

# Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization

[www.AsbestosDiseaseAwareness.org](http://www.AsbestosDiseaseAwareness.org)

October 2004

Message from Linda, ADAO Executive Director & Cofounder

**“United for Asbestos Disease Awareness, Education, Advocacy, Prevention, Support and a Cure.”**

ADAO is turning anger into action – and ultimately into asbestos awareness.

**With your support, we have taken some very important steps...**

Jordan Zevon: performances, Tribute Album (mentions ADAO in print) and ADAO Bulletin Board

- Drafted Senate Resolution 448
- Over 600 petition signatures supporting “Asbestos Awareness” from around the world; ADAO has over 1000 supporters to date
- ADAO met with 15 leading Senators and Staffers in September; back to D.C. in October for our 5<sup>th</sup> time
- 4 New State and International Representatives (MA, NC /SC, CT and Australia)
- **NEW** Website Resources

**Just read on...**

## What can you do now?

- **Support Asbestos Awareness and Sign** online petition at <http://www.gopetition.com/online/5020.html>
- [Sign our ADAO guestbook.](#)
- [Submit a letter to the editor](#) - they need to hear the “Voice of the Victims”.
- Email [Cathy](#) to volunteer - become your ADAO State Representative, form a local support network or just introduce yourself. You CAN make a difference by sharing your experiences with a victim.
- [Make a donation to ADAO today.](#)

Our successful grassroots organization is growing rapidly and we need to raise money to cover our ADAO organizational expenses. Your contributions will fund our national asbestos awareness campaign, victims' unity program and legislative advocacy efforts.

**JORDAN ZEVON** became our [ADAO National Spokesperson in September](#) (press release) - WOW, he is an amazing man and has my greatest respect. Jordan recently performed on David Letterman, been interviewed several times, performed at the MARF symposium ([ADAO & ACOR photo link](#)) and released Warren Zevon's tribute album, [Enjoy Every Sandwich: The Songs of Warren Zevon](#), on 10/19/04. Also, Jordan donated his time to create the new ADAO [bulletin board](#) - this is an open forum for you. With Jordan's help, the victims' voice IS BEING heard. To learn more about Jordan and Warren Zevon go to: [www.warrenzevon.com](http://www.warrenzevon.com) or <http://www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org/eLibrary/jordan.pdf>. We are grateful for Jordan's support and commitment to ADAO. For those of you who may have missed the excellent MARF Mesothelioma symposium in Las Vegas, we have members that will share their notes and observations. [Just email me.](#)

**SENATE RESOLUTION 448:** ADAO is focused on garnering support for Senator Harry Reid's **Senate Resolution 448** (drafted by ADAO) -- designating April 1st, 2005 as National Asbestos Awareness Day. We sincerely need your help and the help of your family and friends to pass this resolution by unanimous consent. Senate Resolution

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448 is a small step for victims, but landmark legislation for the future. Read the complete [Senate Resolution 448](#) and [Senator Reid's floor statement](#). **WE ARE USING THE PETITION INSTEAD OF LETTERS TO OUR SENATOR TO PASS THIS RESOLUTION. SIGN at <http://www.gopetition.com/online/5020.html>**

**PETITION:** We have over 600 petition signatures from around the world supporting asbestos awareness. Please continue to have your family, friends and doctors sign the **Asbestos Awareness** online petition at <http://www.gopetition.com/online/5020.html>. **WE ARE USING THE PETITION INSTEAD OF LETTERS TO OUR SENATOR TO PASS THIS RESOLUTION. SIGN at <http://www.gopetition.com/online/5020.html>**

**LEGISLATIVE NEWS:** ADAO met with 15 leading Senators and Staffers in September. Excerpt from [Doug Larkin](#), ADAO Communication Director and Cofounder's letter: "During our last "Fly-In" (September 21st & 22nd), we experienced first hand the impact our organization has had on the Senators when we discussed the need for a National Asbestos Awareness Campaign that would help provide important information about asbestos awareness to individuals, high-risk industries as well as the medical community. Not only was every senate office supportive of our efforts, many of them stated that their bosses would be interested in helping us turn our awareness campaign into a legislative reality." Read Doug's complete [Legislative Update](#) on our website. Back to The Hill at the end of the month.

**ADAO STATE AND INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:** Please join us in welcoming 4 new ADAO State and International Representatives:

[Laura Korn - MA](#)

[David - CT](#)

[Anne Arnold - NC & SC](#)

[Lorraine - Australia](#)

Our representatives:

1. Reduce the intense feelings of victims' isolation, especially upon first diagnosis of disease
2. Represent strength and unity in Washington D.C. and at a State and Local level (as needed)
3. Disseminate ADAO information to our members via email
4. Serve as a state contact person for the press (as needed)

**VOLUNTEER:** ADAO has put a face on these hideous diseases. Email [Cathy](#) to volunteer - become your ADAO State Representative. For our complete list of Volunteers refer to: <http://www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org/eLibrary/ADAOVolunteers.pdf>.

**NEW ADAO RESOURCES:** [Medical](#), [Safely/Prevention](#), and [Books & Events](#). I strongly recommend Australian author **Lorraine Kember's book, "Lean on Me"- Cancer through a Carer's Eyes**" (Carer is synonymous with caregiver). You can purchase her book directly through her site at [www.cancerthroughacarerseyes.jkwh.com](http://www.cancerthroughacarerseyes.jkwh.com). Lorraine is compassionate and inspirational as she shares her journey through the uncharted territory of mesothelioma with her husband Brian.

During the past months, ADAO's incredible grassroots expansion is a landmark lesson to the power of unity. I applaud each member of ADAO. It would be easy to walk away from the pain and torture of asbestos diseases - but instead, you have made a difference.

Complacency and silence resolves nothing. Grief and exhaustion tends to dissuade victims from fighting the fight. Doug and I knew when we met, victims needed to unite to unleash the power of unity to ensure change. In just a few short months, ADAO has become an organization Congress respects, a credible resource for the media and medical community, but most of all, a safe and nurturing environment for victims and their families. [Cathy](#), ADAO National Representative, lost her husband to mesothelioma and Doug Larkin, ADAO Communication Director and Cofounder lost his father-in-law to mesothelioma, both work tirelessly

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with our members and Congress. We give encouragement, support and comfort to each other - we share our experiences and knowledge.

Our daily struggles are painful and the job at hand is HUGE, but we remain committed to our ADAO goals. We won't stop until we have fair asbestos legislation, increased funding for research and everyone knows about the hazards of asbestos exposure.

Tribute donations will receive an acknowledgement note upon request.  
Please include full names and addresses.

Donations can be mailed to:  
Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization  
1525 Aviation Boulevard Suite 318  
Redondo Beach, California 90278

In unity and hope,

Linda

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