July—August 2014



Tampa Bay Chapter

P.O. Box 7034
Brandon, Florida
33508
www.bpusatampabay.com

MEETING INFORMATION

Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting
(held the second Sunday of the month)
Sundays July 13 and August 10, 2014
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
St. Joseph's Hospital
Medical Arts Building, Auditorium
3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Tampa, FL
Call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946
for directions or information.

Regular Monthly <u>DAYTIME</u> Meeting
Riverview/Gibsonton/Brandon areas
(held the second Friday each month)
Fridays, July 11 and August 8, 2014
10:00 AM to Noon
First United Methodist Church Office Bldg

120 N Knights Ave, Brandon, FL Call Debbie Nemitz at 813-501-9567 for directions or information.

Regular Monthly NIGHTIME Meeting Riverview/Gibsonton/Brandon areas (held the last Thursday each month) Thursdays July 31 and August 28, 2014 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

First United Methodist Church Office Bldg 120 N Knights Ave, Brandon, FL

Call Charles L'Homme at 813-335-7628 for directions or information.

This months' newsletter is lovingly sponsored by the families of:

Keith Joseph Scragg Matthew Gallagher

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	7 12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	7	
			Ju	ly 20	014	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 \	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	7 11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31			Aug	ust 2	2014	

The summer is here and with it more family vacations and get togethers. This can often be difficult because we are always aware of someone missing (our deceased child). Sometimes it is made worse when others seem to act as if nothing has changed...their lives have moved on as if nothing if different. We generally would like to think that someone else misses our child besides ourselves. Try to enjoy these gathering and remember that in most cases our loved ones mean no harm..

Debbie Nemitz

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.

Debbie Nemitz (General Information

and Long Term Illness)	(813) 501-9567
Sue Bowditch (Adult Child)	(813) 390-9734
Theresa Farmer (Homicide)	(813) 994-0707
Sandy Boehning (Grandparent)	(813) 989-3255
Charles L'Homme (Accidental Death)	(813) 335-7628
Barbara or Tommy Dietrich (Death of	(813) 340-9120
an Only Child)	
Julie Woofter (Suicide)	(813) 754-4848
Serena Graves (Sibling Contact)	(813) 810-7169
Rita Zvada (Se Habla Espanol)	(813) 961-1011
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.

Thanks for your generous donations:

Barbara & Wayne Blanchard Angel & Maria Rodriguez

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 Debbie Nemitz @ 813-907-1441 or at debbie.bpnews@gmail.com. Please note that sponsorship pages are <u>due by the 15th of the month BEFORE the publication month.</u>

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 Debbie Nemitz @813-501-9567 or debbie.bpnews@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Metamorphosis Butterfly Farm

4408 Joe Sanchez Rd, , Plant City, FL, 33565, USA.

Phone: 813-716-1565. Fax: .

Web: http://www.metamorphosisbutterflyfarm.com

Email: Rhonda Stephens



Again a special thanks to the Metamorphosis Butterfly Farm who generously donated all of the butterflies to us. Thanks to all of you who participated in the butterfly release. including:

Angel & Maria Rodriguez, Brad & Cindy Sampson, Karen & Dan Price, Yolanda & Ozzie Patina, Rita Zvada, Patty & David Wilson, Barbara & Wayne Blanchard, Mary Ellen Holmberg, Sandy Boehnig, Kelly Gallagher, Connie Pike,, Nedda Wilson, Lori Scragg, Debbie Nemitz, Julie Woofter, Carolyn, Marivic Kutz, Andrew & Deanna Joseph. (If I left out anyone I apologize).



One Butterfly was willing to pose for us. Lori took it out of the envelope as she had seen Rhonda do, and she placed it on various hands for photos. It was very cool since most of them had flown away before pictures could be taken.





Our Children . . . Remembered

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

July Birthdays

Banda, Selena 7/6/2002 - 3/4/2004 P - Richard & Susan Banda

Buth, Andy Armstrong 7/21/1985 -10/15/2010 F - Joseph Buth M - Karen Olson

Butler, Mark Anthony 7/7/1977 - 11/24/2001 P - Ray & Chris Butler GM - Alice Butler

Corbett, Shaun 7/8/1985 - 4/23/2003 M - Ellen Corbett

Durr, Ssgt. Jacob Nathaniel 7/16/1982 - 12/14/2009 M - Karen Durr S - Danielle Roberts GP - Samuel & Margret Minton

Engdahl, Andrew 07/15/87 - 02/05/94 P - Rick & Vicky Engdahl S - Stephanie Engdahl B - Joey Engdahl

Finchum, Tommy 07/10/75 - 05/06/94 P - Pete & Joyce Finchum B - John Finchum Griner, Matthew Ian 7/10/1985 - 10/27/2006 P - George & Barbara Griner B - Daniel & Kurt GP - Bill and Ann Griner

Henry, Sumara Raquel 07/12/88 - 09/18/93 P - Louis & Cindy Henry GP - James & Ruby Reese & Bernice Henry

Hester, Debbie 7/25/1998 - 10/14/61 P - Buddy & Sue Butler

Knox, Patricia Lynn 7/27/1964 - 10/21/1997 M - Shelby Jean McClure

Lalis, Timothy 07/29/1996 - 07/11/2001 P - Gregg Lalis & Elisabeth Schulten B - Andrew & Klaus Lalis

Leyde, Darek 7/17/1967 - 4/23/2003 P - Vern & Julie Leyde S - Traci Gainforth

McMillion, James Christopher 7/26/1984 - 9/26/2003 GP - Ralph & Martha Hamilton Roberson, Richard Joseph 07/23/1959 - 06/02/1997

P - Richard & Jeannette Roberson

S - Sue & Shelfy

B - Randy

Russo-Afeld, Angela Musette 7/10/1969 - 7/21/1996 M - Lillian Wiebeld

F - Dick Russo

B - Rick and Nelson Russo

Shelton, Emma Victoria 7/8/2003 - 5/8/2005 M - John & Jennifer Shelton Sibs - Jacob & Hannah GP - Peg & Jim Bishop,Tom Musolin, Art & Sam White, Rober & Judy

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.

Steen, Donald Kenneth 7/25/1960 - 7/26/1960 M - Nancy Holdren B - Richard, David & Michael Supple, Bart Patrick 07/25/59 - 02/14/94 P - Bart & Toni Supple

Tarez, Kami 7/1/1980 - 3/1/2006 M - Leigh Tarez

Vallee, Scott Gerard 7/4/1974 - 7/10/2004 P - Gerry & Louise Vallee S - Kama Vallee GP - Roy & Mabel Parsons Spouse - Jessica Vallee

Webb, Eric Richard 7/1/1985 - 4/2/1999 P - William & Kathleen Webb B - David Webb

Wright, Travis 7/16/1973 - 6/15/2001 M - Joan Wright

Young, Billy 7/14/2003 - 4/17/2006 P-Bill & Sandy Young

Zorn, Wayne 7/15/1964 - 12/30/2006 M - Charlotte Zorn



July Anniversaries

Boyd, Anastasia "Nicole" 5/4/1998 - 7/8/2004 P - Anita Dennert & Thomas Boyd Sibs - Tara Lewis, Mike Boyd, Alan Boyd GP - Huey & Marie McDonald, Angus & Jewell Howell & Angus Grace

Burger, Teresa 10/26/58 - 07/10/87 M - Cecelia Burger B - Hal & Curt Burger

Carlan, Robert Hope 06/02/78 - 07/25/99 P - Arnold & Linda Carlan

Eddy, Steven 9/16/1960 - 7/9/2008 M - Marilyn Eddy S - Pam Bishop & Tammy Eddy N - Angie Valente & Missy Bishop Gonzalez, Miriam 12/10/1948 - 7/26/1995 P - Fernando & Paula Lespier S - Maria & Aida

Head, Tyler Wade 2/21/1995 - 7/15/2004 M - Tammy Hill F - Jerry Toloff GF - German Toloff

Heath, Austin Noah 4/6/2000 - 7/4/2000 P - Isaac Heath & Regina Jacobs GM - Gigi Schools

Hester, Debbie 10/14/61 - 07/25/98 P - Buddy & Sue Butler Hidalgo, Christopher 12/14/1989 - 7/5/2004 M - Tammy Hidalgo Holland, Jeffrey K. Moses 9/10/1986 - 7/7/2009

P - Thomas & Donald Holland & Henry Moses Sibs - Derrick Moses & Logan Holland GP - Beverly Cash, John & Steve Holland

Kelly, Amanda Jean 11/15/1986 - 7/7/1987 P - John & Brenda Kelly S - Matthew & Ryan GP - John Keller & Elizabeth Kelly

Lalis, Timothy 07/29/1996 - 07/11/2001 P - Gregg Lalis & Elisabeth Schulten B - Andrew & Klaus Lalis

Lavalee, Grace 5/3/2009 - 7/17/2010 M - Natalia Lavalee Littlechild, Will 4/6/1979 - 7/4/2008 M - Lula Richardson S - Patricia Littlechild

Martin, Brian James 06/09/1979 - 07/18/1993 P - Stan & Adrianne Martin B - Christopher Martin GM - Evelyn Golding

Pegram, Jodi E.
04/06/70 - 07/22/01
P - Earl & Susan Pegram
S - Robin Sue Pegram
B - Scooter & Craig Pegram
GM - Betty Jennings

Pitts, Joseph David 12/8/1971 - 7/16/1998 P - Ruth & Richard Pitts Ponder, Manda Lynn 06/13/1995 - 07/03/1995 P - Marilynn & William Ponder B - Travis & Mike Ponder S - Amanda Ponder GM - Grace Ponder

Popkin, Kalyn 1/23/09 - 7/11/13 P - Stacy & Robert Popkin

Powers, Geoffrey A. 1/23/1983 - 7/1/2005 M - Diane Tower Sisters - Lana & Nikki Powers

Robertson, Kristi Lee 12/15/1969 - 7/29/1994 M - Janice & Joe Robertson S - Kathy Sanchez & Karen Demeria GM - Mildred Trigg

Rodriquez, Edwin (Eddy) Jr. 1/11/1971 - 7/28/1993 M - Bertha Dominquez

Rusnak, Tamara 4/6/1972 - 7/23/2004 M - Donna Johnson

Russo-Afeld, Angela Musette 7/10/1969 - 7/21/1996 M - Lillian Wiebeld F - Dick Russo B - Rick and Nelson Russo

Rutkowski, Eric John 4/11/1981 - 7/16/2003 P - Linda & Ron Rutkowski GP - Ray & Doris Pomorski

St. Martin-Hamm, Sydney Chanel 1/9/1997 - 7/21/2003 M - Joy St. Martin & the late Rusty Hamm

GP - Ramon & Rita Hamm

Steen, Donald Kenneth 7/25/1960 - 7/26/1960 M - Nancy Holdren

B - Richard, David & Michael

Timothy, Joshua 6/29/2004 - 7/18/205 P - Doug & Kerri Timothy GM - Mary Ann Neglrete

Turner, Devon 5/2/1986 - 7/28/2005 M - Marie Lawson

Vallee, Scott Gerard 7/4/1974 - 7/10/2004 P - Gerry & Louise Vallee S - Kama Vallee GP - Roy & Mabel Parsons Spouse - Jessica Vallee

Williams, Alec Michael 5/17/1996 - 7/27/1996 P - Kathy & Michael Williams B - Chad & Chase GP - Frank & Robbie Edwards and Dwight & Melvalene Williams

Wilson, Lisa 4/14/78 - 7/5/10 P - Patti & David Wilson



August Birthdays

Asci, Jason S. 8/19/1979 - 2/7/2008 F - Brian Asci M - Phoebe Asci Son - AJ Daughter - Adrianna GP - Forrest & Adella Asci

Antinora, Joseph A. 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

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

Uncle - John Ferrera

Gallagher, Matthew 8/18/92 - 12/12/11 P- Kelly & Jim Gallagher B-Tim

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 8/1/1975 - 1/1/2000 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

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

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 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

Page, Alivia 8/24/13 - 6/15/14 M- Tiasha Page GM - Gloria Wells

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 Rodriguez, Jay Tee 8/25/78 - 2/27/14

P - Angel & Maria Rodriguez

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,



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

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

M - Violeta Cookie Fernande

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

Peck, Trent 12/5/69 - 8/27/13 P - Bob & Sally Hoffman F - Frank Peck 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



Happy Birthday Keith!

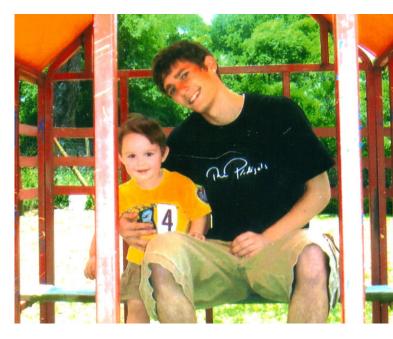
















Keith Joseph Scragg 8/4/86 to 9/5/08

Happy 28th Birthday!

We love you,

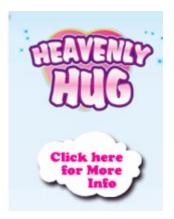
Mom, Dad, Matt, & Macklin



ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

We have added a new page to our website and to our newsletter. It will be for ongoing fund raisers. There are already a couple of companies who have an ad and will be making a donation to Bereaved Parents when their items are purchased. If any of you have businesses and would like to advertise, please get in touch with Debbie by calling 813-501-9567 or emailing debbie.bpnews@gmail.com.

Please check out the first two companies who are participating. There is more information on our site.



Please check this page out. The link on our website will take you to their website where you can order one of these very well made, soft, beautiful angels with long arms and a Velcro closure so they can actually hug you. Be sure to go through the link on our webpage so that Bereaved Parents gets the generous amount being donated with each purchase.

Thanks to those who have ordered from Heavenly Hug. We appreciate your support.

http://www.bpusatampabay.com/



You can get to Deb's Soy Candles, Cards and More through the BP website. You can also go directly to www.debssoycandles.com . Candles make a great gift and with the holidays approaching, consider ordering custom soy candles. You choose the container, color and fragrance.



Listen to "Hope, Healing & Help" every Saturday from 11:00 til noon Pacific Time on KFIA 710AM Sacramento or www.kfia.com. Can't listen in at that time? All of their programs are available to listen to on their website, www.hopehealinghelp.com.

I'll Remember You

I'll remember you,

I'll remember you.

I'll always see your face,

Not with my eyes, but in my heart,

That's where you have a much-loved place.

When life begins to fade from me

And faces start to depart,

I'll remember you,

With the last beat of my heart.

Written In Remembrance Of Lois "Sweeticakes" Sampson By Wallace Stewart



On May 18th when we held the butterfly release, we also released 2 balloons. We had all gotten to write our child's name on them and below you can see as we watched them go up.





HAPPY 22nd BIRTHDAY TO YOU, MATT





BALLOONS TO HEAVEN JUST FOR YOU

WE LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU EVERY DAY

ALL OUR LOVE, Dad, Mom, Tim, Snickers, Emmy and All your relatives and friends

Hard Times

How to hold on and how to let go....How to lose and how to keep...these are hard problems for the bereaved parent.

We want to keep the child in our life, we want to remember the child, we want to save those parts of our life which are tied to the child.

Yet, at the same time, we know that the child is dead things cannot be as they were before. The memories of good times now bring pain; the memories of the bad times raise guilt and feelings of powerlessness.

The end of the grief process is a resolution of this tension between holding on and letting go.

We can remember and be sad; we can remember and be happy; we can remember and just be.

But it takes a long time for such a resolution to happen and while we are in the process, we find ourselves pulled to one side and then to the other.

Sometimes we want to leave the room exactly as it was,. Other times we want to put everything away so nothing reminds us of the child.

Some times we want to talk over and over again about the events of the death; other times we want to avoid the topic altogether.

Sometimes, when all we have left of our child is our sadness, we don't want to give up our grief for fear of giving up on our child.

All that is a normal process. We go through it at any death. When our parent dies, the problem is how to hold onto our childhood and youth and yet give up our childhood and youth. So, we find ourselves keeping a bit of our parents in ourselves by becoming a little more like them. I was once talking about this in a class when, suddenly, a woman blurted out, "So that's why I wanted to use the good china so much a year after she died."

It is a lot harder to give up the child and keep the child at the same time because, when our parents die, we have to lose and keep our past. When our child dies, we have to lose and keep our future.

In our grandparent's day, losing a child was an expected part of life. But it is not in our time. Few of us ever knew anyone else to whom it happened. So we have few models.

Each of us seems to have to find out our own way for ourselves. It is a hard and lonely journey. But the experience of others who have gone down this valley is that there is a resolution at the end. We can hold on and let go.

If we can, for a moment, share with others on the same journey, we can help others find directions and let them help us.

That is what Bereaved Parents is all about.

— Dennis Klass, Ph.D.

Former Professional Advisor

BP/USA



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.

"I wrote your name in the sky, but the wind blew it away. I wrote your name in the sand, but the waves washed it away. I wrote your name in my heart, and forever it will stay...

By Jason Graham

Address Correction Requested

October - November 2013 POSTMASTER - <u>Dated Material</u> Please do not delay.

AZN effectived Parents of the USA P.O. Box 7034
Brandon, FL 33508