



Linda and Tim Tracy have established a foundation, the money from which they plan to turn over to families for educational, medical, child care and extra-curricular needs of their kids. The couple began the foundation after their daughter, Elizabeth, and Linda's sister and brother-in-law were killed in a car accident a little more than a year ago. The Tracys are shown with daughters Kaitlin, on Tim's lap, and Kristen, as well as their niece, Meghan.

# Foundation fosters families

*Following the loss of a daughter, a sister and a brother-in-law, Linda Tracy and her husband, Tim, raise funds to-aid families*

By Erin Clossley  
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How many families have to suffer the loss of a daughter, a sister and a brother-in-law in one horrifying day? Now how many families would take that catastrophic blow and turn it into something that will help other young children and remember the people they loved most?

It was a little more than a year ago that Tim and Linda Tracy learned their daughter Elizabeth, not yet 2, was killed in a car accident along with Linda's sister and brother-in-law, Kimberly and Carl (Chip) Miller, of Avon.

A tractor-trailer truck driven by a Ludlow man hit the Millers' car from behind on Route 95 in North Attleboro as they were returning from a day at the zoo. The truck driver and his passenger were also killed in the collision.

Today, Tim and Linda Tracy have two

adorable little girls, Kaitlin, 16 months, and Kristen, 3 months, the support of two tightly woven communities, and a mission, in the form of the Miller/Tracy Children's Foundation Inc.

"Linda and I found fund raising sort of therapeutic, and so many people did reach out to us, we thought it was only fitting we try to figure out what we needed to do next," said Tim Tracy.

Shortly after the accident, residents of Avon, Linda and the Millers' hometown, opened their hearts and their wallets and raised more than \$105,000 to rebuild a playground and dedicate it to the family's memory; he said. Chip Miller was a former member of the Avon Parks and Recreation Commission and had pushed to renovate the playground, he said. Then the Massachusetts Department of Correction, Miller's employer, sponsored a motorcycle rally

to benefit students at Norfolk County Agricultural School, he said.

Watertown residents had shown their support all along too. Anne Hardiman, a teacher at the Watertown Integrated Preschool, and Kristen's godmother, had made plates colorfully decorated with a collage of children to sell as fund-raisers., Linda said.

The Tracys were touched by the efforts of their two communities (Tim Tracy is a Watertown native), and discovered that the fund raising gave them perspective and focus, and decided to corral their support and energies into a full-fledged charitable organization to benefit children.

The Miller/Tracy Children's Foundation is, set