

Dear Fellow Knitters,

My name is Alice Smith and I am a long time and frequent customer of The Old Village Yarn Shop. This year I am having a fundraiser for the Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome (SADS) Foundation. It is called the **Stephen A. Smith Scarf Sale for SADS**. My goal is to knit 200 scarves and sell them for a minimum donation of \$25.00 each. All proceeds will go to the SADS Foundation. I would like to raise at least \$5,000 dollars and at the same time spread the word about SADS.

First, let me tell a little about my crusade and myself. I started knitting thirteen years ago after the death of my son Stephen who was thirteen at the time. He died in his sleep of an undetected heart condition during Easter vacation. Stephen was a star athlete, an all A student and an unbelievably kind and generous person. My family could not understand why he was taken from us at such a young age without any sign of anything medically wrong. To make a long story very short, medical examiners, cardiologists and researchers decided he had some form of SADS. We had never heard of SADS. Sadly, Stephen's first symptom was his last one.

Many children have this type of arrhythmia and don't even know it. The SADS Foundation helps save the lives of children and families with cardiac arrhythmias.

This year is especially meaningful to me. Stephen's short life only lasted thirteen years and April marks thirteen years that he has been gone.

My crusade and mission is to raise money for the SADS Foundation in Memory of Stephen A. Smith. I would like to have at least 200 scarves done by the beginning of September and sell them during that month. Why September you ask? Two reasons, first, September is SADS

Awareness Month and, second, September 23, was Stephen's birthday.

I came up with the idea of knitting a scarf, because as you all know, when we knit it is with so much love in our heart. The yards of yarn that is used to knit the scarf symbolize the miles that we can travel to reach each individual to make them aware of SADS. A scarf gives us comfort and warmth, which let us know that someone cares.

Fellow knitting colleagues, if you find it in your heart to knit a scarf for SADS it would be so greatly appreciated. I can be reached by email (artcosmin@jhsph.edu) or by phone (734-751-6725). Just say you are inquiring about **SAS for SADS**.

Most sincerely,

Alice Smith