handful of years ago. The traditional process for writing these letters starts with a brief discussion of a theme. One of us will write a draft, and we then pass the letter back and forth until it takes its final shape. We don't write the letters in advance; we wait to be "in the moment" to see what thoughts come to us on the eve of Thanksgiving.

Today, we both sat at our laptops staring at our screens. We started to talk about themes but quickly changed the subject. We couldn't get the words out. We both knew what we wanted to say, but we were too scared to say it to

each other.

This year we can't get past our deep feelings of thanks that our father is with us. We both believe strongly that he will be with us for many, many years to come, but this year he has been fighting cancer. And, sadly, again last week we heard that he is still not in remission. It makes you face the unspeakable. It makes you think about the fragility of our lives.

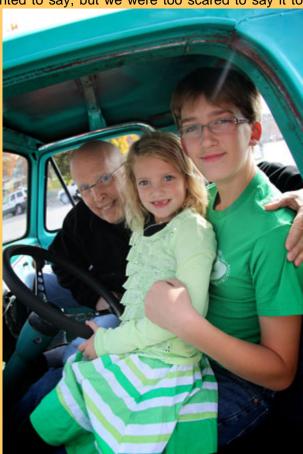
This was the month we had planned to celebrate with him for knocking cancer on its ass. This was going to be the season we put all that behind us. Instead, we are at the beginning of a new treatment, a deeper understanding of this deadly disease, a renewed path to hope.

It was in searching for this hope that we subconsciously decided to "goof off" at work and enjoy the photo albums from Wings of Hope. Buried deep in the photos was this image. These smiles hold all the hope and strength we will need for what tomorrow brings.

We wish you a Thanksgiving Day filled with laughter, hope, joy, and big fat nap.

**Casey & Sloane Simmons** 

Sisters & Co-owners



Our father, Casey's daughter, and Sloane's son.







### There's always great stuff going on at STUFF. Come on in!









## **Mark Your Calendar!**

Jes MaHarry Trunk Show - Every Day through December 24, 2011

Catherine Weitzman Holiday Trunk Show - Every Day through December 4, 2011

Fundraising Party: Planned Parenthood of Kansas & Mid-Missouri - November 21, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

eyebobs Trunk Show - November 21 Through November 28

Fundraising Party: Child Protection Center - November 28, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: First Call - November 29, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Hope House - November 30, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Heart of America Shakespeare Festival - December 1, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Kansas City Free Health Clinic - December 5, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

 $\underline{Fundraising\ Party}: \underline{Women's\ Employment\ Network}\ -\ December\ 6,\ 2011\ -\ 6:00\ to\ 8:00\ pm$ 

Chicks Party (part 1 of a couples party) - December 7, 2011 - 6:00 to 9:00 pm Fundraising Party: Heartland SPCA - December 8, 2011 - 8:00 to 10:00 am

Fundraising Party: AIDS Walk Kansas City - December 8, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Artist in Action: Kevin Kloppenburg - December 10, 2011 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Fundraising Party: SAVE Inc. - December 12, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Dudes Party (part 2 of a couples party) - December 13, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Ronald McDonald House Charities of Kansas City - December 14, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: YouthFriends - December 15, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: UMKC Women's Center - December 19, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Kansas City Anti-Violence Project - December 20, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: Hope Care Center - December 21, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Fundraising Party: ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri - December 22, 2011 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

#### Meet-the-Artist Events & Trunk Shows are announced throughout the year

## To check out more info about STUFF, go to <a href="http://www.pursuegoodstuff.com/">http://www.pursuegoodstuff.com/</a>

Hey! We're not exclusionists!

Please send this information along to any friends that you think deserve to join the fun!

Forward this e-mail to a friend by clicking here.

If you don't already receive these e-mails, join our mailing list by clicking here.

If this e-mail looks funky (that's funky-bad, not funky-good), check to be sure your e-mail settings allow viewing of HTML-formatted e-mail and embedded images. If not, turn them on for the best experience, or talk to your employer and tell them to get with the program.