



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2011

Contact: Sara Bazant
Director of Marketing
Orangewood Children's Foundation
Office: 714-619-0206
Cell: 562-743-7272

**3rd Annual Eric Pepys Memorial Golf Tournament –
A Celebration of Kids & Golf**
Memorial Golf Tournament Nets \$70k for Foster Youth Scholarships

Santa Ana – Friends and family of Eric Pepys (of Newport Beach) gathered last week for the 3rd annual memorial golf tournament and summer party in his honor. Sixty golfers headed out to the links for an afternoon of golf and a total of 200 gathered afterwards for a reception and dinner under the stars at the Santa Ana Country Club. Approximately \$70,000 was netted for Orangewood Children's Foundation, bringing the three-year total to \$186,000. The proceeds will fund Orangewood's Advanced Studies Scholarship Program. Now in its third year the program provides former foster youth who have already earned a bachelor's degree the opportunity to continue their education in masters programs or other specialized advanced studies. Including the incoming class of 2011-2012 scholarship students, the program has funded 17 deserving former foster youth.

Shirley and Eric Pepys have been long-time supporters of the Foundation. While Shirley served on the board of directors and various board or event committees, Eric was always helping others in the background. He passed away in January of 2009 and in his memory an annual golf tournament was established to celebrate his life and his great love of foster children and golf.

Pepys family members in attendance included Eric's wife Shirley, children Renee (Pepys) Lowe, Tiffany Pepys Hoey, Max Pepys and Noel Pepys, and the six grandchildren. The event was co-chaired by Shirley Pepys (of Balboa Island), Renee Pepys Lowe (also of Newport Beach) and Dan Houck (of Corona Del Mar). Golf winners were: Darren Houck (Closest to the pin and longest drive-male), Susan Samueli (Longest drive - womens); and the foursome of Ron Benigno, Dan Ciccarella, Marty Michael and Anuj Patel.

During the dinner program, a former foster youth spoke. She shared her story of being in foster care for 13 years. Through Orangewood college scholarships she graduated from Hope University. Then, with help from the Advanced Studies program she completed a rigorous police academy at Fullerton College. In May she was hired by a local police department. With excitement in her face she showed her police badge and described her first arrest (putting her knee in the suspect's back as he lay on the ground and "cuffing" him). She said it has been her dream to be a police officer since middle school: "I feel like Cinderella...I got everything I wanted. And I broke the cycle of abuse and poverty."

About Orangewood Children's Foundation

Orangewood Children's Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1981 and one of the leading providers of services to children in foster care. Through financial assistance, mentors, daily living skills workshops, transitional housing and college scholarships, we give these innocent victims of child abuse a chance at happy, productive lives. Last year alone Orangewood scholarships helped over 350 former foster children attend colleges and universities throughout the United States. In our 30year history we have helped over 74,000 kids find their wings and soar. Beyond our programs, for thousands of foster children Orangewood means "family," "opportunity" and "hope." Learn how you can help at www.orangewoodfoundation.org.