


**International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS)**

**Conference Program**


**October 16-17, San Diego, CA**

***Transformed in the Light:***


***Helping Humanity with Enhanced Abilities after NDEs***

	Friday	8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
	Diane Corcoran, PhD	Welcome by IANDS President

Diane Corcoran is a health care consultant specializing in health care technology and smart card use in health care. She served in the Army Nurse Corps for 25 years, starting in Vietnam and ending as Chief of Administration for Frankfurt Army Medical Center during Desert Storm. She was Director of Medical Services for a smart card company after her retirement from the military in 1992. She has lectured for over 30 years on the importance of health care professionals understanding the NDE, as well as on other issues related to death and dying, such as assisting terminal patients, grief and bereavement, and SIDS deaths. She has published several articles on the near-death experience and the use of smart cards in health. She continues to counsel people who have had NDEs. She is President of IANDS and has served as Chairman of the Board for Spiritual Frontiers International. She is active in several professional organizations and is the Dean of Management for a distance learning university.


	Friday	8:15 – 8:45 a.m.
	Linda Jacquin, CAS	Opening: <i>Sharing the Spirit of the NDE</i>

Linda Jacquin has had two NDEs and one empathic NDE. She has served on the IANDS Board of Directors (2000-2006), as Vice President (2004-2006), and was Editor of *Vital Signs* (2005-2007). In April 2006, she fulfilled her longstanding vision to create a retreat for near-death experiencers when twenty-six NDErs from across the United States met for three deeply meaningful days in St. Louis. She co-authored "Six Major Challenges Faced by Near-Death Experiencers" (*Journal of Near-Death Studies*, Fall 2006) based on the retreat. She is a guest lecturer on the NDE phenomenon and has been on NPR radio and TV broadcasts in the US and Canada. She was featured on the DVD documentary, *Cheating Death -- Beyond and Back*, a trailer to the feature-length movie *Final Destination II*. Linda was consultant on the Capstone Children's Book, *Near-Death Experiences*, and she currently is writing a book about her NDEs. She is president and owner of Jacquin Advertising, a promotional products and marketing company she founded in 1984, and she continues to facilitate near-death experiencer retreats each spring.


	Friday	8:45 – 9:45 a.m.
	PMH Atwater, LHD	<i>Enhanced Abilities after an NDE: Transformation and Self-Deception</i>

PMH Atwater is one of the early researchers in the field of near-death studies, having begun her work in 1978, and she has had several NDEs herself. Her first two books, *Coming Back to Life* and *Beyond the Light*, are considered classics by many. Using police investigative techniques as her protocol, her findings are contained in nine books, including her latest, *The Big Book of Near-Death Experiences*. She created the unique CD/DVD, *As You Die*, to help alleviate the fear of those approaching death. A prayer chaplain and visionary counselor, she is also a generational researcher and has written *Beyond the Indigo Children: The New Children and the Coming of the Fifth World*.

Break	Friday	9:45 – 10:00 a.m.
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	Friday	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
	Ryan Rominger, PhD	<i>Social Transformation through the Near-Death Experience Narrative</i>

Ryan Rominger pursued his BA in Psychology, with a minor in religion, at a Jesuit university, then received his certification at the doctoral level in Expressive Arts and Spiritual Guidance (Direction) at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology. His dissertation emphasis was the integration of the aftereffects of exceptional experiences. In particular, he studied the integration of the aftereffects of the NDE through the use of group spiritual guidance and the expressive arts. He has taught courses for DeVry University and was a teaching assistant at ITP for graduate courses. He now teaches Abnormal Psychology and History and Systems of Psychology classes at ITP and continues to be interested in the history of psychology, use of the expressive arts in research, use of technology in research, the integration of exceptional experiences, and the practice of dream work. Additionally, he is co-founder of Multiple Angles, a business that helps researchers develop their research topic, methods, and execution of online research.

	Friday	11:00 – 12:00 a.m.
	Karl Kehde, MBA	<i>Applying the Healing Power of the NDE</i>

Karl Kehde is a researcher and teacher of consciousness, spiritual awareness, and trust building. An experienced grief counselor, he has been doing consciousness-based healing with American Indians in Montana the past two years, including time as a guest instructor at Little Big Horn Tribal College (Crow and Northern Cheyenne tribes). He has worked as a land developer and a New Jersey land policy advisor, and is the author of *Collaborative Land Use Planning*, a 180-page guidebook, published in 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Lehigh University, and a Masters Degree in Business from Rutgers University. In addition, Karl was a Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. He has traveled throughout the United States for the past eight years researching, healing, and teaching.

Lunch Break	Friday	12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
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	Friday	1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
	Kimberly Clark Sharp, MSW, with Sharon Lund, Nancy Doetzel, one more	NDE Experiencer Panel

Kimberly Clark Sharp is author of *After the Light: The Spiritual Path to Purpose*. She is the founder of Seattle IANDS, the world's oldest and largest support group for near death experiencers since 1982, and of the Department of Social Work at the world's first bone marrow transplant center. She was named one of the forty most influential people under the age of 40 in the Pacific Northwest in 1987. She was Clinical Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work and co-taught a terminal illness seminar at the School of Medicine, both at the University of Washington, for many years. Herself a cancer survivor, she is a pioneer in the field of critical care social work, consultant to the news and entertainment industry, and has published articles in many journals, textbooks and magazines.

	Friday	2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
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Stephen Redding

*Seeing Beyond the Veil*

Stephen Redding grew up on a chicken farm in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania as one of fifteen children. A long-standing appreciation for the earth accompanied him throughout his life and helped him find a focus as a voice for the trees. Numerous near-death experiences left Stephen with a unique regard and deep appreciation for our world as well as glimpses into what might lie ahead for us. Stephen is an arborist and lives on a wooded property in eastern Pennsylvania with his wife and four children. Stephen spent ten years at Temple University, pursued a child psychology and philosophy doctoral program and is ABD. He was a lecturer for the Temple University Psychology Department for three years.

Break

Friday

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Research Panel

Friday

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.



Janice Miner Holden, EdD,  
Kathleen Bell, MEd,  
Ryan Foster, MA,  
Tracy Goza, MEd,  
Laura Pace, MEd,  
Kathy Oden, PhD

Seven NDE-Related Studies at  
the University of North Texas:  
*NDErs and NDE Researchers:  
The Road to Rapprochement*

Jan Holden received her Doctor of Education degree in Counselor Education from Northern Illinois University in 1988 and joined the Counseling Program faculty at the University of North Texas (UNT) where she is now Professor and Chair of the Department of Counseling and Higher Education. From 2003-2006, she served as President of IANDS. Most recently, she was lead editor of the *Handbook of Near-Death Experiences: Thirty Years of Investigation* (2009); she serves as editor of the *Journal of Near-Death Studies*; and at UNT has been advisor for seven completed, ongoing, or planned doctoral dissertations on NDE-related topics. She is a Texas Licensed Professional Counselor - Supervisor, Texas Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and National Certified Counselor. The nature of human consciousness, particularly at death, and its implications for counseling and for meaning and purpose in life and death, continue to be her primary research interests.

Linda Jacquin:

*Sharing the Spirit of the  
NDE*

Friday

4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Book Signing

Friday

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Dinner Break




Friday

5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Near-Death  
Experiencers-Only  
Sharing Room


Friday Evening

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Research Panel	Friday Evening	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
	<p>Robert Mays, BS and Suzanne Mays, AA</p>	<p><i>What NDEs Tell Us about Consciousness</i></p>
<p>Robert and Suzanne Mays have studied the phenomena related to NDEs together for over 30 years, although neither has had an NDE. Their research interests include (1) the phenomena connected with the out-of-body (OBE) component of the NDE, especially veridical perceptions and reports of "interaction" between the OBE "body" and physical reality or in-body people, (2) providing verification and corroboration of specific veridical NDE OBE perceptions, such as those of George Ritchie, (3) neurological phenomena demonstrating the operation of the self-conscious mind, with a focus on phantom limb phenomena, (4) specific research on phantom limbs, focusing on perceivable interactions with another person's body and reliable sensations evoked from interaction of a phantom limb with physical phenomena and objects. Robert Mays received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and worked in software development at Eastman Kodak Company and later at IBM Corporation for more than 20 years, where he achieved the level of Senior Software Engineer. In retirement, he teaches high school chemistry at two Waldorf schools. Suzanne Mays received an Associate in Arts degree in medical secretarial science from Alfred State College (SUNY). As a Certified Music Practitioner, she provides palliative care to patients at UNC Hospitals and Duke University Medical Center. She also teaches lyre privately and at the Emerson Waldorf School.</p>		
	<p>Leo Kim, PhD</p>	<p><i>The Paranormal Is Normal! 21<sup>st</sup> Century Science, Spirituality, and Afterlife</i></p>
<p>Leo Kim is a scientist and biotechnology executive with over 50 scientific publications and patents. His background includes research and management in chemistry, biochemistry, bioinformatics, biotechnology, information technology, molecular biology, microbiology, physics, and clinical trial studies. He has been active in new pharmaceutical and biotechnology disease treatment modalities as well as alternative medicine regimes. He studied with Deepak Chopra, Bernie Siegel, and many others who offer spirituality-based supplements or alternatives to traditional healing. He has a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from the University of Kansas and continued his education as a research associate at MIT. He is CEO and general partner in a biotechnology venture capital firm where he is tracking the progress of thousands of companies utilizing the latest developments in science. Leo is the author of <i>Healing the Rift: Bridging the Gap between Science and Spirituality</i>. He has been on numerous radio, TV, and internet programs, discussing the new scientific revolution and its relationship to the spiritual, and is the host of the Leo Kim Radio Show on Healthlife.net.</p>		
	<p>James Macartney, MA</p>	<p><i>Transforming Crisis: Opening to Post Traumatic Growth</i></p>
<p>Jim Macartney has worked since 1982 as a rehabilitation consultant and therapist, assisting youth and adults in crisis to open to higher states of well being. Having developed and taught courses regarding the changing nature of human consciousness, he focused particularly on the evolutionary potential of crisis. Based on his direct work with clients and his twenty-year search for people achieving higher states of well being subsequent to deep crises such as terminal illnesses, he is publishing a book on how crises can catalyze growth and transformation. His own NDE in 1997 and subsequent physical healing opened to him the possibility, and process, for realizing higher states of being regardless of circumstance. Jim's formal training includes graduate studies and research in transpersonal psychology and systems theory.</p>		

Linda Jacquin: <i>Sharing the Spirit of the NDE</i>	Saturday	8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
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	Saturday	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
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	Jeffrey Mishlove, PhD	<i>Helping Humanity with Advanced Abilities: Practical Applications of Higher Consciousness</i>
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Jeffrey Mishlove currently serves as Dean of Transformational Psychology for The University of Philosophical Research in Los Angeles, a distant-learning college. From 1988 to 2002, his nationally distributed weekly television program, *Thinking Allowed*, broadcast his interviews with hundreds of leading figures in psychology, philosophy, science, health and spirituality. In 2002, he was the recipient of the Pathfinder Award from the Association for Humanistic Psychology for his outstanding contributions to the field of human consciousness. He is past-president of the California Society for Psychical Study, past-president of the Intuition Network, and past-vice-president of the Association for Humanistic Psychology. He also serves as Executive Director of two management consulting and training companies, TMI US and TACK-USA. He is author of *The Roots of Consciousness: Psychic Exploration Through History, Science and Experience*; *Psi Development Systems*; and *The PK Man: A True Story of Mind Over Matter*.

Break	Saturday	9:30 – 9:45 a.m.
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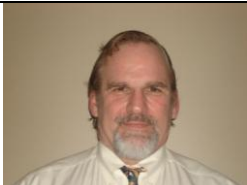
	Saturday	9:45 – 10:45
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	Elke Siller Macartney, BA	<i>Calling the Soul Home: A Trans-Cultural Shamanic Perspective of the NDE</i>
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Rev. Elke Siller Macartney is a multi-cultural shaman, spiritual teacher and life-long aura seer. For 30 years her mission has been to show people their divine nature, including hundreds of NDEers. She visits with people around the world to inspire them through her Aura Portrait sessions, shamanic healing, and inspired lectures and retreats. She lives with her husband and fellow teacher and experiencer, Jim Macartney, in LaConner, WA. Her web site is [www.inspirationu.com](http://www.inspirationu.com).

Break	Saturday	10:45 – 11:00 a.m.
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	Saturday	11:00 – 12:00 a.m.
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	Melvin Morse, MD	<i>Is the Tunnel the Aperture? Similarities Between Remote Viewing and NDEs in Children</i>
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Dr. Melvin Morse graduated with honors from George Washington University School of Medicine. He interned in Pediatrics at the University of California at San Francisco and then completed a residency in Pediatrics at Seattle Children's Hospital. He is the recipient of a National Service Research Award and spent two years studying brain tumors and leukemia, also at Seattle Children's Hospital. He has won numerous teaching awards. Dr. Morse's first book, *Closer to the Light*, was an international best seller and is published in 38 countries and 19 languages. He is also the author of *Transformed by the Light*, *Parting Visions*, and *Where God Lives*. He has been awarded the distinction of being one of America's Best Doctors, voted by his peers, from 1995 through 2007. He currently heads a small scientific think tank, [spiritualscientific.com](http://spiritualscientific.com), and remains in private practice. [Spiritualscientific.com](http://Spiritualscientific.com) was honored



in 2009 by the World Health Organization as being one of the best spirituality-and-medicine research groups.


Lunch Break	Saturday	12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
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	Saturday	1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
	PMH Atwater, LHD With Uki MacIsaac, Sara Wiseman, Jenny Somers	NDE Experiencer Panel

	Saturday	2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
	Vanessa Chicca, MA	<i>Love is Your Legacy</i>

Vanessa Chicca received her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology in 2001 from Trinity College of Graduate Studies. She founded the San Diego Chapter of IANDS many years ago and served as its president for ten years. She is currently serving her fifth term as President–Elect of the San Diego County Coalition for Improving End of Life Care. She is an active member of the San Diego Bereavement Consortium and of the Senior Specialists Networking Group of San Diego County. Vanessa has worked with Dignity Memorial since 1998 when she joined Glen Abbey Memorial Park & Mortuary, in Bonita, CA. She currently holds the title of Community Development Representative and Seminar Specialist for the ten Dignity Memorial locations in San Diego County. She is the author of *The Teeny Tiny Diet Book* and the *Create Your Own Cookbook Kit*, and is currently finalizing her manuscript for *Love Is Your Legacy*.

Break	Saturday	3:30 – 3:45 p.m.
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	Saturday	3:45 – 4:45 p.m.
	Charles Tart, PhD	<i>Can We Develop An Evidence-Based Spirituality for the 21st Century?</i>

Charles Tart is a core faculty member of the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology in Palo Alto, and is internationally known for his psychological work on the nature of consciousness (particularly altered states of consciousness) and for his research in scientific parapsychology. His two classic books, *Altered States of Consciousness* (1969) and *Transpersonal Psychologies* (1975), became widely used texts that were instrumental in allowing these areas to become part of modern psychology. He has been a student of the Japanese martial art of Aikido (in which he holds a black belt), of meditation, of Gurdjieff's work, of Buddhism, and of other psychological and spiritual growth disciplines. His primary goal is to build bridges between the scientific and spiritual communities and to help bring about a refinement and integration of Western and Eastern approaches for knowing the world and for personal and social growth.

Linda Jacquin: <i>Sharing the Spirit of the NDE</i>	Saturday	4:45 – 5:00 p.m.
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Book Signing	Saturday	5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Dinner Break	Saturday	5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Reception and Awards	Saturday Evening	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.