

# AFTD's "With Love" Campaign 2012

Widely recognized as the "Day of Love," February 14th is just around the corner. To honor this day, AFTD has launched a "With Love" campaign to raise awareness of frontotemporal degeneration (FTD) and to raise money for care and a cure for the disease.

Frontotemporal degeneration is a disease that causes a group of brain disorders characterized by behavior, language and/or motor symptoms. It strikes without regard to age, strength or activity level. It can change the essence of a loved one's personality. It can halt their words and erase their sense of social graces and acceptable behavior. For many, FTD steals the ability to express emotions and convey feelings with their closest family and friends.



Despite the many things that FTD takes from an affected person, there are many courageous, enduring and beautifully defiant stories of love within the FTD community.

Chris and Christopher Yurkanan have one such love story. Chris is affected with primary progressive aphasia, a language disorder of FTD, while Christopher suffers from Parkinson's disease. Despite the challenges and medical concerns, Chris and Christopher "live and love large."

"We enjoy and seek the beauty in the small things and special moments," says Christopher. "We've learned to become 'nowists'...people who live in the present. It's imperative to do that...to be genuine in the moment."

With Chris's Texas-sized smile and twinkling eyes, and Christopher's quick wit and delightful charm, they remind each other that they are in this together...that they'll face each challenge ahead "with love."



**This Valentine's Day, AFTD asks you to be part of our "With Love" campaign.** Make a donation in honor of someone with FTD. Make a donation in honor of your loved one. Share this page with other people who may not know about FTD. Or create your own "With Love" fundraising page and link it to ours, right from this page. Anyone who creates their own "With Love" grassroots fundraiser will receive a set of FTD

awareness bracelets from AFTD. Tell your story...tell your family and friends why their gift to AFTD is so important...tell someone, who'll tell someone else about FTD. Tell them...with love.

***A generous donation has been made in honor of Alice Guiney, a loving friend to many who is currently suffering from FTD. To honor Alice at Valentine's Day, the donor has agreed to match donations up to \$5000 in support of AFTD's "With Love" Campaign 2012. Show a little love, send your donations to AFTD now, and Alice's donor will match up to \$5000!***

Happy Valentine's Day!

With Love,

--Beth Walter, AFTD Board Chair