

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

*Michael David Holmberg &  
Robyn Michelle Nemitz*



## 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 May 11 and June 8, 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 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, May 9 and June 13, 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 NIGHTTIME Meeting**

Riverview/Gibson/Brandon areas

(held the last Thursday each month)

Thursdays May 29 and June 26, 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.

*The Plant City Meeting is no longer being held.  
We thank Janice Falcon and Tom Sluder for  
their faithful service. If we begin to hear from  
interested participants who will definitely attend,  
we will consider starting it up again.*

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
May 2014						

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					
June 2014						

Mother's Day and Father's Day can be very painful. If we have other children, we must try to keep a good attitude for their sake. At the same time, it is hard to be happy when one of our children is missing.

Instead of saying Happy Mother's Day and Happy Father's Day, I will simply wish all of you a peaceful day spent with loved ones.

Debbie Nemitz

# Chapter News

## **Angel of Hope Information**

[www.angelofhopetampabay.com](http://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](http://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.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:debbie.bpnews@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to our Butterfly Release on May 18th at the Angel of Hope at 4 PM. Thanks to those of you who have chosen to participate.. We especially want to thank Rhonda Stephens of the Metamorphosis Butterfly Farm who is donating the butterflies for us.

### **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](mailto:Rhonda.Stephens@metamorphosisbutterflyfarm.com)



### **WHEN YOU SEE A BUTTERFLY**

By: Brytani Russell\*  
Tampa, FL

When you see a butterfly

**Think of me.**

When you see a shadow

Don't be afraid.

When you see a light,

Think of good things.

But when you see a butterfly

**Think of me.**

When you see a cloud,  
Don't be afraid to try and grab it.

When you see a raindrop,  
Open your mouth and let it fall in.

When you see a hand touch you,  
Don't jump away.

When you get all tingly,

Let the feeling last.

When you feel loved

Cherish it forever.

But when you see a butterfly,

**Think of me.**

When you feel like no one is there,

Make sure you know I am.

When you feel like I am gone forever,

Make sure you feel like I am there.

When you think you have grieved too much,

I know there is always another tear,

**Think of me.**

For you know I am always with you,  
in every way, shape and form.

I am always there to protect you,

Even through dangerous storms.

Know that I am right behind you,

In whatever fate decides to put you through.

For I may be gone,

But I am around,

**So when you see a butterfly,**

**Know I am always there.**

\*Note: A 15 year old, Brytani Russell, wrote the above for her grandmother after the death of Brytani's mother, her grandmothers's daughter.

### **The Butterfly in Our Lives**

By Dave Tallant, Tulane, CA

Most often we hear, in our circles, of the butterfly representing the lives of our children who have died. Their spirit lives on and our memories live on, often in fleeting moments. But I think the butterfly's life cycle - metamorphosis - could just as easily represent our own lives. We seem to fit the four stages of that cycle:

*THE EGG:* when we are small, we are protected, changing, and living in a somewhat small and safe world - much like the butterfly egg attached to a leaf somewhere.

*THE CATERPILLAR:* the caterpillar is much like our lives before the death of our child or children. We go through the day doing what we need to do. We grow a lot and we change somewhat slowly. We devour many things in daily life - work, church, Little League. And then the child is gone. We change!

*THE COCOON:* after the death of our child, we shut ourselves off from so much because of our grief. We often encase ourselves in the blanket of grief and depression that is what protects us from the horrible pain. We don't want to be a part of life because of all the painful memories. There are reminders out there which cause pain.

*THE BUTTERFLY:* the pain lessens and we begin to heal as we work through the grief process, and we begin to see a ray of light - a little color. Some of the weight is removed. We break open our cocoon and begin to reach out ever so slightly and touch life again, just to see if it will hurt too much. As we discover the brighter days and brilliant colors of life, we become more like the butterfly. We are free to once again be a part of life and we can move about more easily and begin to take some of the nectar from life.



## Our Children . . . Remembered

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

### May Birthdays

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  
GP - (Preceded in Death) Arthur & Vivian Boyd

Bracewell, Madisyn Nevach  
5/8/2002 - 5/8/2002  
P - Jessica & Joshua Bracewell  
GP - Mark & Pamela Leonhard

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

Delp, Jeff  
5/15/1972 - 5/30/2001  
M - Karen Kornman

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

Holmberg, David Michael  
5/15/1976 - 3/02/2011  
M - Mary Ellen Holmberg  
B - Kristian and Stephen

Keithly, DeAnne  
5/24/1976 - 5/12/1993  
P - John & Peggy Keithly  
S - Dawn & Karen  
B - Dustin & Kevin  
GP - Clark & Frances Keithly and Alice Pugh

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

Lavalee, Grace  
5/3/2009 - 7/17/2010  
P - Natalia Lavalee

Loftis, Tabitha Marie  
5/25/1984 - 5/21/2009  
M - Misty Lampp  
GM - Harriet Lampp

Makowski, Anthony  
5/20/1983 - 4/24/2005  
M - Cathy Makowski

McKaughan, Michael  
5/19/1989 - 11/3/2000  
P - Darlene Lack  
Sibs - Andrew & Lauren  
GP - Virginia Dosci

Metallo, Armando  
5/3/1984 - 9/15/2005  
P - Angelo & Luisa Metallo  
S - Ana, Angelo, Luisa, & Joe Metallo  
GP - Armando & Ana Metallo and Graciela & Dorotheo Martinez

Morrow, Mark  
5/19/1978 - 12/7/2005  
P - John & Joan Morrow

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

Roberts, J. Michael  
5/31/1963 - 9/25/2002  
M - Ann Roberts Mitchel  
GP - Merle H. Brunson

Robinson, Ashley Lauren  
05/20/94 - 01/16/96  
P - Sara & Tim Robinson  
S - Morgan Ashley Robinson

Sampson, Lois Kathleen  
5/4/01 - 1/24/14  
P - Cindy & Brad Sampson  
GP - Lucy Sampson, Earl & Darlene Coleman, Irma Harris, & Meemaw "Yvonne" Hendrix  
U - Wally Stewart

Shye, John David  
05/27/1964 - 08/07/1994  
P - Betty Jean & Charles Shye  
S - Lydia and Mary Shye  
B - Chuck Shye  
Father of J.D. and Justin Shye

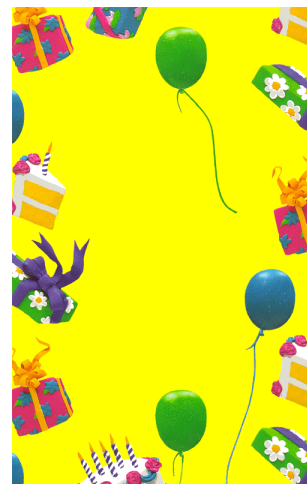
Thompson, Kimberly Karlin  
5/5/1976 - 12/6/1999  
P - Sam & Ingrid Thompson

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

Waller, Albert Marcus  
5/2/1994 - 6/16/2000  
P - Marc & Charlotte Waller

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

Zalewski, Christine  
5/2/66-3-/3/13  
P - Louie & Eileen Zalewski



### May Anniversaries

Bracewell, Madisyn Nevach  
5/8/2002 - 5/8/2002  
P - Jessica & Joshua Bracewell  
GP - Mark & Pamela Leonhard

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

Caldwell - Faught, Thomas E.  
2/9/1997 - 5/24/2003  
M - Shannon Caldwell

Casey, Ryan  
10/15/86 - 5/4/12  
P - Mike & Katie Casey  
S - Lauren Casey

Colla, Aaron Dante  
11/15/01 - 05/24/02  
P - Amanda Colla  
GP - Jana & Frank Colla  
A - Danielle  
B - Dylan

DeLosSantos, Ailen  
1/6/1975 - 5/5/2009  
M - Elena Franklin  
B - Orlando DeLosSantos Jr.

Delp, Jeff  
5/15/1972 - 5/30/2001  
M - Karen Kornman

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

Domzalski, Kristin  
3/8/1974 - 5/6/1982  
F - Bob Domzalski

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

Finchum, Tommy  
07/10/75 - 05/06/94  
P - Pete & Joyce Finchum  
B - John Finchum

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

Harless, Jessica Nicole  
11/15/1988 - 5/10/2000  
M - Heather Harless

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

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

Hughes, Jessica Alexis  
1/13/86 - 5/11/02  
F - Michael Hughes

Keithly, DeAnne  
5/24/1976 - 5/12/1993  
P - John & Peggy Keithly  
S - Dawn & Karen  
B - Dustin & Kevin  
GP - Clark & Frances Keithly and Alice Pugh



Knight, Arleen Diane  
10/16/1947 - 5/4/2004  
P - Arthur & Ethel Fernandez  
S - Elaine Rogers  
Daughters - Trina Fuller, Amy Diaz,  
and Katie Tuclula

Loftis, Tabitha Marie  
5/25/1984 - 5/21/2009  
M - Misty Lampp  
GM - Harriet Lampp

Morrow, Mark  
5/19/1978 - 12/7/2005  
P - John & Joan Morrow

Pike, Taylor  
11/9/1985 - 5/14/2007  
P - Bob & Connie Pike  
S - Megan Pike

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

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

Stoeltzing, William (Bill) W.  
01/02/57 - 05/09/02  
P - Bill & Elvira Stoeltzing  
S - Cecille Parido  
Father to Eaton & Brent



## June Birthdays

Brown, Alex Marie  
6/6/1995 - 6/6/1995  
P - Jane Ann & Thomas Brown

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

Eggly, Keiran Catherine  
6/4/2004 - 6/4/2004  
M - Elizabeth Eggly

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

Hayes, Douglas  
6/3/1969 - 6/3/1969  
P - Martha & Michael Hayes  
Sibs - Cheri Hayes Knapp & Travis Hayes  
GM - Mary Neeld

Johnson, Georgina  
6/10/2003 - 6/10/2003  
P - Laurie & George Johnson

Lane, Matthew Alexander  
6/22/2001 - 2/13/2003  
M - Mary Ann Muschick  
S - Nikol  
B - Devvin  
GP - Hieu & David Muschick

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

Martini, Michael Gerard  
6/18/1964 - 1/26/2009  
P - Dianne Ezell & Michael  
B - Pamela Martini  
Niece - Destiny Martini

Owens, Kenny Dwayne  
6/27/1961 - 2/25/2005  
P - Jimmy & Sylvia Mingo  
S - Tina Jernigan & Donna

Ponder, Manda Lynn  
06/13/1995 - 07/03/1995  
P - Marilyn & William Ponder  
B - Travis & Mike Ponder  
S - Amanda Ponder  
GM - Grace Ponder

Price, Karissa Danielle  
6/19/90 - 12/8/12  
P - Karen and Dan Price  
S - Kaleigh  
GP - Eleanor Arnold and  
Jerry and Kathie Sealock

Ramirez, Arthur, Jr.  
6/10/1951 - 12/30/1997  
M - Helen Ramirez

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

Schulman, Adam J.  
6/7/1971 - 9/26/2004  
M - Pat Schulman  
B - Freddie Kelly Jr. and Kenny Schulman

Skalski, Brian  
6/2/1968 - 1/6/2011  
P - Nick Skalski & Marty Hayes

Shemela, Kenneth  
6/24/1964 - 2/19/2009  
P - Bill & Barbara Shemela  
B - Bill Shemela, Jr.

Sorrells, Blake Austin  
06/03/1998 - 06/03/1998  
P - John & Monica Sorrells  
S - Cassidy Sorrells

Szczepanek, Daniel  
6/21/1988 - 11/10/2006  
M - Debra Szczepanek

Timothy, Joshua  
6/29/2004 - 7/18/2005  
P - Doug & Kerri Timothy  
GM - Mary Ann Negrele

Valdez, Joseph Martin  
6/3/1974 - 4/24/2007  
M - Carolyn Aviles

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

Weber, Barbara Jean  
6/4/1953 - 12/14/1994  
P - Weldon & Jean Weber  
S - Kristi, Teresa, & Pamela



## June Anniversaries

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

Bray, Debbie (Hurley)  
11/14/1967 - 6/1/1990  
M - Beverley (Bray) Hurley  
S - Kimberly Gonzalez

Brown, Alex Marie  
6/6/1995 - 6/6/1995  
P - Jane Ann & Thomas Brown

Andrew Glenn Butler  
1/8/2009  
GP - Rosemary Perry

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

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

Eggly, Keiran Catherine  
6/4/2004 - 6/4/2004  
M - Elizabeth Eggly

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

Jonathan Lee Fernandez  
12/ 13/1986 - 6/20/2010  
M - Elaine Fernandez

Funk, Benjamin  
9/9/1976 - 6/25/2001  
P - Mr & Mrs Funk

Harrill, Jason  
1/23/1984 - 6/12/2006  
P - Bonnie & David Harrill  
S - Michelle "MiMi"

Hayes, Douglas  
6/3/1969 - 6/3/1969  
P - Martha & Michael Hayes  
Sibs - Cheri Hayes Knapp & Travis Hayes  
GM - Mary Neeld

Howard, Steven T.  
8/11/70 - 6/30/1999  
M - Cay Pelacz

Johnson, Georgina  
6/10/2003 - 6/10/2003  
P - Laurie & Goerge Johnson

Kellogg, Benjamin  
6/7/2002  
P - John & Barbara Kellogg

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

Martin, Amanda Louise  
12/31/1971 - 6/19/2008  
P - Toni Martin

**McElwaine, David Christopher**  
10/01/90 - 06/22/12  
M - Kim Joannides  
F - Brad McElwaine  
S - Sarah McElwaine  
B - Anthony Joannides,  
Grant & Andy McElwaine  
GP - Chris & Chris Joannides,  
Jack & Gayle Cornish, Jeannine Dohse

Mercer, Bret  
10/5/1988 - 6/25/1992  
P - Eddie & Darlene Mercer  
S - Lindy, Crystal & Kaley  
GP - Loren & Christine Mercer and  
Beverly Jaudon Quincannon

Mosquero, Brando J.  
4/21/85 - 6/15/24  
P - Yolando & Ozzie Patino  
S-Samantha-Rose Patino  
GP - Rosa abd Ralph Lucerna

Nemitz, Robyn Michelle  
12/28/82 - 06/16/98  
P - Debbie & Bill Nemitz  
B - John Nemitz  
GM - Laura Nemitz  
A & U - John & Linda Goodman &  
Marty & Carol Nemitz

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

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

Patet, Nathan Gabriel  
12/18/88 - 06/10/90  
P - Maritza & Jeff Patet  
S - Mallory Patet & Gina Patet  
GP - Gus & Lourdes Arenas and  
Don and the late Betty Patet

Prescott, Alexandria  
3/25/1990 - 6/28/2010  
Stephanie & Tracy Knox

Roberson, Richard Joseph  
07/23/1959 - 06/02/1997  
P - Richard & Jeannette Roberson  
S - Sue & Shelfy  
B - Randy

Sorrells, Blake Austin  
06/03/1998 - 06/03/1998  
P - John & Monica Sorrells  
S - Cassidy Sorrells

## 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.  
Author Unknown



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MICHAEL!



“I HOPE THE ANGELS KNOW WHAT THEY HAVE“.....

Love,

Mom

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.



2014 BP/USA  
National Gathering  
St. Louis, MO  
REGISTER NOW  
[www.bereavedparentsusa.org/](http://www.bereavedparentsusa.org/)



Listen to ***“Hope, Healing & Help”*** every Saturday from 11:00 til noon Pacific Time on KFIA 710AM Sacramento or [www.kfia.com](http://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](http://www.hopehealinghelp.com).





### God's Lent Child

"I'll lend you for a little while  
 A child of mine" God said -  
 For you to love the while he lives  
 and mourn for when he's dead.  
 It may be six or seven years  
 or forty two or three  
 but will you, till I call him back,  
 take care of him for me?  
 He'll bring his charms to gladden you  
 and, should his stay be brief,  
 you'll have his nicest memories  
 as solace for his grief.  
 I cannot promise he will stay,  
 since all from earth return  
 but, there are lessons taught below,  
 I want this child to learn.  
 I've looked the whole world over,  
 in my search for teachers true,  
 and from the things that crowd life's lane  
 I have chosen you.  
 Now will you give him all your love,  
 nor think the labour vain,  
 nor hate me when I come to take  
 this lent child back again?  
 I fancied that I heard them say,  
 "Dear Lord Thy Will Be Done"  
 for all the joys thy child will bring  
 the risk of grief we'll run.  
 We'll shelter him with tenderness,  
 we'll love him while we may,  
 and for the happiness we've known  
 forever grateful stay.  
 But, should thy Angels call for him  
 much sooner than we planned,  
 we'll brave the grief that comes  
 and try to understand.  
*Anonymous Author*



Robyn....we miss you so very much!  
 Even after almost 16 years, there isn't  
 a day that goes by that you are not  
 thought about with much love.

Mom, Dad, John and all your friends  
 and family

# 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 the caterpillar thought  
was the end of life, the butterfly  
knew was just the beginning.”

*Author unknown*

**Address Correction Requested**

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Please do not delay.

