

"Our family is deeply grateful for your support and help . . ."



## Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation

Taking Care of our Own since 1959

The AACF is about taking care of its own.  
After all, if we don't take care  
of our own, who will?

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## AACF Annual Golf Tournament

Once again this year the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation ([www.aacfi.org](http://www.aacfi.org)) will be hosting their Annual, All-Industry Golf Outing to kick-off Industry Week in Las Vegas just prior to the start of SEMA and AAPEX. The event will take place just off The Strip at the magnificent Las Vegas Country Club on Monday, Oct. 31st with a "shotgun" start at 8:00am. All proceeds help fund the Foundation's work as the Industries' only charitable organization dedicated to helping aftermarket industry workers at their most critical time of need.



"Our Golf Committee is amazing," proclaimed Foundation Director Joel Ayres. "They work tirelessly in a volunteer capacity to organize the biggest and most well-executed golf event our industry has ever known." The event, which sells out every year, is organized by a Committee consisting of

industry leaders Andy Dudash of TBC Corp., Lynn Parker of Lynn Parker Associates, Larry Magee of Heartland Automotive Services, Rich Scovner of Tenneco, Mike Wilcox of Hennessy Industries, Shane Willis of Acel, and Jeff Helfrich of TBC Corp.

"The Golf Committee is proud to put forth this effort on behalf of the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation," stated Committee Chairman Andy Dudash. "We've had tremendous support from so many wonderful companies across the landscape of our industry, it's just an honor to pull it all together for them and to see everybody gather to have a great time in support of a great cause!"

*Continued on page 5 >*

*Go to [AACFI.org/Golf](http://AACFI.org/Golf) to see more details and register for this year's event.*

## Upcoming Events

Oct. 29-31  
2016 Automotive Warehouse Distributors Association (AWDA) 69th Annual Business and Education Conference |  
The Venetian | Las Vegas, NV

Oct. 30  
AACF Board of Trustees Meeting |  
Las Vegas Country Club |  
Las Vegas, NV

Oct. 30 - 31  
AACF Annual Bob Schoeberl Memorial Golf Tournament |  
Las Vegas Country Club |  
Las Vegas, NV

Oct. 31 - Nov. 3  
AAPEX 2016 | Sands Expo |  
Las Vegas, NV

Nov. 1 - 4  
SEMA Show/Global Tire Expo |  
Las Vegas, NV

Dec. 4-7  
2016 Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance Membership Winter Meeting  
Trump National Doral |  
Miami, FL



Visit us online at [AACFI.org](http://AACFI.org) | [linkedin.com/company/automotive-aftermarket-charitable-foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/automotive-aftermarket-charitable-foundation) | [facebook.com/AACFI](https://www.facebook.com/AACFI)



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*Lila, sister with Brent Jr.*



*Brent Jr.*

### Recipient Spotlight - Brent Adams

Within loss you find grief and with grief you discover things about yourself and your family that you had never known before and would never know hadn't something so tragic change you.

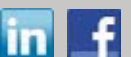
We are a family of four with a beautiful daughter and big sister, Lila who is 7 years old. Our youngest, our son Brent, Jr., who is now our soulful angel in heaven, whom we lost at the young age of 19 months about a year and half ago. Brent, Jr. was one of a kind medically speaking and spirit wise. He was born with a congenital heart condition, Truncus Arteriosus Type I, a narrow airway which caused him to have a tracheostomy as his critical airway, and a rare genetic disorder called Complete DiGeorge Syndrome where he completely lacked T cells, an important part of your functioning immune system. He made it through 3 open heart surgeries and we all had high hopes that Brent would receive a thymus transplant at Duke University to give him a new immune system. Despite all those obstacles he had so many happy days, he had a passion for music of all kinds, loved to listen to poetry and of course Mickey Mouse and his big sister were the brightest part of his day.

We spent more than half of his life in the hospital, my husband was on FMLA leave which he ended up exhausting and his company gave him additional time off. None of that time was paid time off including the FMLA leave. I was a paralegal for many years' prior but had to leave my job once our son was born and we went from having two full time incomes to having no income at all. When your life falls to shambles and everything good seems to slip away, the life of bills and responsibilities still goes on and you're still responsible for making those monthly payments. That is how we were introduced to the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation, through a co-worker of my husband. His co-worker was researching and calling everyone he could think of to find help to give us that little bit of relief that we so very much needed. We felt not just overwhelmed with getting bad news on top of bad news about our son's health but worrying about how we were going to make our monthly payments were taking a toll on us.

Since the first moment that we spoke to AACF we had a huge weight lifted from our already heavy hearts with knowing that we weren't going to have to stress and worry about how we were going to pay our bills. The relief really allowed us to be 100% committed to our son in the hospital and also to our daughter, who was 5 years old at the time and just started Kindergarten. Juggling the two children was hard, my husband was the one who mostly stayed at home and cared for our daughter and I stayed in the hospital trying to understand and stay on top of our sons complicated health. The help that was provided to us from your foundation allowed us to be our sons primary caregivers and we were told several times by his doctors that it was because of our care and our close attention to details that gave us the additional precious time with our son, especially the time spent at home with his big sister. Our time with him was the greatest blessing, a treasure that we all 3 keep close to our hearts. It was filled with memories that we will never forget of time that we can never get back.

Our son was a happy soul who made the best of the life that he was given. We watched him everyday beat the odds and learned so much from him about life, family and unconditional love. We would trade in all the wisdom and perspective that we've gained from this journey to have our son back in our arms but it's the gift of loss in which he has given us and we mean to do something helpful with it. *Continued on page 5 >*

If tragedy strikes, it usually does so without warning. And when it does, the AACF is here to help. If you or someone you know needs help, please contact us through your Human Resources Department or call us at 772-286-5500. *All calls are confidential.*



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### *Thank You AACF Partner Organizations*

We get many thank you's, but want to give a big thank you to some of our biggest industry supporters AASA, & Auto Care Association. Space does not allow us to highlight partner, SEMA this issue. We will feature Chris Kersting, President & CEO of SEMA in the next eNewsletter.

Bill Long, AAP  
President and Chief Operating Officer  
Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA)

I've been privileged to be a part of the automotive aftermarket for 30-plus years. I worked with and met many wonderful individuals at the great organizations I've been a part of over the years – Proliance International Inc., Echlin/Dana's Engine Management Division, BWD Automotive; Beck/Arnley WorldParts; NAPA Echlin; and Accel, Hurst and Mr. Gasket, NASCAR, the Indy Racing League ... just to name a few. I joined the AASA team in 2012 and I'm proud of what we've accomplished – and where we are going.

But, of all my career accomplishments and accolades, my "job titles" that I am most proud of are these: Father and Grandfather. My wife, Alison, and I are blessed with two beautiful and talented daughters. And our grandson is the joy of our lives.

Love of family was the impetus to my joining the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation in 2013. In the course of my life, especially my years in racing, I saw how quickly life can change and how bad things can happen to good, hard working people.

Over the years, I've seen the AACF's good works assist many people who devoted their careers to the industry, and I've been touched by AACF's commitment to "taking care of our own."

It's my honor to serve the AACF and support its invaluable mission of helping aftermarket families in times of need.

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"Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls."  
-David Thomas



Bill Long, AAP

### *In-Kind Donors*

A big thank you to the media and magazine publications that have run ads for the Foundation. This is a great help in getting the word out and spreading awareness to those in need.

Babcox Media  
THE SHOP Magazine  
NMRA  
PWA Newsline  
Utility Fleet Professional Magazine  
SEMA News  
GreenSheet  
Trucking Times Magazine  
AAPEX Express  
Dennis Gage. My Classic Car TV Show  
Chip Foose, Overhaulin' TV Show

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



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Bill Hanvey

### AACF BOARD MEMBER NEWS

The AACF would like to thank Lee Fitts for his dedicated service on the Board of Trustees. He has been a valued member and his time and attention is much appreciated.

The AACF would like to welcome Tyler Reeves (Trustee) to the Board's Revenue Growth and Marketing Committees.

Also a big welcome to new Board Member Trustees, Michael Cuccio of AutoZone, and Bill Hanvey of Auto Care Association.

We appreciate all the valuable time and the guidance everyone brings to the Foundation. The Foundation would not exist without our amazing board of industry volunteers.

### Spotlight - Board Member Bill Hanvey

I have been in the auto care industry – what we also call the aftermarket – for more than 30 years. Before becoming president and CEO of the Auto Care Association on Dec. 1, 2015, I served as senior vice president of the Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA) since 2012. At AASA, I managed their headquarters operations while advocating for North American parts manufacturers to the auto care industry, federal and state government agencies, and the business community.

I began my career with extensive field sales experience and increasing management roles at Tenneco Automotive. I then became marketing director, FleetPride, where I developed and executed a strategic marketing plan integrating 37 separately-owned companies into what is now the largest independent heavy duty parts distributor.

The next step in my career was as VP, marketing, Dorman Products, Inc., leading creative and data services, trade marketing and product communications, doubling sales of “OE dealer exclusive” parts, automotive hardware and brake parts sold under the Dorman brand. I then became VP, sales and marketing, Schaeffler Group USA, leading the North American aftermarket team while developing and implementing a new company strategic direction, transitioning its sales and product focus from co-man to direct sales.

I take great pride and satisfaction in serving on the board of the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation. I have had the occasion to recommend AACF assistance for colleagues who found themselves in unfortunate situations and difficult times and you never know when you might need a helping hand. Our industry is more than just selling parts and keeping motorists on the road, we are a community that cares for our own. This is what makes us so special and what makes the AACF an invaluable resource for those in need.

I am looking forward to promoting the foundation to our industry and ensuring its growth in the years to come.

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“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”  
- Aesop

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### ***Recipient Spotlight Continued***

I found my life's passion in caring for him and I'm now in the process of applying to nursing school to obtain my RN degree. I want to help children just like our son and support parents just like us who have lost a child.

After our son passed away we all suffered from obvious reasons. Heart break is not something that you can just cure and my husband took FMLA leave again as we tried to heal our broken hearts. Those months afterwards were a blur but the foundation supported us through it and gave us time to grieve and be there for our daughter. About 4 months after our loss we decided we really needed to get out of the house where all our memories were with our son and with help from our family we bought our first home. My husband went back to work full time after his leave and I started school full time, which doesn't allow me to return to work especially when I start the nursing program in January 2017. About 4 months after we bought our house my husband suffered a grand mal seizure from a low potassium level which put him in the hospital and required many appointments and tests with the neurologist. He healed from that and about a month later our daughter broke her tibia and was in a wheelchair with a full leg cast for the holidays and the next couple of months. More recently the doctors found a bone spur on my husband's cervical vertebrae and narrowing of his spinal canal which caused him to lose ability to use his last two fingers on his left hand. The feeling has started to come back in his hand but it was something that came out of nowhere and the doctors are still trying to get more information about it and how to fix it; either with spinal injections or spinal surgery if necessary. Through all of our times of struggle though, the AACF has been by our side assisting us so we can continue to heal.

It's been a long journey and it's taken a lot of reflecting, struggle and tears to get to where we are now, and we still have a long way to go. The Foundation gave us hope at a time in need and still continues to give us hope and prove to us that there are people out there that do care and want to help especially in times when it's hard to ask for it. We are forever grateful for the foundation's support and know that it is because of that support we're able to try and rebuild our lives.

God Bless,  
The Adams Family  
Brent, Angie & Lila

### ***Golf Tournament Continued***

... In addition to the golf tournament, the event also includes a continental breakfast and award luncheon just prior to and after the golf outing. There's also a pre-event reception, held Sunday evening Oct. 30th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm also at the Las Vegas Country Club. The golf outing and all sponsorship opportunities are open to all industry participants, from parts manufacturers and specialty products suppliers, to tire manufacturers and distributors, to rep agencies, advertising and marketing firms and technology providers, to automotive service chains, collision repair shops and individually-owned repair facilities. You do not need to golf to be a sponsor. **All are welcome!**

Go to [AACFI.org/Golf](http://AACFI.org/Golf) to see more details and register for this year's event.

### ***Awareness Partner Program***

The AACF Awareness Partner Program was developed so conscientious companies can inform their employees about the help offered by The Foundation.

A current or past employee may need the assistance that only the AACF can offer. By supporting its work you are providing a benefit to employees as well as giving back to your industry.

There is no cost to join. Simply share the information about our program with your HR Department and employees.

#### **JOIN OUR PARTNERSHIP**

Contact Joel Ayres, Executive Director  
(916) 628-0271  
[Joel@AACFI.org](mailto:Joel@AACFI.org)

### **Welcome New Awareness Partners**

Just Brakes  
Aeromotive  
Driven Performance Brands  
Blues Auto Parts  
DeeZee  
Hennessy Industries  
OSC Automotive Cooling Products

**The happiest people  
in life are the givers,  
not the getters.**

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### About Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation

The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation was founded in 1959 as an organization dedicated to assisting automotive aftermarket people who, because of catastrophic illness or terrible accident, have exhausted all other available resources in maintaining a reasonable existence. The Foundation is staffed by industry executives who donate their time with the single goal of providing a solution to the family or individuals who have reached this position of great need. We depend on the generous assistance of our industry companies and individuals to provide the financial support to fund the foundation.

The AACF is a not-for-profit organization.

For more information:  
[www.AACFI.org](http://www.AACFI.org)

### CONTACT AACF FOR MORE INFORMATION

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