

# rites of passage

presents

## *Turning Toward the Morning*

Stories of love and loss, of grief and hope

A video of unusual power and beauty, **Turning Toward the Morning** brings to light stories of parents who have lost a child to illness, to accidental death and to suicide. Filled with the special wisdom of dying children and the heartfelt thoughts of their parents, its message is one of hope, not only for bereaved parents but for all of us. In the very short time since its release, **Turning Toward the Morning** has brought solace and comfort to many hundreds of people.



"*Turning Toward the Morning* is a celebration of the human spirit. It is one of the most powerful expressions of love, compassion and transcendence I have ever seen. It is a reminder that we humans, for all our faults and failings, also contain the Divine. We are capable of great strengths, great visions, and great wisdom, which often surface in the wake of great pain. Watch this documentary with someone you love, and be prepared for magic."

-Larry Dossey, MD, author of "Healing Words", "Reinventing Medicine"

"A visual presentation of narratives of loss and grief, **Turning Toward the Morning's** unique contribution to the field is in its story telling method. This 40 minute video is set to music by artists that range from Deep Forest to The Texas Boys Choir. All the stories are told in print on the screen. Reading the text of the featured individual's thoughts and experiences gives voice to each story. This unique narrative method combined with the musical score provides an excellent opportunity to focus on particular aspects of loss and grief. **Cindy and Andy Pickard** have brought the arts and humanities to the experience of grief. *Turning Toward the Morning* is a powerful documentary."

-Lynne Ann DeSpelder, coauthor, "The Last Dance: Encountering Death and Dying"

**Rites of Passage**, originally AIDS Care and Assistance, is a non profit agency which was founded in 1988 with a mission to provide services for terminally ill patients and to offer education on AIDS and on death and dying. Our philosophy and our work have been greatly influenced by **Elisabeth Kubler-Ross** who taught us that, "In our most anguished moments may reside the greatest of gifts - not only for ourselves but for the world." Our unique contribution has come through our use of art, video and photography. Through these mediums, we have been able to communicate our own vision as well as the teachings and wisdom of our patients to a worldwide audience.

**We are available for in-service/ seminars/ presentations on our work** - which we have done for church and community groups, prisons, schools and universities, hospitals and hospices throughout the country. These presentations include the showing of one or more of our videos and are treasured inspiration for staff, volunteers and families. For more information including other DVDs please visit our website.

[www.ritesofpassagejourney.org](http://www.ritesofpassagejourney.org)

If you are interested in scheduling a presentation please contact either Cindy or Ralph at:

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