## THIRD ANNUAL CONOR'S RUN September 13, 2003 - Williamstown, MA



Our identical twin boys came into the world on a cold January day in 1997, and it changed our lives and many others forever. Although we were blessed with two beautiful twin boys we also found out that one twin, Conor, had severe brain damage and we weren't sure what challenges lay ahead for his brother, Patrick. The complications that caused their premature birth and Conor's unfortunate outcome was caused by a syndrome called Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome (www.tttsfoundation.org). It is a disease of the placenta that affects nearly 6,000 identical twins each year; most of these babies either die prior to birth or shortly thereafter from heart failure or severe anemia. Our twins survived albeit with a grim future ahead for Conor and an uncertain one for Patrick. Conor had many, many challenges in his short three years of life...but the day he died on January 1, 2001, was the day that we promised him that we would help stop this disease from taking future lives of identical twins.

On September 15, 2001, we held the *First Annual Conor's Run* (www.conorsrun.com) charity road race. It was an overwhelming success with over 500 attendees and raised over \$15,000 for the *Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome Foundation*. This event alone has helped create a tremendous awareness of this dreadful syndrome and the money aided many families that have been diagnosed with TTTS throughout the world in receiving treatment, therapy and counseling!! Due to such a successful event and the fact that we helped save lives, we now hold *Conor's Run* every September.

Through your donations/sponsoring the *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conor's Run*, you can help us keep our promise to Conor and save the lives of future twins and their families. We know he is looking down at all of us and smiling...he knows that we can do it!! Please seriously consider donating to this worthy cause....you won't regret it, Conor's promise!!

If you have any questions you can contact us at home anytime...(413) 458 - 3560.

Sincerely,

Bernadette and Dave Archibald 221 Park Street Williamstown, MA 01267