

Dear FCM Members:

The following letter is about a past member of the FCM. Due to the financial and health situation mentioned below he had to let his membership lapse. Please pray about this situation and help if you are able.

JOHN V. COOPER — magician, author, educational speaker, performance coach, and friend of many — died Sunday night, December 28, after a year-long struggle with heart and kidney problems. He was 52 years old. Due to a 20-year long heart condition that started with strep throat, John was never able to get health insurance or life insurance. Cathi, his wife of 25 years, is now in a serious financial situation.

LET ME EXPLAIN:

John was a fulltime magician and public speaker. Cathi, worked in the performance business with him, having quit a fulltime job years ago as his health required her. During the last year of his life, Cathi had to be with John 24 hours each day, even presenting many of his teacher in-service programs when he could not stand and do them. John could only sit at the back of the room and help with sales.

By June 2008, when he attended my Greenville SC workshop as my guest, John was so weak that he could not stand and work at all. Indeed, John and Cathi had virtually no income for the past six months.

By September 2008 John's heart condition worsened. He needed a heart transplant, but could not be placed on the list due to kidney problems. By November he was placed on dialysis three times weekly — during which time John & Cathi had their 25th wedding anniversary, and he stabilized enough to return home two weeks before Christmas.

On Dec. 21st John got worse. He was rushed to the hospital and hovered for the week between life and death. Like the fighter he was, John made it through Christmas on Thursday, still conscious and coherent. Then on Sunday evening, with wife Cathi, brother Jeff, and 27-year-old son John Jr at his bedside, John Cooper joined his maker in Heaven.

For the past two months Cathi has been under tremendous stress, as you can well understand. Now John is gone, and Cathi has no income and no insurance whatsoever. Book sales from her online store (see below) have been very low in recent months, which was something she tried to do while tending to John at home this fall.

Have you ever wished YOU could really help someone you don't even know? Someone who is truly in need? Have you ever wanted the real spirit of Christmas to work in the real world? Well, friends, here is YOUR CHANCE to make that happen! The time to help that someone is NOW — and that someone is Cathi Cooper.

The bills have continued to mount and are nearing the \$250,000. level.

How can you help? Honestly, Cathi needs money to pay medical bills and house bills. Gift cards will NOT work for those needs. She needs cash.

Let me suggest several different ways you can help her:

1. SEND CATHI A SYMPATHY CARD and pray for her. If you can spare \$5 - \$10 - \$20 or more with the card, yes, that would help. Here is her address: Cathi Cooper, 101 Beulah Drive, Anderson SC 29625 USA.

2. SEND a financial contribution to the JOHN V. COOPER FUND, % Regions Bank, 3404 Clemson Boulevard, Anderson SC 29621. Cathi will use this to pay medical bills and personal expenses. It's tax deductible, if you need an excuse.

3. MAKE A CONTRIBUTION using PayPal. Cathi has an account. Go to <https://www.paypal.com> and long on to your own account. Then click on "Send Money" and type in Cathi's email: wwinc@mindspring.com. Think of it as "Wonder Woman Inc @ mindspring.com."

4. ORDER SOMETHING from the store: <http://sunnysideupbooks.com/>. There are all kinds of books in the store, including magic books.

5. SEND CATHI SOME BOOKS. If you have new or used books around the house, pack them up and ship to Cathi via Media Mail (the cheapest book rate) in the USA only. Maybe she can sell them on the website.

Magic and clown friends, especially YOU GUYS — under different circumstances, this could be the wife or mom of any one of us. How would YOU want her treated if YOU passed away in this situation? Consider that and act accordingly. Whatever you do — please act now, this week, this month, to help a very nice lady out of a jam!

I believe that helping Cathi right now is living out the Golden Rule.