

# Tampa Bay Chapter

P.O. Box 3226 Tampa, Florida 33601-3226

www.bpusatampabay.com

This month's newsletter lovingly sponsored by the families of:

## **MEETING INFORMATION**

Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting

(held the second Sunday of the month)
Sunday, August 12, 2012
6:30 pm

St. Joseph's Hospital Medical Arts Building, Auditorium

3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Call Linda Delk at 813-661-0680 for directions or information.

### Regular Monthly **DAYTIME** Meeting

Riverview/Gibsonton/Brandon areas

(held the second Friday each month)

Friday, August 10, 2012 10:00 a.m. to Noon

The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce

330 Pauls Drive, Brandon, Florida 33511 Please call Linda Delk at 813-661-0680 for directions or information.

### Regular Monthly PLANT CITY Meeting

(Normally held the first Wednesday of each month)

Wednesday, August 1, 2012 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### South Florida Baptist Hospital

301 N. Alexander Street, Plant City in the Community Conference Room Call Janice Falcon at 813-997-1709 for directions or information.

Bereaved Parents/USA National Office
Post Office Box 95, Park Forest, IL 60466
Phone/Fax: (708) 748-7866
www.bereavedparentsusa.org

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### In memory of Calyx Schenecker

Strange little running girl, So kind, So simple, So sweet, And If you knew this running girl, She swept you off your feet The life of this strange running girl was short, but fun and pure, The life of this strange running girl was stolen, the shot was sure But everyone she loved, all quirky, odd, unique, were blessed to know this running girl, tears streaming from their cheeks For those who knew this running girl, the news struck them with grief, but she would not want them to worry, embarrassed beyond belief So on to you I say one thing, strange innocent pure soul, Just keep on running, running girl Keep running toward your goal - By Jacob Gassen

# **Chapter News**

### **Angel of Hope Information**

www.angelofhopetampabay.com

<u>Located at:</u>

Riverside Park

201 Riverhills Drive,

Temple Terrace

<u>Mailing Address:</u>
P. O. Box 2573, Lutz, FL 33548

813.495.7539



www.angelofhopetampabay.com/index.html

### **Telephone Friends**

Need to talk? Having a bad day? Call one of our Telephone Friends. They're here to lend a knowing ear because they've been there. Don't hesitate to call, we understand.

Linda Delk (General Information)	(813) 661-0680				
Sue Bowditch (Adult Child)	(813) 390-9734				
Theresa Farmer (Homicide)	(813) 994-0707				
Traci Cooley (Drowning)	(813) 464-4525				
Ron Ellington (Suicide/Grandparent)	(727) 410-2308				
Charles L'Homme (Accidental Death)	(813) 335-7628				
Debbie Nemitz (Long Term Illness)	(813) 907-1441				
Barbara or Tommy Dietrich					
(Death of an Only Child)	(813) 340-9120				
Serena Graves (Sibling Contact)	(813) 810-7169				
Violeta "Cookie" Fernandez	,				
(Se Habla Espanol)	(813) 996-4281				
CRISIS CENTER	211				



#### Love Gifts-A Thoughtful Way to Remember

Love Gifts are a beautiful and loving way to remember a loved one. Through Love Gifts, we are able to reach out to others with our brochures and newsletters as well as obtain books and other information for our library. We truly appreciate every Love Gift, donation and sponsorship. Our Chapter work is done by volunteers and these donations help us reach out in many ways, including the preparation and mailing of the newsletter.

#### **Sponsor A Newsletter Page**

Anyone can sponsor a page in this newsletter in memory of their child. The price for a full page is \$55 which includes one black and white scan of one photograph and your tribute to your child, which can include poems, stories or whatever you like. Your contribution supports the chapter and helps pay for the printing of the newsletter.

To sponsor a newsletter page, contact Traci Cooley at 813-464-4525 or coolfamily6@verizon.net. Please note that sponsorship pages are <u>due</u> by the 15th of the month BEFORE the publication month.

#### **Address Change**

If you have an address change, the Postal Service will NOT forward! They return to us—FOR A FEE, SO **PLEASE** LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS.

#### Refreshments

Some of us like to remember our child's birthday or the anniversary of his or her death by bringing a cake or cookies to the meeting that month. We would appreciate having you bring a special treat to any meeting. You may also want to bring and share a picture of your child.

### **Newletter Articles or Contributions**

Have you written a poem or article about your bereavement process? Would you like to share it in the newsletter? We are looking for article submissions every month from members of our chapter. Articles will be edited if needed. Please contact Traci Cooley at 813-464-4525 or coolfamily6@verizon.net if you have any questions.

### The Princess and the Paperback - Toni Martin

In memory of Amanda Louise Martin 12/31/1971 - 06/19/2008

When my daughter, Amanda, was seven years old we took a vacation to Casa Loma, a castle in Toronto. She'd led me on a merry chase through the stone hallways. She was beautiful, dressed in pink satin, lace and tulle, shimmering in the sunlight streaming through the narrow windows piercing the dark walls.

Amanda would pause to pirouette in the warmth of the sun, kicking up a flurry of dust motes that spilled around her like cascading sunbeams, but then, caught me off guard when she turned and waved, giving me a quick smile before racing off down the hall. She seemed to disappear before my very eyes.

Panic swept over me. I was always so afraid of losing her. From the day she was born, I could never imagine living without her. Then I heard her singing. Following the sound, she called out to me as I drew close. "Look at these dolls," she motioned to the floor to ceiling shelves lining an entire wall of the room and beckoned me to join her.

"Oh, I know where we are," I explained. "This is the Girl Guides exhibit."

"Girl Guides?"

"You know, like the Girl Scouts. Only Canadian Girl Scouts."

"I'm going to be a Girl Scout next year," she informed me nodding emphatically searching my eyes for confirmation. "I hope my uniform will be as pretty as some of the ones on these dolls."

"You'll make a beautiful Girl Scout when the time comes. But first you will be a beautiful Brownie." Her face scrunched in an effort to hold back tears.

"All Girl Scouts are Brownies first," I assured her. "Don't worry; you have all the time in the world." Neither realizing that she would die young from complications to Lupus.

She trusted in my confidence as we spent the rest of the day exploring the decorated suites, twirling across the conservatory's pink and black marble dance floor in imaginary ball gowns, and traipsing through the underground tunnel that eventually spilled out into the stables. Running past the stalls, we imagined grand stallions still housed there. She whinnied, tossing her long, thick hair imitating a majestic horse's mane. I snorted in reply, stamping and pawing the ground before we galloped outside to lose ourselves in the maze of the five-acre estate garden. Dwarfed by colorful, flowering plants, we were cut off from the world; content to just be together.

Pointing to the spires topping the castle's turrets, she said "Let's go up there."

The spires appeared to pierce the clouds. "How?" I asked.

"There's no stopping a princess," she called over her shoulder leading the way back to the castle's main entrance. We dashed up flight after flight of narrow, winding stairs, our progress slowing considerably by the time we pushed through the corner tower door. Standing at the rampart, we stared out over the city, a strange, contemporary backdrop just beyond the stone cornice and gargovles where our hands rested. She was at home in her castle.

Many years later, after she passed away, Casa Loma would become a bittersweet memory. I found a yellowed, dog-eared, spine-cracked paperback of The Lost Treasure of Casa Loma. I keep it within easy reach on my bedside table. Before drifting off to sleep, I retrace our footsteps on the castle floor plan inside the front cover reliving our trip. I know we will be together again in God's Heavenly castle. Until then, my princess, keep singing so I can find you.





# Our Children . . . Remembered

So long as we live, they too shall live ... For they are a part of us as we remember them.

### **August Birthdays**

8/18/1967-12/9/2006 M-Susan Antinora S-Tina Baxter GP-Joseph Harnishfeger

Bishop, Krystal Lee 8/1/1988 - 12/24/2001 P-Pam & Rick Bishop S-Angie Valente & Missy Bishop B-Greg Bishop GM-Marilyn Eddy

Daniel, Michael John 8/19/1990-4/1/2010 P-Paul & Nadine Daniel B-James Daniel GP-Lewis John Daniel & Steve & Margaret James

Darrigo, Anthony & Domenic 08/11/94 - 08/11/94 P - Sam & Vanessa Darrigo

Faber, Nicholas (Nicky) Paul 08/13/89 - 06/08/95 P - Paul & Kathy Faber S - Danielle Faber GP - Esther Kubler and Anna & Bobby Banks

Ferrera, Alex 8/11/1977 - 10/4/1997 P - Nelson & Guisela Ferrera B - Paolo Ferrera GM - Magda Alvarez Aunt - Mirta Diaz Uncle - John Ferrera

Ferrera, Crista J. 8/23/1975 - 03/11/1997 P - Nelson & Guisela Ferrera B - Paolo Ferrera GM - Magda Alvarez Aunt - Mirta Diaz Uncle - John Ferrera Gallian, John Charles 8/8/1963 - 3/21/1998 M-Virgian Gallian S-Paige Mask

Gardner, Gary Dwain Jr. 8/25/1995 - 10/4/2000 P - Gary & Janelle Gardner B - Jacob Gary Gardner GP-Betty Thatcher, Marty Tho-

Goldman, Ariel Nicole Rothschild 8/30/1989 - 5/15/2001 P - Steve and Lynn Goldman

Graves, Matthew Regan 8/8/1979 - 8/31/2000 M - Linda Graves S - Serena Graves B-Dutch & Allen Jr. GF-Wilson Harmison

Evans 8/4/1992 - 8/7/1992 P - William & Barbara Evans-Harrington GP Wm. & Barbara Evans

Harrington, Zachary Michael

Harrison, Leigh Ann 08/11/84 - 08/11/84 P-Trudy & Tim Harrison GP-Bobbie & Jerry Meeks

Hoskins, Lauren Grace 8/18/2004 - 8/18/2004 M-Kim Hoskins

Howard, Steven T. 8/11/70 - 6/30/1999 M-Cay Pelaez Marchetti, Katie 8/4/1989 - 3/4/2006 P-Vin & Laura Marchetti B-Andrew Marchetti

May, Philip 8/1/1975 - 1/1/2000 P-Deryl & Jennifer May

Muse, Jennifer Lee 08/07/71 - 04/04/92 M - Gretchen Muse F - Robert Muse, Jr. GP - Bob & Gladys Muse GM - Dorothy Deisch

Orsi, Kristen McCall 8/5/1980 - 6/27/2002 P-Kimberly & Leo Orsi GP-Wm. & Jeanne Armiger and Stephanie & Rich Orashen

Parrish, Randy 08/22/57 - 02/10/97 M - Juanita Bodiford B - Dough Parrish

Parrish, Scott Douglas 8/9/79 - 1/1/02 P - Doug Parrish and P - Karla & Rick Brown S-Sabbrina Lee Shannon GP - Juanita Bodiford & Ada Smith

Parrish, Tyler Stephen 8/6/1991 - 10/24/1991 P - June & Terry Parrish

Peel, Lee Anna Campbell 8/5/1972 - 9/9/1992 M - Patricia Campbell S - Beth Biggs B - Eddy Biggs GP - Estele & James Carleton Rose, Kailyn Dyann 8/22/2000 - 3/4/2003 M-Evelyn E. Rose Sampson, Charles Roy 8/29/1998 - 8/29/1998 P - Paul & Susan Sampson GP - Margaret & Clayton Sampson and Shirley & Charles Osborne

Scragg, Keith Joseph 8/4/1986 - 9/5/2008 P-Richard & Lori Son-Macklin B-Matthew S/O-Emily Popke

Shearer, Shane 08/03/73 - 12/05/89 M - Linda Shearer SF - Keith Gregory S - January Shearer

Sluder, Kathryn Elizabeth 8/31/1966 - 3/16/2002 P-Tom & Judy Sluder Son-Israel S-Theresa B-Tom III & Keith N/N-Brandon & Brandy, Keith II & Miranda

Steen, Michael Anthony 8/4/1956 - 6/20/2003 M-Nancy Holdren B-Rick, David & Donald Father to Jessica, Christine & Michelle Married to Doreen

Thornton, Jeremiah 8/29/84 - 4/13/01 M - Tim & Sue Thornton B - Jason S - Amanda

# Remembrance



Remembrance is a golden chain
Death tries to break, but all in vain.
To have, to love, and then to part
Is the greatest sorrow of one's heart.
The years may wipe out many things
But some they wipe out never.
Like memories of those happy times
When we were all together.
Authur Unknown





# Our Children . . . Remembered

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## **August Anniversaries**

Blanchard, Eric Anthony 2/19/1976 - 8/3/1998

P - Barbara & Wayne Blanchard

S - Lisa, Tammy, Dawn B - Chris & Michael Daughter - Samantha

Cash, Christopher 9//13/1977 - 8/23/2004 M-Rita & Thomas Zvada F-Charles & Mika Cash Child-Leah Cash B-Charles Cash II GP-Gustavo & Ida Arencibia

Darrigo, Anthony & Domenic 08/11/94 - 08/11/94 P - Sam & Vanessa Darrigo

Fernandez, Karen Irene 03/08/68 - 08/23/88 M - Violeta "Cookie" Fernandez B-Rik Fernandez

Flynn, Philip 12/17/1977-8/8/2002 M-Roseanne Flynn

Gilliam, Hayden Charles 6/20/1999 - 8/4/2001 P - Sean & Marion Gilliam Sibs - Sara & Cole GP-Joe & Nancy Gilliam, and Rosemarie Presbrey GGP-Mary Gilliam & Lora Flowers

Graves, Matthew Regan 8/8/1979 - 8/31/2000 M - Linda Graves S - Serena Graves B-Dutch & Allen Jr. GF-Wilson Harmison Harrington, Zachary Michael Evans 8/4/1992 - 8/7/1992 P - William & Barbara Evans-Harrington GP Wm. & Barbara Evans

Harrison, Leigh Ann 08/11/84 - 08/11/84 P-Trudy & Tim Harrison GP-Bobbie & Jerry Meeks

Holton, John William 05/20/52 - 08/10/94 M - Ann Holton

Hoskins, Lauren Grace 8/18/2004 - 8/18/2004 M-Kim Hoskins

Mohammed, Ian Roger 04/19/73 - 08/02/92 P - Judy & Rick Mohammed S - Alison Mohammed B - Cameron Mohammed

Roark, Kelli Colin 4/30/1990 - 8/30/1998 P - Joe & Angel Roark B - Kyle & Kaleb Roark GF - Ron Ellington

Sampson, Charles Roy 8/29/1998 - 8/29/1998 P - Paul & Susan Sampson GP - Margaret & Clayton Sampson and Shirley & Charles Osborne

Shye, John David 05/27/1964 - 08/07/1994 P - Betty Jean & Charles Shye S - Lydia and Mary Shye B - Chuck, Mary, Lydia Shye Father of J.D. and Justin Shye Slaven, Minnie Leona 7/10/1972 - 8/11/2000 M-Della LaGrone P-Delbert & Catherine Slaven S-Charlotte, Della, Betty, Lynn, Amelia & Sue B-Ronnie, Jack, Del, & Delbert Jr.

Varga, Jozsef 6/11/1988 - 8/4/2007 M-Carmen Varga B-Kiel & Bruce Senra GP-Dorothy & Gerald Senra

Welch, Kimberly Michelle 10/24/1971 - 8/28/2003 M-Nancy Welch Child-



You must contact us to have your child's name added to the newsletter, they are not automatically added. If we have omitted your child, misspelled your child's name, or listed incorrect dates, please accept our apologies and contact

Traci Cooley at coolfamily6@verizon.net or 813-464-4525 to correct the information.

Please bear with us as we are transitioning the newsletter. Any errors are unintentional and we sincerely apologize in advance. Call any of our telephone friends if you are having a hard time on these days.

We truly understand your pain; for we, too, remember our own children.

## <u>Time, Talk, Touch, Tears, Trust ~ Tom Sluder</u>

### **Time**

The hands of the clock go forward without restraint, never stopping. The clock always ticking. Hours, days, weeks, months and then years pass. Things are different now. Time by itself does not heal. **Time.** 

#### Talk

At first words are difficult, often spoken through sobs and with a struggle in the crushing agony of expression. Somehow the story is told, grief is revealed. Other voices begin to respond with empathy and care, with compassion, understanding and comfort. Words are spoken, voices reply. **Talk.** 

### **Touch**

The comfort of a gentle touch, a hand to hold. A loving reassuring pat, a sincere hug. The silent messenger, a touch that brings quiet peace. **Touch.** 

### **Tears**

The tears of anguish flow freely, often in a fierce unstoppable gush, a rush that releases the pent up agony of grief. Tears cleanse the body, the mind, the emotions of the soul that suffers. Tears lead to the breath of relief that revives the spirit. **Tears.** 

### **Trust**

The tacit one, the one unspoken ~ **TRUST!** Trust is hopeful, humble, expecting, seeking security. Trust longs for a safe harbor, a haven of protection from the raging storm and turbulence, of tragedy. Trust seeks care, concern, compassion, peace, kindness, gentleness and love. Trust believes, trust is sincere and trust is good.

Trust is fragile, vulnerable and easily shattered. Trust, when violated, withdraws and removes itself from community. Without trust community no longer exist. **Trust.** 

## Helping your Child Grieve When They Go Back to School Traci Cooley

Going back to school after the death of a sibling can be overwhelming to a child, no matter how old they are. Parents can help with the transition using some of the following tips.



- ~ Talk to the teacher about what your child needs. It is up to you to give as little or as much information as you think is beneficial to your child's bereavement process and education. If you think the teacher will judge your child because he/she is grieving, give less information.
- ~ **Make their teacher(s) your ally.** Ask them to talk to you about your child's experiences, behavior and academics. Keep an open line of communication.
- ~ **Talk to your child about how they are feeling.** It is important for your child to know they can talk to you about their feelings.
- ~ Take time to play with your child or get involved in their activities. Children are more likely to talk when they are not sitting face to face with you. If you sit with them and play a video game, do a puzzle or read together they are more likely to talk. Getting involved in their activities allows them to realize they are still important to the family even though a sibling has died. Join the PTA, volunteer in the classroom or offer to come in just to make copies for their teacher, most children enjoy having their parent around

school even if they don't acknowledge them.

- ~**Watch your child's behavior and grades.** Major changes in either may be a sign that your child needs to talk to someone about their grieving process.
- ~ **Keep your routine and expectations the same as they were before your child died.** Children crave normal, they feel safe and a sense of security if they know what to expect. If a rule was a rule before their sibling died try to keep them the same. If your house rules were homework as soon as they come in the door, that should be the same. If they participated in after school activities before encourage them to participate again (even if it is hard for you).
- ~ **Ask for help.** It is easy to become overwhelmed with back to school: shopping, new schedules and all the things that are necessary to get back into the routine. This is the time to ask for help from friends, family and neighbors. If it is too hard to shop for school supplies because you miss your child who died: ask someone who is already shopping to take your list and shop for you.

# Our Credo

We are the parents whose children have died. We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren. We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters no longer walk with us through life. We come together as Bereaved Parents of the USA to provide a haven where all bereaved families can meet and share our long and arduous grief journeys.

We attend monthly gatherings whenever we can and for as long as we believe necessary. We share our tears, confusion, anger, guilt, frustrations, emptiness, and feelings of hopelessness so that hope can be found anew. As we accept, support, comfort and encourage each other, we demonstrate to each other that survival is possible.

Together we celebrate the lives of our children, share the joys and triumphs as well as the love that will never fade. Together we learn how little it matters where we live, our color, our affluence, or what faith we uphold as we confront the tragedies of our children's deaths. Together, strengthened by the bonds we forge at our gatherings, we offer what we have learned to each other and to every more recently bereaved family.

We are the Bereaved Parents of the USA. We Welcome You.

May the stars carry your sadness away,

May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,

May hope forever wipe away your tears,

And, above all, may silence make you strong

~ Chief Dan George

## Address Correction Requested

August 2012 POSTMASTER - <u>Dated Material</u> Please do not delay.

Mon-Profit Organization
C.S. Permit #3415
Permit #3415
Assays, FL 33634

The Bereaved Parents of the USA 3805 San Juan Street
Tampa, FL 33629