

# PRESS RELEASE

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S DAUGHTER, TRAYVON MARTIN'S MOTHER TO INSPIRE AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

**Indianapolis, IN 01/07/15:** The first annual National Grief & Hope Convention is pleased to announce its influential roster of inspirational speakers slated to take the stage of the JW Marriott Indianapolis' Grand Ballroom on April 16 – 18, 2015. Open to the public, the convention is the first of its kind to raise awareness, inspire hope, and help modernize how society approaches grief.

"Loss comes in many forms and is an inevitable part of life, yet the aftermath of loss remains poorly understood because it's a very uncomfortable matter to discuss," states convention founder Lynda Cheldelin Fell, who lost her teenage daughter in a tragic car accident in 2009. "One goal for the convention is to lay a foundation that better supports grievers for generations to come. We are delighted to offer such an influential group of world visionaries who are passionate about carving a new frontier in how our society handles grief."

The National Grief & Hope Convention 2015 speakers include:

- Dr. Bernice A. King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King and Coretta Scott King
- Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin
- Pastor Todd Burpo, father of Colton Burpo's Heaven is for Real
- Lynda Cheldelin Fell, TV/Radio producer and international bestselling author
- Madonna Badger, ad agency owner who lost parents and three daughters in Christmas day fire
- Dr. Ken Druck, national award winning resiliency expert
- Benjamin Scott Allen, bestselling author of Out of the Ashes
- Tanya Brown, youngest sister of Nicole Brown Simpson
- Angie Cartwright, founder of National Grief Awareness Day
- Beth Nielsen Chapman, Grammy nominee and award winning songwriter
- Christine Duminiak, author, radio host, and certified grief recovery specialist
- Richard Leigh, Grammy award winning songwriter of over ten #1 hits, orphaned at young age
- Christina Rasmussen, White House and Huffington Post blogger and bestselling author of Second Firsts
- Carol Scibelli, award winning comedian playwright, and author of Poor Widow Me
- Lisa Williams, TV host, world renowned psychic medium, speaker & teacher

"Our nation is facing new and daunting challenges when it comes to dealing with life's many losses. So are we, as individuals. The need to upgrade our "Grief Literacy" operating systems and software is crucial," states award winning resiliency expert Dr. Ken Druck.

"We will change the myths, the stereotypes and all the traditional words used to describe the most powerful human experience," shares White House blogger and keynote speaker Christina Rasmussen, author of Second Firsts.

"The most beautiful gift we can give the grieving is validation, and the first step to validation is to bring grief out in the open. I'm looking forward to contributing to such an important milestone. This convention truly is a game changer," states National Grief Awareness Day founder Angie Cartwright.

The convention will also host an award ceremony, entertainment, and The Power of One candle ceremony. The World Visionary Dinner will immediately follow for dignitaries, honorary guests, speakers, and corporate sponsors.

WHAT: National Grief & Hope Convention 2015  
WHERE: JW Marriott Indianapolis  
WHEN: April 16 – 18, 2015  
WEB: [www.griefconvention.com](http://www.griefconvention.com)

CONTACT: Lynda Cheldelin Fell  
EMAIL: [lynda@lyndafell.com](mailto:lynda@lyndafell.com)  
PHONE: 360-510-8590