



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)
Sunday November 8, 2015 from 6:30-8:30 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.

Candle Lighting Service

Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 7PM
St. Joseph's Hospital
Medical Arts Building, Auditorium
3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Tampa FL
Call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946 or
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, November 13 and December 11, 2015
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 but due to
holidays they will be held)
Thursdays November 19 and December 17, 2015
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 newsletter is lovingly
sponsored by the families of:
Matthew Gallagher,
Larry D. Garcia,
Robyn Michelle Nemitz, and
"Kimie" Woofter*

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					
November 2015						

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		
December 2015						

This is perhaps the most difficult time of the year for many of us. We must manage to get through the holidays. Some choose to stray from their typical celebrations. However, often we must continue the celebrations for the sake of other children or family. The absence of our deceased child is nevertheless very noticeable. One of the reasons for our Candle Lighting Service is to bring our child into the holiday season. The candle can continue to be lit throughout the holiday season as you remember your child. Wishing you all a Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas or Happy Chanukah, and a Happy New Year.
Debbie

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.

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PRICE ADJUSTMENT TO Sponsor A Newsletter Page

Since we no longer print the newsletter, we have decided to reduce the costs of the memorial pages. Anyone can sponsor a page in this newsletter in memory of their child. The price for a **full page is \$30** which includes photographs and your tribute to your child (poems, stories or whatever you like). You may also choose a **half page for \$15**. Your contribution supports the chapter.

As an incentive to have more help to run the chapter, we are giving all of the steering committee members one free page each year.

To sponsor a newsletter page, contact Debbie Nemitz @ 813-501-9567 or at debbie.bpnews@gmail.com. Please note that sponsorship pages are due by the 25th of the month BEFORE the publication month. We publish every 2 months.

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.



My Dear Larry 32nd Birthday

The LORD values the lives of his faithful followers.

we love you so very much



**12/28/82
to
6/16/98**

Happy 33rd Birthday Robyn

You were such a lovely girl growing up. You were the best daughter anyone could possibly hope for. I wish your life hadn't been cut so short. I can't help but wonder what you would look like now. I'm quite certain that you would still be a wonderful loving individual. All of us miss you so much. Life hasn't been the same since you left. You may be gone, but you are certainly not forgotten.

We love and miss you very much!

Mom, Dad, John and
other family and friends





Our Children . . . Remembered

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

November Birthdays

Bray, Debbie (Hurley) 11/14/1967 - 6/1/1990 M - Beverley (Bray) Hurley S - Kimberly Gonzalez	Garcia, Larry D. 11/8/1983 - 1/10/2007 M-Consuelo Rios	Milam, Perry Edward 11/4/1974 - 10/1/1994 M-Nancy Milam S-Suzanne Milam Clark	Schank, Jamie 11/3/1972-10/26/2003 P- Joan Schank
Buzbee-Reeves, Devon Michael 11/16/1994 - 11/19/1994 M - Celeste Buzbee F - Mike Reeves B-Tristan Alan Buz- bee-Reeves	Hadley, Katrina 11/17/1961 - 2/4/2006 M-Grace Therman	Miulli, Matthew Michael 11/27/1987-1/19/2005 P-Jim & Kathy Miulli GP-Rudy Prehnal and Mike & Sue Miulli	Scheurich, Annabelle 11/1/2013 - 11/1/2013 M - Kate Scheurich
Celestey, Shaun 11/16/1980-1/3/1980 P-Vick & Paula Celestey	Harless, Jessica Nicole 11/15/1988 - 5/10/2000 M - Heather Harless	Nichols, Melissa 11/9/1982 - 9/4/2002 M-Terrena Nichols F-Shannon Nichols S-Brandy Nichols B-Shannon Nichols, Jr.	Shockey, Ann 11/08/56 - 04/26/70 P - Dick & Connie Shockey
Colla, Aaron Dante 11/15/01 - 05/24/02 P-Amanda Colla GP-Jana & Frank Colla A-Danielle B-Dylan	Hinchey, Ronald 11/17/1974 - 12/10/1999 P - Ronald & Donna Hinchey S - Tracy Foster	Pike, Taylor K. 11/9/1985-5/14/2007 P-Bob & Connie Pike S-Megan Pike	Titer, Kenric 11/26/1985 - 7/2/1997 M - Jackie Mentor
Decosta, Brittany 11/19/87 - 04/07/91 M - Kay Decosta	Jacobson, Nathan 11/9/1994-2/16/2008/ P-Amy & Pete Jacobson	Rivera, Damian Elijah 11/19/2001 - 01/10/2002 M-Nicole Rivera	Toler, Jeremiah 11/8/1985 - 11/18/2013 M - Tracy Toler
Dietrich, Jamie Rachel 11/20/1977 - 11/17/2004 P-Tommy & Barbara Dietrich	Kelly, Amanda Jean 11/15/1986 - 7/7/1987 P-John & Brenda Kelly S-Matthew & Ryan GP-John Keller & Elizabeth Kelly	Robles-Greene, Brodie Shane 11/15/1996 - 11/29/1996 M - Denise Robles F - Ronnie Greene B - Shane	Torres, Angel Luv 11/19/1982 - 11/2/1994 P-Aida & Angel Torres B-Nicolas Torres GP-Pola Lesprier
Dixon Jr., Anthony Howard 11/27/1978 - 4/1/1996 M - Brenda & Toney Dixon B - David Dixon	Kettlety, Daniel S. 11/7/1978 - 11/10/1997 P-Wayne & Sherry Kettlety	Rosas, Ricardo 11/4/1991 - 8/12/2013 M - Leticia Rosas S - Alejandra B- David and Daniel	Walker, Nick 11/12/1983 - 1/11/2001 M - Denise Walker GM - Shirley Walker
Dominguez Mario /11/1/1987/ M-Sonia Dominguez	Lind, Joshua Richard 11/9/1983 - 11/14/1999 F - Richard Lind	Russell, Melody 11/25/1985 - 11/25/1985 M-Karron Russell GP - Ben & Sue Bowditch S/B - Brytani and Derak Aunts Aunts- Catherine and Roben	Wheeler, Clifford Denmark 11/1/1979 - 1 /18/1996 M-Donna Wheeler B-John, James & Duane GP-Lynn & Marcel Baker
Douglas, Christopher 11/4/1977 - 12/22/1997 M - Laren & Michael S - Stacy & Leigh B - Clinton	Loadholtz, Glenn Edward 11/25/1969 - 2/15/2005 P-George & Jackie Loadholtz S-Gwen Walkowiak		
	McDonald, Brooke 11/8/1990-10/4/2008 P-Mitch & Barbara McDonald		



November Anniversaries

Arnold, Ryan 9/1/1988-11/28/2007 P-Ron & Marcia Arnold B-Jason & Matt GP-Charlie & Kathy Arnold, and Allan & Florence Knopf	Baker, Holly K. 02/11/84 - 11/15/96 M - Evonne M. Baker	Buzbee-Reeves, Devon Michael 11/16/1994 - 11/19/1994 M - Celeste Buzbee F - Mike Reeves B-Tristan Alan Buzbee-Reeves	Dietrich, Jamie Rachel 11/20/1977 - 11/17/2004 P-Tommy & Barbara Dietrich
Baker, Brendolyn Joyce Butterfly 1/1/1948 - 11/9/1990 M - Rebeckah Mitchell SF - Daniel Mitchell B - Daniel Leroy Mitchell S - Sharolyn Mitchell, Rhondolyn Shedrick, Lerolyn Capehart, and Angelyn Capehart	Justin, Chris 10/3/1989-11/6/2007 P-Chris Black	Chartier, Eric 9/3/1978-11/2007 P-Linda Chartier & Joe Phillips	Gladen, Renee' Rose 4/21/1961-11/17/1999 S-Diana Gaden
	Bridgmon, Matt 2/11/1978-11/4/2006 M-Jean Bridgmon	Chilson, Candice 10/24/83 - 11/10/01 M - Wendy Chilson	Gray, Jay 09/07/70 - 11/09/01 M - Dee Gray
	Butler, Mark Anthony 7/7/1977 - 11/24/2001 P-Ray & Chris Butler GM-Alice Butler		Harrigan, Kimaura 12/04/1995-11/1/2008 M-Kichma Nieves

November Anniversaries cont'd

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

Kettlety, Daniel S.
11/7/1978 - 11/10/1997
P-Wayne & Sherry Kettlety

Jakabowski, Jerome (Jerry)
2/9/1971-11/5/2009
M-Marsha Schemela
B-Jason Jakabowski

Lind, Joshua Richard
11/9/1983 - 11/14/1999
F - Richard Lind

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

Moore, Vanessa
9/3/1980-11/11/2005
M-Pat Moore

Robles-Greene, Brodie Shane
11/15/1996 - 11/29/1996
M- Denise Robles
F-Ronnie Greene
S - Shane

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

Ruiz, Marcus Nelson
12/29/1996 - 11/12/2000
P - Aleida & Nelson Ruiz
S - Illana

Russell, Melody
11/25/1985 - 11/25/1985
M-Karron Russell
GP - Ben & Sue Bowditch
S/B - Brytani and Derak
Aunts - Catherine and Roben

Sluder, Theresa Elaine
10/14/61 - 11/17/2008
P-Tom & Judy Sluder
S-Kathryn
B-Tom III & Keith
Children-Brandy & Brandon
Grandchildren-Romeo, Thaliana
N/N-Israel, Keith II and
Miranda

Snyder, Janna Marie
10/21/1978 - 11/11/1995
GP Marian & Paul Bullard
P - Dana & Connie Snyder
B - Jeff Snyder

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

Toler, Jeremiah
11/8/1985 - 11/18/2013
M - Tracy Toler

Torres, Angel Luv
11/19/1982 - 11/2/1994
P-Aida & Angel Torres
B-Nicolas Torres
GP-Pola Lespier



We wish to say a big thank you to:
Sandy Salas for her love gift made in memory of her son
David
Kelly Shay for her love gift made in memory of her
son **Justin Conway**
and to
Christine Daws for her love gift made in memory of her
daughter **Catherine Lane**

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDER

**Candle Lighting
December 13, 2015**

**7PM (doors open
6:30 PM)**

**See pages
10-11 for more
Information**

**Please RSVP
NOW**



In Loving Memory
Of
Kimie



2/24/70 to 12/25/06

We Love and Miss You!

Michael & Dustyn [sons],
Julie [mom], Steve [dad (step)],
Donnie [brother] and Angela [sister]



I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and she is just as able to bear the load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just as the moment when someone at my side says:

"There, she is gone!" , there are other eyes watching her coming and other voices ready to take up the glad shout: "Here she comes!"

And that is dying.

By Henry Van Dyke

December Birthdays

Baker, Jennifer
12/13/1973 - 10/15/1995
P-Terry & Susan Baker

Barnes Hannah D. M.
12/28/94 - 12/28/94
P - Alfred & Sabrina Barnes

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

Gonzalez, Miriam
12/10/1948 - 7/26/1995
P-Fernando & Paula Lespier
S-Maria , Aida & George

Hidalgo, Christopher
12/14/1989 - 7/5/2004
M-Tammy Hidalgo

Horton, Ryan
12/21/1980 - 1/23/2005
M-Sue Horton

Libby, Josalin Katherine "Josie"
12/20/11 - 1/30/12
M- Katelin Abney
F- Joseph Libby
S - Sebie Aronson

Lingefelt, Fiona
12/20/1989 - 10/15/2000
P - Karen & Douglas Lingefelt
B-Alexander & Andrew

Lloyd, Briana
12/12/96 - 4/17/15
P - Lucile and Ed Lloyd

Lovett, Sandra Sandy
12/3/1968 - 10/4/1997
M - Barbara Bryant

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

Montagano, Anthony J. "Tony"
12/02/91 - 01/02/01
P-Luli and Jim Montagano
S-Alessandra Montagano
GP-Henry and Eloisa Valenzuela

Murphy, Mark Lawrence
12/22/1968 - 2/21/2000
M - Rosalie Baum
B - John Murphy

Nemitz, Robyn Michelle
12/28/82 - 06/16/98
P - Debbie & Bill Nemitz
B - John Nemitz
GP - Laura Nemitz

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

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

Pitts, Joseph David
12/8/1971 - 7/16/1998
P - Ruth & Richard Pitts

Presley, Tristan
12/1/2010 - 8/2/2011
M - Brittany Presley

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

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

Rucys, Elliott Joseph
12/19/2007-1/18/2008
P-Pete & Libbie Rucys
S-Sydney & Aiden Rucys
GP-Wynn,Cheryl,Jodi Elliott and
Joe & Sandra Rucys, Nancy Alvis

Ruiz, Marcus Nelson
12/29/1996 - 11/12/2000
P - Alcida & Nelson Ruiz
S - Illana

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

Thomas, Carol
12/16/1955-2/16/2003
M-Betty Thatcher
Sibs-Deb Waldfoege, Ellen Williams, on
Fran Thatcher & Gerri Hust

Waller, Lauren Marie
12/12/1990 - 4/16/2000
M - Kristine Colding & Bryan
Strahan
B-Christopher
S-Faith
GP-Joyce & Gene Waller

Williams, Paul X.
12/2/1986-12/24/2005
P-Amber & Tracy MacDonald
Sibs-Molly & Daniel Williams
GP-John & Rosemarie Binder



December Anniversaries

Antinora, Joseph A.
8/18/1967-12/9/2006
M-Susan Antinora
S-Tina Baxter
GF-Jos. Harnishfeger

Barnes Hannah D. M.
12/28/94 - 12/28/94
P - Alfred & Sabrina Barnes

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

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

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

Daly, Cole
9/9/1983 - 12/17/2001
M-Katie Brock

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

Donnarumma, Sophia Marie
9/1/2000 - 12/23/2004
P-Benjamin & Diane
S-Olivia
GM-Pat Donnarumma

Douglas, Christopher
11/4/1977 - 12/22/1997
M - Laren & Michael
S - Stacy & Leigh
B - Clinton

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

Ellis, Douglas William
01/09/62 - 12/17/83
M - Alicia Ellis West
B-Harry Jr. & Edward Ellis

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

December Anniversaries cont'd

Hinchey, Ronald
11/17/1974 - 12/10/1999
P - Ronald & Donna Hinchey
S - Tracy Foster

Knight, Matthew A.
9/1/1982 - 12/28/2001
P-Ron & Sandy Knight
GM-Jack & Mary Griffin &
Doris I. Knight

Lane, Catherine Novak
6/8/1957 - 12/13/2008
M- Christina Daws
B- Michael, John & Richard Lane

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

O'Berry, Michael Sean
09/13/94 - 12/15/97
P - Mike & Valerie O'Berry
B - Christopher O'Berry
GM - Linda Hoffman
A - Joyce Weil
U - Mike Kasrich

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

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

Schlechty, Michael
2/5/59 - 12/4/01
P - Nancy & Vernon Schlechty
Children - Michael Leann & Morgan Lynn
B - Mark
S - Amy

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

Stolley, Allison
5/5/82 - 12/12/14
P - Robin & Dan Stolley

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

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

Williams, Paul X.
12/2/1986-12/24/2005
P-Amber & Tracy MacDonald
Sibs-Molly & Daniel Williams
GP-John & Rosemarie Binder

Woofter, Kimberly Ann.. "Kimie"
2/24/1970 - 12/25/2006
P-Julie & Steve Woofter
Children -Michael & Dystin
Sibs-Angela Huntley & Donny

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



Don't Tell Me

**Please don't tell me you know how I feel,
Unless you have lost your child too.
Please don't tell me my broken heart will heal,
Because that is just not true.
Please don't tell me my son is in a better place,
Though it is true, I want him here with me.
Don't tell me someday I'll hear his voice, see his face,
Beyond today I cannot see.
Dont tell me it is time to move on,
Because I cannot.
Dont tell me to face the fact he is gone,
Because denial is something I can't stop.
Don't tell me to be thankful for the time I had,
Because I wanted more.
Don't tell me when I am my old self you will be glad,
I'll never be as I was before.
What you can tell me is you will be here for me,
That you will listen when I talk of my child.
You can share with me my precious memories,
You can even cry with me for a while.
And please don't hesitate to say his name,
Because it is something I long to hear everyday.
Friend please realize that I can never be the same,
But if you stand by me,
You may like the new person I become someday.**

Author unknown

Matthew Gallagher

8/18/92 to 12/12/11



Remembering you on your 4th Angel Birthday

We Love and Miss You Very Much!
Mom, Dad, Tim, and
All your family and friends.



2015 Candlelight Ceremony (December 13) Participation Form

(Please return this registration by December 1 to have your child's name / picture appear in the

Program. Send to: BP/USA, c/o Lori Scragg, 1105 Fredrick Ln. Brandon, FL 33511

I (family) will be attending the service on December 13, and will light a candle in remembrance of my child/children

Number of people attending _____

I have enclosed a picture for the Presentation OR Please use the picture from last year's Presentation.

I will be unable to attend the service, but would like to have a candle lit in memory of my child / children. NOTE: Due to time restraints, **only picture for parents ATTENDING the Ceremony will be shown.** Thank you for understanding.

Child's name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Son or Daughter of _____ Sister or Brother

of _____

Grandson or Granddaughter of _____

I would like to furnish _____ for the reception.

NOTE: Please try to furnish food (sandwiches, salads, deviled eggs, etc.) since we seem to have an abundance of desserts.

I am enclosing a donation in the amount of \$ _____ in memory of my child / children.

I would like to donate _____ poinsettia(s) in the amount of \$10.00 each in memory of my child / children to be used for decorating at the Candle Lighting. (you may take it (them) home afterwards)

Your Name _____

Address/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

December 13, 2015 Candle Lighting Remembrance Ceremony

Bereaved Parents of the USA, Tampa Bay Chapter, will hold its annual Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony at 7 PM. on Sunday December 13, 2015. (Please begin to arrive by 6:30 PM so that we can begin the program on time at 7). The ceremony will be held in The Medical Arts Building (MAB) Auditorium at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa. This day is also the Children's Worldwide Candle Lighting event (created and shared by TCF) where candles will be lit around the world in memory of all children that have died in every time zone starting at 7:00 PM. Please join us in this beautiful tribute to our children. Any bereaved parent or family member and friends are invited to participate. For those of you who are newly bereaved, we encourage you to attend. This service can make handling the holiday season a little easier.

KEEPSAKE VOTIVE - Each family who attends will light a candle in honor of their child and take the candle home to light throughout the holidays. Due to a decrease in the amount of donations we have received, we are asking for a donation of \$1.00 per person. *

RECEPTION -We will have a reception following the ceremony, and we invite you to bring if possible, your child's favorite food (i.e. vegetables, chips, snacks, sandwiches, etc.) to share with others. We normally have an abundance of desserts.

PICTURE PRESENTATION-A Special Slide Picture Presentation of our beautiful Children! If you are planning to attend our Candle Light Ceremony, mail a picture of your child, and include their full name as you want it displayed on the slide presentation and also the birth and death dates, to: Lori Scragg,

1105 Fredrick Lane, Brandon, FL 33511.

¹¹⁰⁶

NOTE: Due to time restraints, only pictures of children whose parents are attending the Ceremony will be shown. Thank you for your understanding.

Picture should be of your deceased child only. If your child's picture was included in previous year's candle lights, any of the National Gathering closing ceremonies, or Chapter Newsletters and you want to use the same photo, just let Debbie Nemitz know that. Pictures mailed in will be returned to you at the Candle Light Service - please pick them up at the registration desk. You can scan the picture yourself and email to debbie.bpnews@gmail.com, but please be sure it is at least 600 dpi.. If you have any questions, please call Debbie Nemitz at 813-501-9567.

BUTTONS- We have the equipment to make picture buttons. Bring a picture no smaller than 3" x 5" and picture will be cut and become the button. Buttons are round and measure approximately 2.25" in diameter. Cost per button is only \$3.00. (picture wanted in button should have plenty of space around it)

BOUTIQUE-There will be an Angel / Butterfly Boutique to purchase holiday items or gifts. All items are donated and all proceeds benefit your local BP/USA Chapter. To donate items, please call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946 or you may choose to bring them with you.

PARTICIPATION FORM-For planning purposes, or to ensure your child's name appears in our candle lighting program, or if you wish to have a candle lit for your child in your absence, please complete and submit the form attached and send it in before December 1 to: BP/USA Tampa Bay Chapter, c/o Lori Scragg, 1105 Fredrick Lane, Brandon, FL 33511

* If you have votives from previous years that you would like to donate, please get in touch with us so that we can plan accordingly. You may call either Lori at 813-361-2946 or Debbie at 813-501-9567.

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.



We are happy to present our newest fund raiser **Rosemary's Angels**

We will be selling these at the Candle Lighting and will take orders for the future if we sell out.



This angel is about 2 inches tall with a wing span of 1 ½ inches. It is all silver except for the pearl head and gold halo.

Can be purchased with bail, pin, or visor clip.

Cost \$15.00

The Christmas ornament is molded and plated. A ribbon is put through the hole at top of the angel (bail) so it can be hung on the tree. I added the butterfly because of your organization symbol. This ornament is about 3 inches tall, wing span about 2 1/4 , all silver except for the gold butterfly and halo. The ornament is heavier that the angel pins. Also a name can be engraved on the back of the angel ornament.

Cost \$20.00





TIPS FOR HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS

Darcie D. Sims, Ph.D.
Grief Inc. Published by Big A and Company, 2000



The holiday season is a time of short days and longer nights, of icy winds, cold hands and empty hearts. It can be a time when the PAST and the PRESENT collide. We try to recapture what we once had or blot out bad memories. We try to ignore the empty chair. It is the perfect time to take a nap, but sometimes wishing we could sleep until springtime comes to lift our spirits doesn't work.

Time moves at its own pace and nothing can speed up or slow down the march of the hours, days, weeks and months across our grieving heart. So, if napping doesn't work for you, there are some things you can do to help ease the foot prints that grief leaves on our heart. So, in this time of icy hearts and frozen feelings:

BE PATIENT WITH YOURSELF. Know that hardly anyone is as happy as you think they might be. We all have our hurts to bear. We are always in a hurry. We want things to BE BETTER NOW. Do what you can this season and let it be enough.

BE REALISTIC. It will hurt, especially if there is an empty chair at the table. Be ready for them. Lay in a supply of tissues (a roll of toilet paper is even more efficient). Anticipation is often far worse than reality. Let those hurting moments come, deal with them and let them go.

BE KIND AND GENTLE TO YOURSELF. Figure out what you SHOULD do, balance it with what you are CAPABLE of doing and then COMPROMISE. Forgive yourself for living when your loved one died.

PLAN AHEAD. Grieving people often experience a lack of concentration. Make lists. Prioritize everything. Decide what is REALLY important to YOU.

REDEFINE EXPECTATIONS of self and others. Be honest in what you expect to be able to do. We live in a world of OUGHTS and SHOULDs and suffer from guilt because we cannot meet our own expectations. Let the OUGHTS and SHOULDs go.

LISTEN TO YOURSELF. Find the quiet space within where all the answers live. As you become aware of your needs, tell family members and friends

ASK FOR HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT. Make a help-on-a-stick sign and stand on the porch, waving it. Someone will notice (but may not stop. Just because you ask for help does not guarantee you will get some, but if you never ask, no one will ever know how much you might need hug!!)

KEEP SOME TRADITIONS. Choose which ones. Don't toss out everything this year. You can always try changing a routine. Try whatever pops into your head. You can always scrap it if it doesn't work.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF PHYSICALLY. Eat right. Exercise (or at least watch someone else). Gift wrap some broccoli. If nothing else, jog your memory! Take a NAP!

RECONNECT TO YOUR SOURCE. Find whatever renews your spirit and recharge your "batteries." Many find their faith to be a great source of strength while others find moments of solitude, meditation or prayer to be helpful. Surround yourself with the people and things that lift your spirits.

CHANGE SOMETHING. Everything has already changed, so don't be afraid to change some traditions. But don't toss out everything this year. Keep some traditions. You choose which ones.

SCREEN ALL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES:

Will it be the holidays without it? Why do you do this activity? Tradition, habit, obligation? Do YOU have to do this, or can others do it for you? Do you LIKE doing it? How could this activity be done differently?

LEAVE THE WORD "OUGHT" OUT OF THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

HOLD ON TO YOUR WALLET AND CHARGE CARDS. You can't buy away grief, but you might be tempted to try.

BUY YOURSELF A SMALL GIFT. Use someone else's charge card. Whose? Remember all those people who said to call "if you ever needed anything"?.....Give them a call now! (buy yourself a small treat for one of those really hard days and enjoy it without guilt).

UNDERSTAND THAT HEARTACHES WILL BE UNPACKED as you sift through the decorations, but so, too, are the warm, loving memories

of each piece. Don't deny yourself the gift of healing tears.

GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF EMOTIONS. Put the motion back into the emotions. Toss a Nerf brick when you're angry or pound a pillow. Go outside and yell while you shovel snow. Find a way to express the intensity of your feelings in a PERSONALLY NON-DESTRUCTIVE WAY.

REALIZE YOU AND YOUR GRIEF ARE UNIQUE. Everyone grieves differently, yet we often use our differences as weapons. We misinterpret words and actions and may assume that no one else is grieving the "right way". Remember that, just as each snowflake is unique and special, so is each person. Your grief is yours and what works for you may not help someone else. Give everyone the gift of TOLERANCE and allow everyone to grieve in his own way.

SHARE YOUR HOLIDAYS with someone, anyone! Ride the ferry, visit a soup kitchen or nursing home, spend an evening at the bus station. There are lots of lonely people who could use your love and caring.

BUY A GIFT FOR YOUR LOVED ONE. Give it away to someone who would otherwise not have a gift. It is the giving, the exchanging of love that we miss the most. When you share love, it grows.

WORK AT LIFTING DEPRESSION. Take responsibility for yourself. We cannot wait for someone else to wrap up some joy and give it to us. We have to do that for ourselves. Think of things you enjoy and give yourself a treat. (ONE cookie will NOT cause mounds of fat to be deposited on your hips, a dozen, however, might so be careful!)

HANG THE STOCKINGS, PLACE A WREATH ON THE GRAVE. Do whatever feels right for you and your family.

LIGHT A SPECIAL CANDLE. Not in memory of a death, but in celebration of a life and a loved shared. NEVER FORGET THAT ONCE SOMEONE LOVED US AND WE LOVED BACK. NO ONE CAN DENY THAT GIFT EXCHANGE!

LEARN TO LOOK FOR JOY IN THE MOMENT. Get a pair of rose-colored glasses and change the way you look at things. Joy happens when we look for it!. Learn to celebrate what you do have instead of making mental lists of what you're missing.

FIND THE GIFTS OF YOUR LOVED ONE'S LIFE. Think of all the "gifts" that your loved one gave to you ... joy, safety, laughter, companionship, etc. List these "gifts" on strips of paper and keep them somewhere close to you. Some may put them in a gift box while others may decide to place them in the stocking. Some may decorate the tree with them or simply keep them in a memory book or in a secret place. But, wherever you place them, know these small strips of paper hold treasures far beyond our capacity to understand. They hold tangible evidence that someone lived. It is a reminder that we did exchange gifts and that we still have those gifts, even if the giver has gone.

LIVE THROUGH THE HURT SO THAT JOY CAN RETURN TO WARM YOUR HEART!

Take a nap! Hide in the closet. Run through the snow or weed a garden. Whatever works for you is your gift to you this holiday season. Treat yourself kindly and with the same compassion you extend to others. Be gentle this holiday season and may its gifts of love be forever in your being. Love has woven a fabric of memory for you. Find that and wrap yourself in the warmth of love given and received.

Whatever holidays these are for you, may they be manageable and may you find the love you remember.

MAY LOVE BE WHAT YOU REMEMBER THE MOST!!



Merry Christmas from Heaven

I still hear the songs
I still see the lights
I still feel your love
On cold winter nights.

I still share your hopes
and all of your cares
I'll even remind you
to please say your prayers.

I just want to tell you
you still make me proud
You stand head and shoulders
above all the crowd.

Keep trying each moment
to stay in his grace
I come here before you
to help set your place.

You don't have to be
perfect all the time
he forgives you the slip
if you continue to climb.

To my family and friends
please be thankful today
I'm still close beside you
in a new special way.

I love you all dearly
now don't shed a tear
cause I'm spending my
Christmas with Jesus this year
By John Mooney

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

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



October-November 2013
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