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## Jennifer Smith

*President, Founding Director*  
Grapevine, Texas

On Sept. 3, 2008, after receiving a phone call offering food for the feral cats she rescued and nurtured, my mom left her home in Oklahoma City. She was driving through an intersection when a young man ran a red light and T-boned her car at 45-50 mph, which was the posted speed limit. Mom died within a couple of hours from blunt force trauma to the head, neck and chest.

The young man was a sober, churchgoing 20-year-old who had never even had a speeding ticket. Visibility on the day of the crash was excellent. The cause of the crash was a tiny device that fits in your pocket: a cell phone. He was on his phone for less than a minute. People don't realize it takes just seconds of not paying attention for a life to be taken away forever.

When the trooper asked the driver who caused the crash what color the traffic light had been, the distraught young man responded that he never saw it. The absence of skid marks at the scene indicate he never tried to stop.

Our lives will never be the same because of that crash and the loss of my mom.

### personal mission

Losing someone and then finding out it was preventable, makes losing them even harder. I would like my mother's legacy to be that people hear her story and decide their call, email or text message is never as important as someone's life. If we do nothing, then it is no longer a matter of if this will happen to someone you love, it is a matter of when it happens to someone you love. I have two beautiful daughters to protect; I can't lose anyone else I love.

## Linda Doyle

wife, mother, grandmother



**my mom, Linda Doyle,** was one of those amazing people who had a great heart. she was a wife, mother and grandmother. she lived every moment for her family, and she was everything to all of us. she was our fearless leader.