

The IFOPA proudly presents to you a Legacy Member . . .  
Monica Anderson – Founding Legacy Member  
by Nancy Sando



Above is John and Lydia with their daughter Monica at a gathering for people in the FOP community.

Monica Anderson, 44 was diagnosed at age of three years at John Hopkins Hospital by Dr. Victor McKusick. She has lived in the Washington DC – Maryland area her whole life and has enjoyed vacationing with her family in Niagara Falls, Bahamas, Williamsburg and Busch Gardens to name a few places.

After her 1987 high school graduation, Monica continued her education by attending the American University in Washington DC. In 1991 she received her Bachelor's degree in Russian Studies and her Masters in Russian and International Studies in 1994. With her two college degrees under her belt, she worked for Tax Analysts, a tax publication company, in the translation department then moved to the finance department a year later. She held that position for thirteen years until the company downsized and she was let go.

In Monica's free time she enjoys a good mystery, going to the movies – she likes any type . . . comedy, drama, action. When at home she can be found watching CSI, Criminal Minds or similar shows. Her most coveted time is with family and friends or going to a live theater performance. Monica enjoys a good Italian meal or a feast of crab cakes.



Monica working for Tax Analysts.

Monica feels that her college years and thirteen years of work experience are among her top accomplishments. She would still love to work and finds being involved in church activities helps fill this void. Monica believes she is a good listener and helps those that need encouragement by her naturally gentle way.

Monica has been inspired by her parents and third grade teacher, Dr. LaUanah King-Cassell. Dr King-Cassell was warm, caring and she made her students strive for the best. She was a teacher that went way beyond the call of duty.



Monica Anderson and Dr. Michael Zasloff

As a long time patient and friend of Dr. Zasloff, who formerly worked at the NIH (National Institute of Health), Monica learned about the IFOPA right away. Dr. Zasloff was instrumental in FOP research before the University of Pennsylvania team was formed. Monica learned about our newborn organization through Dr. Zasloff's office when Jeannie Peeper received Monica's address among others which started Jeannie's letter writing campaign to form friendships among others with FOP and begin funding FOP research.

In the 1980s, Monica was excited to meet people like herself through the IFOPA. She volunteered as an IFOPA Board Member for one term and served on the LIFE Committee.

Monica is grateful to have such a wonderful family and has met some great people along the way.