



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 Dec 8, January 12 & Feb 9

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

St. Joseph's Hospital

Medical Arts Building, Auditorium

3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Tampa, FL

Call Debbie Nemitz at 813-501-9567

for directions or information.

Regular Monthly DAYTIME Meeting

Riverview/Gibson/Brandon areas

(held the second Friday each month)

Fridays, Dec 13, January 10, & Feb 14

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 NIGHTTIME Meeting

Riverview/Gibson/Brandon areas

(normally held the last Thursday each month)

DUE TO HOLIDAYS: Thursday December 19,

January 30 and February 27

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.

Regular Monthly PLANT CITY Meeting

(held the third Thursday of each month)

Wed. December 4, Thurs January 16, and Feb 20

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Cancer Resource Center

1708 W Palmetto Ave., Plant City, FL

(located behind the hospital)

Call Janice Falcon at 813-997-1709

for directions or information.

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

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| | | | April 2014 | | | |

With springtime comes newness of life. I compare it to the transition that our children have made. While their bodies have died on earth, I think of their spirits with new bodies beginning anew in Heaven. While all of us would prefer our children to have continued their life here with us, it is still a comfort to know that their life does go on...just in a different place.

By Debbie Nemitz

Chapter News

Angel of Hope Information

www.angelofhopetampabay.com

Located at :

*Riverside Park
201 Riverhills Drive,
Temple Terrace*

Mailing Address:

*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 an Only Child) (813) 340-9120

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

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 to Sandy Boehning for her donation
In Memory of her granddaughter
Caylee Marie Cepero
9/3/2000 - 3/8/2005**

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 due 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.

Newsletter 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MICHAEL!



We miss you every second of every day.....

With Love from his mother, Mary Ellen Holmberg and
his brothers, Kristian and Stephen Holmberg



Our Children . . . Remembered

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

March Birthdays

Berry, Michelle
3/8/1967 - 4/2/2003
P-Joanne & Lawrence Ouellette
B-Russ, David, Scott & Joe
S-Denise Volo
Son-Bobby

Booker, Michelle Elizabeth
3/25/1987 - 12/1/2004
P-Michael & Bonnie Booker
B-Justine & Dillon Booker
GP-Betty Nichols and
Ed & Janice Falcon

Buchanan, Sierra Lan
03/07/96 - 05/25/96
P -Kim & Bryan Buchanan
S - May Linh Buchanan

Clark, Kellen William
3/16/82 - 4/15/02
F - Bill Clark

Combs, Phillip J.
3/24/1986 - 6/12/2004
P-Lisa Pyche' & Phil Combs
B-Travis Combs
GP-Thomas & Sharon Pyche'

Cooley, Malena Rose
3/23/1998 - 9/4/2000
P - Scott & Traci Cooley
B - Nolan
S - Madelyn & Olivia

Cowen, Chad
3/31/1973 - 6/7/1997
P - Mary "Pete" & Mike Cowen
S - Tiffany Larson

Darby, Marc Steven
3/25/1986 - 12/12/1998
P - Steve & Lori Darby
S - Cody, Austin, Benjamin Darby
GP - John & Linda Darby

Dixon, Austin Ryan
03/18/97 - 05/18/98
P - Carrie & Robert Dixon
S-Sara Ryan Dixon

Ellington, Timothy
03/06/62 - 05/25/91
F - Ron Ellington

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

Griffis, Julia Rose
03/05/92 - 03/05/92
P - Bruce & Kathy Griffis

Gugliotta, Dan & Nadine
3/26/1976 - 10/14/2003
P-Dan & Nadine Gugliotta
Son-Jason

Howard, Christopher L.
3/27/1975 - 5/18/2000
M-Cay Pelaez

Landrum, Mark
03/03/79 - 06/24/94
M - Joan Landrum Adams-Hilliard
F - Steve Landrum
B - John Landrum

Lavin, Kevin Joseph
03/24/80 - 03/30/95
P - Kathy & Mike Lavin
S - Maggie & Kaitlin Lavin
Gdm - Catherine Lavin

Lespinasse, Bryan
3/8/1991 - 12/27/2004
M-Margaret Lespinasse

Mink-Miller, Deborah
3/26/1965 - 9/27/1991
M-Diane Mink
S-Renee Mink Crosby

Mosquera, Brandon J
4/21/85 - 6/15/13
P - Yolanda & Ozzie Patino
S- Samantha-Rose Patino
GP - Rosa and Ralph Lucerna

Pegram, Robin Sue
03/13/73 - 12/05/93
P - Earl & Susan Pegram
S - Jodi Pegram
B - Scooter & Craig Pegram
GM-Betty Jennings

Prescott, Alexandria
3/25/1990 - 6/28/2017
Stephanie & Tracy Knox

Rainey, Wendy Michelle Price
3/7/1968-9/27/2006
M-Shelia Farmer (Lassiter)
B-Peter Price
S-Emily Furst

Rayburn, Geoffrey (Jeff) Ware
3/2/1970 - 10/15/1995
P-Robert and Sue Moos
B-Bobby Moos
S-Amy Rayburn
GP-Richard & Jeannette Roberson and
Josephine Rayburn

Rogers, Dayna Andrew
3/12/1973 - 11/27/1994
M - Linda Heatherly
S - Misty Walker & Amber Roger

Simone, Benjamin Arthur
3/29/1975 -10/10/1997
P -David & Kathy Simone
S -Dawn Figueroa

Tucker, Vince
3/8/1972 - 4/26/2005
M-Glenda Tucker
A-Judith Gude



March Anniversaries

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

Byda, Hanna Douglas
7/25/2005 - 3/19/2010
P - Erica Buhrke & Fred Byda

Cepero, Caylee Marie
9/3/2000 - 3/8/2005
P - Dawn and Lee Cepero
B - Corbin
S - Kennedy
GP - Sandy Boehning

Clark, Deborah Denise
1/19/1969 - 3/23/2002
M - Ethel Helms
S - Valencia Clark
B - James Jr. & Jerel
GP - Luella Buford & John L.Clark

Collum, Brian H.
5/11/1965 - 3/7/2005
M - Diana Reams
B - Reid Collum

Durcan, Andrea Lynn
01/15/1991 - 03/31/1991
P - David & Dixie Durcan
S - Lindsey & Lauren Durcan
GP - Marie B. Corcoran

Ferrera, Crista J.
8/23/1975 - 03/11/1997
P - Nelson & Guisela Ferrara
B - Paolo Ferrara
GM - Magda Alvarez
Aunt - Mirta Diaz
Uncle - John Ferrara

Gallian, John Charles
8/8/1963 - 3/21/1998
M - Virgian Gallian
S - Paige Mask

Gochenaur, Laci
02/15/91 - 03/23/98
P - Kelli & Chris Gochenaur
S -Jacee & Riley Gochenaur
GP - Ronald & Clarine Barton
M - Pat Dukes

Gould, Richard J.
9/26/1981 - 3/3/2001
M - Cindy Phelps-Wise
F - Ralph Gould
B - Ryan, Bryan & Mark
S - Karen

Griffis, Julia Rose
03/05/92 - 03/05/92
P - Bruce & Kathy Griffis

Holmberg, Michael David
05/15/1976 - 03/02/2011
M - Mary Ellen Holmberg
B - Kristian Holmberg, &
Stephen Holmberg

Kinchen, Kevin
5/18/1985 - 3/16/2008
P - Eugene & Cynthia Kickner
W - Chelsey Kinchen
D - Kaylee, Tessa
S- JoyKay & Hailey Kinchen
B - Robert Kinchen

L'Homme, Ryan
4/16 /81 - 3/23/00
P - Charles & Teresa L'Homme
S - Cortney L'Homme

Lavin, Kevin Joseph
03/24/80 - 03/30/95
P - Kathy & Mike Lavin
S - Maggie & Kaitlin Lavin
Gdm - Catherine Lavin

Marchetti, Katie
8/4/1989 - 3/4/2006
P - Vin & Laura Marchetti
B - Andrew Marchetti

Nichols, Shannon Jr.
10/5/1979 - 3/29/2004
M - Terrena Nichols
F - Shannon Nichols
S - Brandy & Melissa Nichols

Pfister, Megan Lynn
5/2/1990 - 3/3/1999
P - Frank & Stephanie Pfister

Regis, Chad
4/7/1971 - 3/22/2005
P - Ray & LaRae Regis
GP - Bea Forbes

Rivera, Erick
6/4/1988 - 3/21/2010
P - Maricela & Jose Rivera

Robertson, Ty Kristan
2/4/1979 - 3/29/2003
P - Jim & Teresa Farmer
S - Toni, Danielle Robertson
B - Chris Farmer
GM - Wanda Warren

Children - Taylor Morris, Trystan & Jordan Robertson

Rogers, Jason R.
01/08/78 - 03/21/90
P - James Roy & Elaine Rogers
B - Justin & Jacob Rogers
GP - Arthur & Ethel Fernandez

Rose, Kailyn Dyann
8/22/2000 - 3/4/2003
M - Evelyn E. Rose

Sasnett, Debbie Powell
12/14/1956 - 03/31/2000
P - Jackie & Billy Powell
B - Debby & Tony
S - Penny

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

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

Todd, Joan
4/22/1960 - 3/12/2004
M - Mary McCord



April Birthdays

Alvarez, Dean
4/28/1965 - 6/12/2000
M - Diana Stenglein
B - Nadie Alvarez
S - Athena & Lynette Alvarez

Bliss, Lindsay Rebecca
4/26/1977 - 12/1/1991
P - Jim & Mary Beth Bliss
S - Shannon Bliss

Buckley, Deja'
4/26/2001 - 4/26/2001
P - Lisa John & Wade Buckley

DeRoche, Cameron Gaines
04/11/89 - 01/25/95
P - Peggy & Karl DeRoche
S - Mary Amber DeRoche

Geiger, Jacob
4/9/2003 - 4/9/2003
M - Darla Geiger
B - Jared Geiger
S - Brooke Geiger
GP - Kenneth & Barbara Dykes

Gladden, Renee' Rose
4/21/1961 - 11/17/1999
Sister - Diana Gladden

Hamm, Rusty
4/23/1960 - 4/2/2004
P - Ramon & Rita Hamm
Spouse - Joy St. Martin
Daughter - Sydney Hamm

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

Hines, Heather
4/28/1975 - 11/25/1998
M - Sue Hines

Holdren, Scott
4/10/1986 - 5/31/2007
M - Donna Henry

Horst, Trey
4/16/1974 - 9/8/2000
P - Art & Linda Horst
B - Todd & Thad
S - Trisha & Tammy

Jakenbowski, John
4/18/1968 - 1/15/2008
M - Marsha Shemela
B - Jason Jakenbowski

L'Homme, Ryan
4/16 /81 - 3/23/00
P - Charles & Teresa L'Homme
S - Cortney L'Homme

Littlechild, Will
4/6/1979 - 7/4/2008
M - Lula Richardson
S - Patricia Littlechild

Martinez, Joseph D.
4/23/1972 - 10/13/2007
M - Josie Martinez
S - Patty Camunas

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

Nadir, Peter
4/6/1971 - 2/8/2003
M - Barbar Nadir
S - Sue McFowan

Nelson, Bella
2/4/2004 - 4/26/2010
M - Cyndi Nelson

Noriega, Aiden
4/4/2001 - 6/18/2001
P - Rick & Ethal Noriega

O'Connor, Ashley Lauren
4/12/1991 - 4/8/1996
M - Pamela Hite-Bocchino
B - John O'Connor
GM - Victoria Hite

Pegram, Baby Boy
4/1976 - 4/1976
P - Earl & Susan Pegram
S - Jodi & Robin Pegram
B - Scooter & Craig Pegram
GP - Betty Jennings

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

Rardin, Kelly Rose
04/17/1993 - 04/17/1993
M - Lori Rardin

Regis, Chad
4/7/1971 - 3/22/2005
P - Ray & LaRae Regis
GP - Bea Forbes

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

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

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

Sluder, Keith Joseph
4/25/1964 - 5/11/2006
P - Tom & Judy Sluder
Children - Keith II and Miranda
Grandaughters - Kali & Ella Mae
S - Theresa & Kathryn
B - Tom III
N/N - Israel, Brandon & Brandy

April Birthdays cont'd

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Spellman, Xavier Lane 4/17/2006 - 4/17/2006 M - Veronica Lane | Todd, Joan 4/22/1960 - 3/12/2004 M - Mary McCord | Wilson, Lisa A. 4/14/1978 - 7/5/2010 P - David & Patti Wilson |
|---|--|---|



April Anniversaries

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Baker-Dixon, Lori Kathleen 10/29/1975 - 4/12/2001 Mother to Ryan & Wife of Rusty Dixon P - Donna & Ron Budd and Marie & Bill Baker S - Tracy Goodson & Phylcia Baker B - Jamey Baker | Dixon Jr., Anthony Howard 11/27/1978 - 4/1/1996 M - Brenda & Toney Dixon B - David Dixon | Nelson, Bella 2/4/2004 - 4/26/2010 GM - Cyndi Nelson | Valdez, Joseph Martin 6/3/1974 - 4/24/2007 M - Carolyn Aviles |
| Berry, Michelle 3/8/1967 - 4/2/2003 P - Joanne & Lawrence Ouellette B - Russ, David, Scott & Joe S - Denise Volo Son - Bobby | Geiger, Jacob 4/9/2003 - 4/9/2003 M - Darla Geiger B - Jared Geiger S - Brooke Geiger GP - Kenneth & Barbara Dykes | O'Connor, Ashley Lauren 4/12/1991 - 4/8/1996 M - Pamela Hite-Bocchino B - John O'Connor GM - Victoria Hite | Waller, Lauren Marie 12/12/1990 - 4/16/2000 M - Kristine Colding & Bryan Strahan B - Christopher S - Faith GP - Joyce & Gene Waller |
| Blazowich, Anthony Michael 2/20/1984 - 4/5/2006 P - Daniel & Marianne Blazowich | Hafford, Lauren Elizabeth 2/17/1977 - 4/13/1999 P - Gwen & John Hafford S - Lindsay & Lesley Hafford | Pegram, Baby Boy 4/1976 - 4/1976 P - Earl & Susan Pegram S - Jodi & Robin Pegram B - Scooter & Craig Pegram GP - Betty Jennings | Wallowicz, Michael (Mikey) Kevin 10/23/1981 - 4/28/1990 P - Jim & Judy Wallowicz B - Jimi Wallowicz GM - Josie Varselona |
| Buckley, Deja' 4/26/2001 - 4/26/2001 P - Lisa John & Wade Buckley | Hamm, Rusty 4/23/1960 - 4/2/2004 P - Ramon & Rita Hamm Spouse - Joy St. Martin Daughter - Sydney Hamm | Rardin, Kelly Rose 04/17/1993 - 04/17/1993 M - Lori Rardin | Webb, Eric Richard 7/1/1985 - 4/2/1999 P - William & Kathleen Webb B - David Webb |
| Burger, Jeffrey Robin 02/05/61 - 04/20/97 M - Cecelia Burger B - Hal & Curt Burger | Jones, Sherry 1/18/1971 - 4/27/2000 M - Brenda Copeland | Shockey, Ann 11/08/56 - 04/26/70 P - Dick & Connie Shockey | Williams, Travis Aaron 9/11/1979 - 4/19/2000 P - Bill & Linda Williams GP - Loretta Ayers, Raymond Ayers & Edna Williams |
| Cason, Todd 10/28/1968 - 4/12/2003 P - Earl and Kay Cason | Langford, Todd Allen 01/05/78 - 04/27/01 P - Fred & Janice Langford B - Robbie Langford S - Kathy Peterson G/P - Betty Williams & H.P & Ruby Langford | Spellman, Xavier Lane 4/17/2006 - 4/17/2006 M - Veronica Lane | Wynne, Adam Charles 10/13/1971 - 4/24/1993 P - Chuck & Gloria Judson S - Lori Wynne Father to Morgan Wynne |
| Clark, Kellen William 3/16/82 - 4/15/02 F - Bill Clark | Leyde, Darek 7/17/1967 - 4/23/2003 P - Vern & Julie Leyde S - Traci Gainforth | Stallard, Judy Lynn 02/28/1981 - 04/24/1981 M - Patricia (Stallard) Bass F - Joe Stallard | Young, Billy 7/14/2003 - 4/17/2006 P - Bill & Sandy Young |
| Corbett, Shaun 7/8/1985 - 4/23/2003 M - Ellen Corbett | Makowski, Anthony 5/20/1983 - 4/24/2005 M - Cathy Makowski | Thomas, Destiny Jean 10/1/1990 - 4/24/1998 F - Craig Thomas B - Braxton and Justin GP - Betty Thatcher and Marty & Carol Thomas | |
| Daniel, Michael John 8/19/1990 - 4/1/2010 P - Paul & Nadine Daniel B - James Daniel GP - Lewis John Daniel and Steve & Margaret James | Muse, Jennifer Lee 08/07/71 - 04/04/92 M - Gretchen Muse F - Robert Muse, Jr. GP - Bob & Gladys Muse GM - Dorothy Deisch | Thornton, Jeremiah 8/29/84 - 4/13/01 M - Tim & Sue Thornton B - Jason S - Amanda | |
| Decosta, Brittany 11/19/87 - 04/07/191 M - Kay Decosta | | Tucker, Vince 3/8/1972 - 4/26/2005 M - Glenda Tucker A - Judith Gude | |



Sorrow Is Not Forever—Love Is

So often, one attempts to face the whole future at once. But we will not live that period all at once, only day by day. Don't try to face twenty years. Face today. When that has been achieved, face tomorrow. You will find more and more ways in which you can cope.

The Chinese have a saying that a journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step. There is no way you can take the fifteenth, or the two hundred-seventh step, before you have taken the first. It can be difficult to face going out again and resuming your regular activities. It can take more courage to face the little things than the big things in life. Going out shopping for groceries for the first time can become an ordeal. Making the change more complete could help. Try a different store, a different day or time, and go with a friend.

When it seems very hard to decide what to do first, maybe it's not very important where you start, as long as you start. Choose a simple task and get started. Once you've begun, it will be far easier to set your priorities and you will have gained in confidence for already having achieved something.

—Michael A. Simpson, Birmingham, AL

How Many Children Do You Have?

It is early fall and I am standing in line at the grocery store. As I turn around to check the items in my cart, the woman behind me notices that I am very pregnant. "Is this your first child?" she asks innocently. Tears form in my eyes as I try to decide what to answer. If I say no, this will lead to the inevitable question: "how many children do you have?" Am I up for the possible reaction to my answer? Am I ready to bring up old feelings and memories? That day, I decide yes.

I turn to the woman and said, "This is my second child. My first child, my son, died in October of 1985 of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome." She puts her hand on my shoulder and tells me how sorry she is. She asks me some questions about our son and about SIDS. I appreciated so much the opportunity to talk about our son, Brendan, and SIDS, even to a complete stranger!

Unfortunately, that is not always the response I receive. Many times people will mumble something unintelligible and walk away. That is okay, too. I understand how difficult it is to hear about a baby dying – no one likes to hear about that. Responses among bereaved parents will differ when they are asked how many children they have. In most cases, I will tell people I have a son who died, and two daughters.

There have been situations when I haven't mentioned Brendan. That is okay – it doesn't mean I don't love him or that I deny that he ever existed. It doesn't mean that I am a bad mother. What it does mean, is that for the moment, I choose not to share Brendan. Early in my bereavement, I told everyone about Brendan's life and death. More than twelve years later, I have learned to cope with his absence and do not feel the need to mention him every time I meet someone new.

There are many ways in which my family and I keep his memory alive. As bereaved parents, we decide what is right for each of us. When we choose to mention our deceased children, we may make some people uncomfortable, but we may also have the opportunity to educate others. If we choose not to mention our deceased children that does not mean that we deny them or that we should feel guilty. The only correct choice is what feels right to the bereaved parent.

By: Nancy L. Maruyama, RN

Article from *Bereavement Magazine*

Sep/Oct 1998

Lovingly Lifted from

St. Louis Chapter Newsletter Sept/Oct 2002

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.



Angel of Hope Ninth Annual Spring Tea Fundraiser

April 26, 2014

9:30 am - 12:00 noon. *Doors open at 9:00am.

Wyndham Tampa Westshore (now **Quorum**)

Off Westshore Blvd. & Cypress St.

\$35 per person

Host a table of 8-10 and join in the fun!

Raffles, Silent Auction & great entertainment!!

[Click here to Sponsor or purchase tickets and tables](#)

*** Currently seeking donations for our raffles/silent auction-*

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.



We would like to pay tribute to a very special lady. Darcie Sims died at 12:24 AM on February 27, 2014. She was herself a bereaved parent. She is known in the grief community as a grief management specialist, a nationally certified thanatologist, a certified pastoral bereavement specialist, and a licensed psychotherapist and hypnotherapist. She also authored and co-authored several books. She was an internationally recognized speaker, president and co-founder of Grief, Inc and an editor for *Grief Digest*.

Bereaved Parents and Compassionate Friends will especially miss her. She is generally a speaker and/or conducts a workshop(s). I loved her personality as she was able to bring humor even when discussing tragedy. She was able to teach us how to better deal with our grief, yet managed to do so with humor quite often. Since I feel laughter is healing, just as tears are, it was nice that she could have us laughing during such a painful time.

For those of you who have been to a national gathering, it is quite possible that you have had the opportunity to hear Darcie. I believe that the grief community will surely miss her.

Tell our kids hello from all of us at Bereaved Parents Tampa Bay Chapter.

We Love and Will Miss You!

If anyone who has been touched by Darcie would like to send a sympathy card to her husband they can reach him at: Tony Sims

c/o American Grief Academy/Grief Inc.
4227 South Meridian, Suite C-363
Puyallup, WA 98373

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.

**What we have once enjoyed
deeply we can never lose. All
that we love deeply becomes
a part of us.**

- Helen Keller

Address Correction Requested

October-November 2013
POSTMASTER - Dated Material
Please do not delay.

The Bereaved Parents of the USA
P.O. Box 7034
Brandon, FL 33508

