Piper Monroe Martin, 20, of Allen, Texas passed away, May 31, 2004, after a long battle with a rare metabolic disorder known as Hartnups, at Medical Center in Plano, Texas. He was born July 2, 1983. He spent the first 17 years of his life in Tyler, Texas, where he was lovingly cared for by his family, the First Baptist Church of Tyler and his school, The Wayne Boshears School of Exceptional Children. In 2001 he and his family moved to Allen, Texas to be near a larger medical community. Although Mr. Martin lost his ability to talk and then walk at an early age and his mental prowess waned with each passing year, his short life proved invaluable to medical science. Serving as a study model for the then incurable disease called Hartnups for a Texas funded research group at Herman Hospital in Houston, and infant diagnosis procedure, now known as “The Piper Test” was developed. This test and the subsequent treatment administered within the first six week of life can often eradicate the deadly syndrome, Hartnups Type II, from the affected individual. Martin’s clinical study was published in the New England Journal of Medicine. He is survived by his father and mother, Danny and Livonna Martin of Allen, Texas; one brother, Garrett Lynn Martin of Allen; his grandmother, Marie Martin of Nacogdoches, Texas; grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas B. Guinn of Chattanooga, Tennessee; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and a long line of loving nurses and care-givers. Family and friends visitation will be at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home at 2525 Central Expressway North at Ridgeview Drive in Allen, Texas, Wednesday, June 2, from 7:00-9:00 PM. Funeral services will be held at Northlake Baptist Church, 10110 McGree Road at Ferndale Road, Dallas, Texas, 75238, on Thursday, June 3 at 10:00 AM. Officiants will be Rev. Bob Mayfield of Tyler, Texas and Rev. Matt Baker, pastor at Northlake. Out-of-town visitors wishing to see family may do so immediately following the service in the church parlor. Graveside services and interment will be conducted also on Thursday at 4:30 PM at Sunset Memorial Cemetery, 5217 North Street, in Nacogdoches, Texas, 75961. Presiding will be Rev. E. Dale Hill, cousin of deceased, of Sugarland, Texas.

Memorials
We have prayed a long time for Piper and I take comfort in the fact that he is resting in the arms of Jesus alongside Darrell. What a blessing that we have the Lord Jesus to rest on here and in the hereafter. All my love and prayers are with you.

LAURA HOLT TREADAWAY, JUNE 16, 2004

Our prayers are with you in the celebration of Pipers life. I am so glad I was in your home briefly to care for Piper and Garrett when they were babies. It was an experience I will always remember. Your family inspired me. Beverly & Don

BEVERLY CROZIER, JUNE 16, 2004

Danny and Livonna, you may not remember me, but I remember you--and Piper. Lenvil, especially, always told everyone about Piper, and I was saddened to read, only tonight, in browsing the Sentinel Obituaries, of his homegoing. I just wanted to know that he touched my life, although briefly, and I will never be the same because of that. I, too, want to thank you for sharing the information as to his contributions to medical science and the development of The Piper Test! Thanks for everything, and know that you will see him again one day.

BARBARA BLACK, JUNE 11, 2004

We were saddened to learn of Piper's death. We will be praying for you in the days ahead. What a comfort to know that even in our sorrow we have strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. We know that God's great faithfulness will sustain you until you see Piper again.

MARK, JANET, RYAN, LEANNA BOON, JUNE 8, 2004

So sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

HERMAN & PATSY JOHNSTON, JUNE 8, 2004

Dear Danny and Livonna, When my Mom told me about Piper, I wanted to let you know that I'm thinking about you and praying that you'll feel God's comfort at this difficult time. You are a very special family, and I'm certain that God has and will continue to use Piper's life and your faith to touch many lives.

Sincerely,

LORI CROZIER BOLES, JUNE 6, 2004
Hey, Dear Friends! I was at Camp all this week and didn't learn of Piper's homegoing until mid-week. Our hearts are broken for you. Our hearts hurt with you this week. Be assured of our prayerful concern. We are somewhat acquainted with the death of a child: my only brother lost his 19 yr. old daughter in 1985 in a fiery car accident. Love you three! Allan and Linda Cox

ALLAN COX, JUNE 5, 2004

Danny, I was so sorry to read of the death of your son. I will remember you and your family in my prayers. Nancy

NANCY TISCHHAUSER STEWART, JUNE 4, 2004

Danny, Livonna, & Garrett—Our hearts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow and hope. Your family has blessed the lives of so many people, including us, with such special inspiration, and our prayer is that you will find it returned to you many times over. Thank you for letting us know how Piper's life contributed to the well-being of countless others in the future. We've missed you.

DAVID & BETTY COUCH, JUNE 4, 2004

Danny, Livonna, and Garrett, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you in your loss of Piper. You have been an inspiration to me; your love and devotion for him has always been so evident. God blessed you with Piper and He blessed Piper through you.

NAN SHELTON, JUNE 3, 2004

Livonna, Danny, and Garret, Our loving thoughts and prayers are with you in your loss of Piper. We know how very special he was and how much he will be missed. It is a special thought that he is running and playing in Heaven now. We love you and miss you. Bill and Dana

DANA PARTRIDGE, JUNE 3, 2004

Praying for all of you. We love you all, you have been so faithful in your love for Piper. God bless you. Jim & Lynn

JIM & LYNN PARNELL, JUNE 3, 2004

With heartfelt sympathy, may the love and tender mercy of God surround you during this time of sorrow. We are praying for you.
Dear Danny, Livonna and Garrett, Just wanted you to know of our care and concern for the three of you when we learned of Piper's death. May you experience the depths of God's love and compassion during the days ahead. May he grant you the kind of peace that only he can give. Each of you have been a shining example of selfless, loving devotion to Piper. You have taught all of us how to live by faith. God bless you. With heartfelt sympathy and much love, Allen and Mary Kathryn Hurst

ALLEN/MARYKATHRYN HURST, JUNE 3, 2004

Watching the Martins as a family is a lesson in loving, caring and devotion. Piper gave us joy, heightened our awareness, made us laugh and most of all helped us learn. His legacy will not only help other children with Hartnup's, but has helped shape us in the way we view and react to the adversity and JOY of Precious life. His life and the love he inspired is precious to many for many reasons.

LAURIE, MOLLY AND MONICA MERCER, JUNE 3, 2004

We were so sorry to learn of your loss, but thankful in knowing that Piper is now at peace with our Lord. May God comfort you Danny, Livona, and Garrett.

JERRY & MARY BELLIS, JUNE 3, 2004

Your loving, gentle care of Piper composed a lovely picture of God's care for each of us. I pray God fills your hearts with a comfort only He can provide.

LOU ANNE SMOOT, JUNE 3, 2004

We are thinking about you and praying for you. Piper is with our Lord, and you can have comfort knowing you were such good parents while he was here with you on earth. Thank God, you will see him again. We love you!

DAVID, CARLETA, CARL & KYLE CATES, JUNE 3, 2004

Danny, Lavonna, and Garrett, How I pray that you feel the peace and tranquility of God's Spirit. Sending my heartfelt love and sympathy. God bless you as you have been such a blessing to me and so many others.

LEATHA BISHOP, JUNE 3, 2004

I was so sorry to hear about Piper's death. He was special in so many
ways. What a blessing it was to have him for nearly 21 yrs. I know what a close and loving family you are and how tenderly you cared for Piper. What a terrible loss for you and for all who loved him. Please accept my deepest sympathy.

Andrea/St. Louis Sp. Ed

ANDREA HAYDEN, JUNE 2, 2004

Danny, There is no way I can feel the sorrow that goes with this loss, but I do feel a sorrow after the years that you have had him, and thank God that he is now in God's hands. We SHALL see him again! Rick Franklin, Choir FBC Terrell

RICK FRANKLIN, JUNE 2, 2004

Sorry to hear of your loss. You two have been wonderful parents to Piper and been so faithful to care for him. Our prayers will be with you and Garrett.

MARTHA, BOB MCCOLLUM, JUNE 2, 2004

Danny, Livonna, and Garrett, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Charles and Maxine Herbst

CHARLES & MAXINE HERBST, JUNE 2, 2004

Livonna, I remember the loving care you and your family gave to your dear son, Piper. He knew he was loved. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Remember me as your good friend and co-worker from Owens Elem. School in Tyler. neldaellis@hotmail.com

NELDA G. ELLIS, JUNE 2, 2004

Danny and Livonna, I just wanted to express my deepest sympathies for you and your family at this time. Sincerely, Billy

BILLY R. SMOOT, JR., JUNE 2, 2004

Livonna, I wanted to send my deepest sympathy to you and your family in the loss of Piper. I was very touched to learn how his life through medical research will enable others to have a chance at a normal life through "The Piper Test". I have thought of you often and always admired your strength through countless trials. Please send my love to Garrett. Thinking of each of you at this difficult time. With sympathy, Beverly McRae

BEVERLY SUE MCRAE, JUNE 2, 2004
My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.
JANE HARDEMAN, JUNE 2, 2004

You are in our thoughts and prayers. Joe and Richie Stone
RICHIELEEN (HARDEMAN) STONE, JUNE 2, 2004

Dear Danny, Livonna, & Garrett, My deepest sympathies to you in the loss of your beloved Piper. I cherish the memories of my FBC Tyler days & count it a blessing to have known you, worshiped with you & at times took care of your precious children. May God’s peace & love be your source of strength.
VICKIE BUNDICK, JUNE 2, 2004

Hello Danny and Livonna, I wanted to simply write and tell you that the people here at FBC, Terrell will be praying for you and your family tonight, Wednesday June 2. You were all such a blessing to all of us here during our interim period. May God bless you during you time of loss and transition. Love to you, Ernie
ERNIE MCCOULSKEY, JUNE 2, 2004

Just to let you know we are thinking of you in your loss. The Zindler Family- Tyler Mark, June, Seth, Austin, and Adam
JUNE N. ZINDLER, JUNE 2, 2004

Danny and Lavonna. We are so sorry to hear of Piper’s death...he has truly suffered a long time as have all of you. After reading the obit in the Tyler paper, we realize how his life will help other children for many years to come. We are grateful that he is now in the arms of Jesus and is a complete person again. We miss you and are praying for you all.
GARY & CAROL ANN ADAMS, JUNE 2, 2004

Piper attended Andrews Daycare and St Louis with my son Cameron in Tyler. Being from Nacogdoches, and graduating from high school with Piper’s cousin Bryan, I was always very interested in his condition. I am deeply saddened to hear that he is no longer with us, but I can just see that beautiful sweet look on his face as he gazes into the face of Jesus and then runs into his arms.
JAN DOBBS BARTON, JUNE 2, 2004

What a precious loving boy. We have you in our prayers and thoughts and will
always cherish the time we were allowed to spend with Piper. We love you all and think of you so often.

JOANNE AND BOB WILLIAMS, JUNE 2, 2004

Sorry about your loss of Piper. I know it will be a mixed blessing. You were all so faithful and attentive to his care. I hope you can find comfort to know he is in a better place and whole again. Know that you will all be in my prayers. Jan

JAN WOOD, JUNE 2, 2004

When I think of Piper, I think of gentleness, affection, enthusiasm, gratefulness and contentment...the exact characteristics God desires in each of us. Piper was an exceptional young man, loaned to an exceptional family..you did well, and you all have been an inspiration to us. Piper’s life not only touched others but changed many of us in the process. Thank you for allowing us the privelege of encountering one of God’s most precious lambs. We love you.

CHUCK, AMANDA & ROBBIE MILLER, JUNE 2, 2004

I am so sorry for your loss, but I know you all have the peace of the assurance that Piper is at home now with our precious Lord. Love you all Pam

PAM A CHESLEY, JUNE 2, 2004

Livonna - I have often thought of you and wondered how all of you were doing. I always have had such admiration for you as you dealt with Piper’s illness, and were also so good to and with your students at Owens. Piper was blessed with a loving and caring family. My prayers are with all of you. Please give Garrett a hug for me.

JULIEE DENMAN, JUNE 2, 2004

When I saw Piper’s picture in the paper this morning, I knew that had a brief and difficult life. I also knew that he had been surrounded through it all by care, compassion, and great love from his family. God comfort all of you.

DIANE JAGER, JUNE 2, 2004
Family Owned Since 1945
Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow is the premier provider of funeral services in North Texas, with seven convenient locations and three beautiful memorial parks. We are a locally owned family business that has served North Texas for over 70 years. Families who visit us receive the highest quality of professionalism and service, with compassion and care that are unsurpassed.