



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, October 13 and November 10, 2013
6:30 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, October 11 and November 8, 2013
10:00 a.m. 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: Tuesday October 29,

and Thursday November 21, 2013 at 6:30 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 first Wednesday of each month)

Wednesdays, October 2 and November 6, 2013

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

South Florida Baptist Hospital
301 N. Alexander Street, Plant City, FL
in the Community Conference Room
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		
October 2013						



Have a safe
Halloween

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 2013						

We would like to wish
all of you a
Happy Thanksgiving Day.



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.

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.

Trophy Taker Outdoors Radio Host Lee Cepero, Talks about losing his daughter (620 WDAE/95.3 FM)

Almost 14 years ago my life was perfect. We bought our first house, I was engaged to be married and just 2 weeks after the wedding, I found out I was going to be a father. At first, I was scared to death to bring a child into this world; would I be a good father? I didn't know what to expect, but once I looked into her beautiful eyes, the eyes of my first born just after her birth, it truly brought tears of joy to my eyes. She was a part of me, and I knew I had to do anything to take care of and protect that child.

Caylee Marie Cepero was our world. My wife and I were very protective of her, making sure she was safe, giving Caylee everything she needed, spoiling her, and we loved Caylee with all of our hearts. Even at a young age, you can see how much your child is just like you. Caylee had my attitude but had her mother's looks, and I called her Dawn's mini-me because she was the spitting image of my wife Dawn, with her curly brown hair. She had the biggest brown eyes and everyone who saw us would always comment on what a beautiful child she truly was. She had the greatest personality. We found out in 2003 we were expecting another child; a boy. Our family was getting bigger and 3 months after our son, we were pregnant again, this time another little girl. Life was good.

This is what I have always wanted, a big family, wow it was awesome. I was on top of the world, a nice house, good jobs, lots of friends and a beautiful family. Then in an instant, just 8 months later our lives were changed forever. I will never forget that day. My wife called me on a Thursday and said that the school called and said that Caylee was not feeling well and would I go by and pick her up. I picked up Caylee and took her home. That Friday, she had begun vomiting. We thought it was stomach virus. Saturday, she had stopped vomiting but we still took her to After Hours Pediatrics. They diagnosed it as a Stomach Virus. We let her sleep Sunday except when she wanted to go to church. Her baby brother and sister were being baptized, and Caylee wanted to wear her new dress. Monday morning she looked worse, we took her to her Pediatrician about 9am.

He immediately diagnosed it on sight as Leukemia, Monday, March 7, 2005. We were devastated. He said, "This is not a Death Sentence like it used to be." We were confused and scared because this child was well just prior and never had any abnormal symptoms. He made a quick call and 20 minutes later, we took her to the Children's Hospital. They aspirated blood from her marrow and diagnosed it as ALL with an 80% chance of survival, this was the initial early diagnosis. The next morning the final results came in and it was not ALL, but AML, Acute Myeloid Leukemia and now the prognosis was 40% with Chemo and 65% with a Transplant.

Our whole world seemed to end at that moment. The Oncologist gave us her road map and said it would mean 10 days of Chemo and then more treatments lasting 2 1/2 years and then she may relapse and need a bone marrow transplant and could eventually die. With 20 years + of experience, they had never seen or expected anything like this. Her WBC was 283,000 (hyper leukocytosis). They started Leukopheresis, a treatment that cleans out all unnecessary white blood cells. Her count came down momentarily to 190,000 and then went back up to 220,000 with an hour left of the treatment. Her heart rate was now at almost 200, they had to put a ventilator in and they explained that we could lose her. They had to resuscitate her twice, two minutes and back on Support.

She was not clotting and all of her organs were failing. She was not stable and having a difficult time breathing, she was now hemorrhaging and we were told she probably was not going to make it through the night. We told them to keep trying. We could not fail her. Our priest, Father Rich from St. Catherine's Episcopal Church, was there and he said, "The last bit of love you can give her is to let her go." We knew he was right, so we had to make a decision to let her go before she bled to death.. We could not bear to let that happen to her. So, we told them to disconnect her. She died at 8:13 pm on Tuesday, March 8, 2005.

She was gone forever. I remember waking up in a hospital bed shortly after and did not want to believe it. I don't even remember the ride home. At one point a few days after I told myself she was just gone somewhere else to live and that she would be back. Eventually I realized that wasn't going to happen and that part of me was gone forever. I kept asking why, why, why not me, take me, what did I do wrong, could have I done something different. We were good parents, we took care of her, protected her but no matter how hard you beg or pray, nothing was going to bring her back.

In November 2004, her class had made cards for Thanksgiving. Caylee's card said she wanted to thank Papa for taking her fishing, mommy for buying her things and Jesus for giving her TV. The last thing she said to us just a couple of hours before she passed was, "Papa, I want to watch TV." We believe that Jesus was there, letting Caylee know He was with her.

There is an 80% or higher divorce rate for parents who have lost a child. My wife and I grieved very differently. She was open to talk about our child and did so often, and I don't and really can't; it is very difficult. I couldn't even look at a picture of Caylee for two years; this caused problems in our marriage and just a little over 4 months after she passed, we argued so badly one night the police were called, and I was arrested. Charges were dropped by the state, as there was no cause.

This was a low point in my life and at the time I didn't really care; I did not want to live, I just wanted the pain to stop and it wouldn't. The first 6 months were shock, a blur. Then one day I found myself sitting on the bed, just staring at the bedroom wall, when my 3 year old son reached out and held my hand; he said nothing, he just looked at me. That was it; that was when it hit me; Caylee wanted me to focus on the two other children we had. After that, I went through the Police Academy with a goal to work for the FWC, and on first round of out of over 100 chosen, made it into the top 30% and only 3 were hired that year. I decided that I would continue fishing and created Trophy Taker Outdoors.

To be honest, this is the first time I have ever openly talked about Caylee and it's taken almost nine years to do so. It's not something I am comfortable discussing and is very painful. Most people I meet have no idea we have lost a child. We had friends that are no longer friends because they just don't know what to say, but people you'd never expect to ever know, have come to support us through our grief, which never ends. We will forever be grateful to these people. While I am not perfect, I own the fact that I am not the same person I was before Caylee died and yet, I am also human. Too many people pass the buck of their own mistakes. They misjudge, hurt others for no reason other than their own demented issues. Then, of course, there is life in general, which sometimes just throws you a curve ball.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We have added a fourth meeting. It is a nightly Brandon meeting which is being held on the last Thursday of the month **from 6:30-8:30**. The meeting is being held in the same location as the daytime one.

PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT MEETING DAYS DUE TO HOLIDAYS.

First United Methodist Church Office Bldg

120 N Knights Ave

Brandon, FL 33510

(Across the street from the church in the office bldg.)

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.



Our Children . . . Remembered

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

October Birthdays

Baez, Roberto G 10/30/1985 - 10/3/2005 M-Jeannette Carrasco Baez	Fitzpatrick, Brad R 10/8/1972 - 10/27/2000 M - Barbara Fitzpatrick	Nichols, Shannon Jr. 10/5/1979 - 3/29/2004 M-Terrena Nichols F-Shannon Nichols S-Brandy& Melissa Nichols	Snyder, Janna Marie 10/21/1978 - 11/11/1995 GP - Marian & Paul Bullard P - Dana & Connie Snyder B - Jeff Snyder
Baker-Dixon, Lori Kathleen 10/29/1975 - 4/12/2001 Child - Ryan Spouse - Rusty P - Donna & Ron Budd and Marie & Bill Baker S - Tracy Goodson & Phylcia Baker B - Jamey Baker	Glim, Melissa 10/15/1995 GM-JoAnn Glim	Peters, Chalama 10/29/1988 - 10/4/2005 P-Veronica and Thaddeus Francis	Thesiault, George L 10/13/1951 - 6/1/1996 P - Mae Theriault
Black, Justin 10/3/1989-11/6/2007 F-Chris Black	Hester, Debbie 10/14/61 - 07/25/98 P - Buddy & Sue Butler	Pippin, Shawn 10/16/1984 - 9/16/2002 M-Anita Pippin	Thomas, Destiny Jean 10/1/1990 - 4/24/1998 F-Craig Thomas B-Braxton and tin GP-Augie & Betty Thatcher and Marty & Carol Thomas
Burger, Teresa 10/26/58 - 07/10/87 M - Cecelia Burger B - Hal & Curt Burger	Knight, Arleen Diane 10/16/1947 - 5/4/2004 P-Arthur & Ethel Fernandez S-Elaine Rogers Daughters-Trina Fuller, Amy Diaz, Katie Tuclula	Short, Kimberley 10/21/1969 - 2/11/1993 P - Terrance & Sue Short	Thompson, Timothy A. 10/27/70 - 01/07/93 P- Bettie & Richard Thompson
Carpenter, Ben 10/3/1965-5/10/1995 P-Carl & Marilyn Carpenter	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	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	Wallowicz, Michael (Mikey) Kevin 10/23/1981 - 4/28/1990 P - Jim & Judy Wallowicz B - Jimi Wallowicz GM-Josie Varselona
Casey, Ryan 10/15/86 - 5/4/12 P - Mike & Katie Casey S- Lauren Casey	Mercer, Bret 10/5/1988 - 6/25/1992 P - Eddie & Darlene Mercer S - Lindy, Crystal & Kaley GP-Loren & Christine Mercer GP-Beverly Jaudon Quincannon	Schmedlen, Nathan 10/27/1968-2/2/1990 M-Rose Schmedlen	Welch, Kimberly Michelle 10/24/1971 - 8/28/2003 M-Nancy Welch Child-
Cason, Todd 10/28/1968 - 4/12/2003 P-Earl and Kay Cason Child- Spouse-	Miller, Tyler Lee 10/16/2003 - 10/16/2003 P-Perry and Barbara Miller	Smith, Clay Daniel 10/24/1967 - 9/30/1996 P-Francia & Chuck Smith B - Jed & Kyle	Wynne, Adam Charles 10/13/1971 - 4/24/1993 P-Chuck & Gloria Judson S-Lori Wynne Father to Morgan Wynne
Chilson, Candice 10/24/83 - 11/10/01 M - Wendy Chilson			



October Anniversaries

Baez, Roberto G. 10/30/1985 - 10/3/2005 M-Jeannette Carrasco Baez	Gardner, Gary Dwain Jr. 8/25/1995 - 10/4/2000 P - Gary & Janelle Gardner B - Jacob Gary Gardner	Gugliotta, Dan & Nadine 3/26/1976 - 10/14/2003 P-Dan & Nadine Gugliotta Son-Jason	Knox, Patricia Lynn 7/27/1964 - 10/21/1997 M - Shelby Jean McClure
Baker, Jennifer 12/13/1973 - 10/15/1995 P-Terry & Susan Baker	Gonzalez, Tarik C. 1/16/1976 - 10/12/2007 M-Susan Zapata GM-Jacqueline Rodriguez	Howard, Joseph 3/14/1985-10/5/2002 M-Krista Howard	Kushner, Jonathan 09/13/62 - 10/28/73 P - Lorraine & Gil Kushner B-Andy & David
Ferrera, Alex 8/11/1977 - 10/4/1997 P - Nelson & Guisela Ferrera B - Paolo Ferrera GM - Magda Alvarez Aunt - Mirta Diaz Uncle - John Ferrera	Griner, Matthew Ian 7/10/1985 - 10/27/2006 P-George & Barbara Griner B-Daniel & Kurt GP-Bill and Ann Griner	Johnston, Nathan 8/22/1981-10/19/2005 M-Indra Johnston-Wilhour	Lingefelt, Fiona 12/20/1989 - 10/15/2000 P - Karen & Douglas Lingefelt B-Alexander & Andrew
Fitzpatrick, Brad R. 10/8/1972 - 10/27/2000 M - Barbara Fitzpatrick		Kelley, Emmanuel 2/27/1987-10/25/2006 M-Cynthia Kelley A-Deitra Luropler C-Angel Kelley	Lovett, Sandra Sandy 12/3/1968 - 10/4/1997 M - Barbara Bryant

October Anniversaries cont'd

Martinez, Joseph
4/23/1972 - 10/13/2007
M-Josie Martinez
S-Patty Camuns

McDonald, Brooke
11/8/1990-10/04/2008
P-Mitch & Barbara McDonald

Milam, Perry Edward
11/4/1974 - 10/1/1994
M-Nancy Milam
S-Suzanne Milam Clark

Miller, Tyler Lee
10/16/2003 - 10/16/2003
P-Perry and Barbara Miller

O'Neil, Clark Dean
9/1/1962 - 10/24/2004
P-Larry and Jeanne O'Neil
B-Kevin & wife Rene'
S-Kitty & husband Joseph; Jennifer &
husband Randy

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

Peters, Chalama
10/29/1988 - 10/4/2005
P-Veronica and Thaddeus Francis

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

Schank, Jamie
11/3/1972-10/26/2003
M-Joan Schank

Schneider, Adam
01/29/71 - 10/23/75
P - Bill & Georgia Schneider

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

Will, Madison Kathleen "Madi"
9/2/1995 - 10/4/1995
P - Carl & Lisa Will
S - Megan & Rachel Will
B- Zachary & Seth Will



November Birthdays

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

Buzbee-Reeves, Devon Michael
11/16/1994 - 11/19/1994
M - Celeste Buzbee
F - Mike Reeves
B-Tristan Alan Buz- bee-Reeves

Celestey, Shaun
11/16/1980-1/3/1980
P-Vick & Paula Celestey

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

Decosta, Brittany
11/19/87 - 04/07/91
M - Kay Decosta

Delk, Melissa Ann
11/13/72 - 12/09/77
M - Linda Delk
B - Louis Delk
S - Meronda Brown

Dietrich, Jamie Rachel
11/20/1977 - 11/17/2004
P-Tommy & Barbara Dietrich

Dixon Jr., Anthony Howard
11/27/1978 - 4/1/1996
M - Brenda & Toney Dixon
B - David Dixon

Dominguez Mario
/11/1/1987/
M-Sonia Dominguez

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

Garcia, Larry D.
11/8/1983 - 1/10/2007
M-Consuelo Rios

Hadley, Katrina
11/17/1961 - 2/4/2006
M-Grace Therman

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

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

Jacobson, Nathan
11/9/1994-2/16/2008/
P-Amy & Pete Jacobson

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

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

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

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

Milam, Perry Edward
11/4/1974 - 10/1/1994
M-Nancy Milam
S-Suzanne Milam Clark

Miulli, Matthew Michael
11/27/1987-1/19/2005
P-Jim & Kathy Miulli
GP-Rudy Prehnal and
Mike & Sue Miulli

Nichols, Melissa
11/9/1982 - 9/4/2002
M-Terrena Nichols F-Shannon Nich-
ols S-Brandy Nichols
B-Shannon Nichols, Jr.

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

Rivera, Damian Elijah
11/19/2001 - 01/10/2002
M-Nicole Rivera

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

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

Schank, Jamie
11/3/1972-10/26/2003
P- Joan Schank

Shockey, Ann
11/08/56 - 04/26/70
P - Dick & Connie Shockey

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

Walker, Nick
11/12/1983 - 1/11/2001
M - Denise Walker
GM - Shirley Walker

Wheeler, Clifford Denmark
11/1/1979 - 1 /18/1996
M-Donna Wheeler
B-John, James & Duane
GP-Lynn & Marcel Baker



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, 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

Baker, Holly K.
02/11/84 - 11/15/96
M - Evonne M. Baker

Justin, Chris
10/3/1989-11/6/2007
P-Chris Black

Bridgmon, Matt
2/11/1978-11/4/2006
M-Jean Bridgmon

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

Buzbee-Reeves, Devon Michael
11/16/1994 - 11/19/1994
M - Celeste Buzbee
F - Mike Reeves
B-Tristan Alan Buzbee-Reeves

Chartier, Eric
9/3/1978-11/2007
P-Linda Chartier & Joe
Phillips

Chilson, Candice
10/24/83 - 11/10/01
M - Wendy Chilson

Dietrich, Jamie Rachel
11/20/1977 - 11/17/2004
P-Tommy & Barbara Dietrich

Gladen, Renee' Rose
4/21/1961-11/17/1999
S-Diana Gaden

Gray, Jay
09/07/70 - 11/09/01
M - Dee Gray

Harrigan, Kimaura
12/04/1995-11/1/2008
M-Kichma Nieves

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

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



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**



**You must contact us to have your child's name added to the newsletter,
they are not automatically added.**

***If we have omitted your child, misspelled your child's name, or listed incorrect dates or other
information, please accept our apologies and contact***

Debbie Nemitz at debbie.bpnews@gmail.com or 813-501-9567 to correct the information.

***. Any errors are unintentional. and we sincerely apologize in advance. Call any of our telephone friends if you
are having a hard time on these days or even other days if you need to talk.***

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

2013 Candlelight Ceremony (December 8) Participation Form

(Please return this registration by November 30 to have your child's name / picture appear in the Program. Send to: BP/USA, c/o Debbie Nemitz, 29432 Forest Glen Drive, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543)

I (family) will be attending the service on December 8, 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 8, 2013 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 8, 2013. (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: Debbie Nemitz, 29432 Forest Glen Drive, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543.

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 November 30 to: BP/USA Tampa Bay Chapter, c/o Debbie Nemitz, 29432 Forest Glen Drive, Wesley Chapel, 33543.

* 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.

<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.



HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

You are not alone

Holidays are often difficult for anyone who has experienced the death of someone loved. Rather than times of family togetherness, sharing and thanksgiving, holidays can bring feelings of sadness, loss and emptiness.

Love does not end with death

Since love does not end with death, holidays may result in a renewed sense of personal grief—a feeling of loss unlike that experienced in the routine of daily living. Society encourages you to join in the holiday spirit, but all around you the sounds, sights and smells trigger memories of the one you love has died.

No simple guidelines exist that will take away the hurt you are feeling. We hope, however, the following suggestions will help you better cope with your grief during this joyful, yet painful, time of the year. As you read through this brochure, remember that by being tolerant and compassionate with yourself, you will continue to heal in your personal grief experience.

Talk about your grief

During the holiday season, don't be afraid to express your feelings of grief. Ignoring your grief won't make the pain go away and talking about it openly often makes you feel better. Find caring friends and relatives who will listen - without judging you. They will help make you feel understood.

Be tolerant of your physical or psychological limits

Feelings of loss will probably leave you fatigued. Your low energy level may naturally slow you down. Respect what your body and mind are telling you. And lower your own expectations about being at your peak during the holiday season.

Eliminate unnecessary stress

You may already feel stressed so don't over-extend yourself. Avoid isolating yourself, but be sure to recognize the need to have special time for yourself. Realize also that merely "keeping busy" won't distract you from your grief. Experience suggests that it only increases stress and postpones the need to talk out thoughts and feelings related to your grief.

Be with supportive, comforting people

Identify those friends and relatives who understand that the holiday season can increase your sense of loss and who will allow you to talk openly about your feelings. Find those persons who encourage you to be yourself and accept your feelings -both happy and sad.

Mention the name of the person who has died. Include the person's name in your holiday conversation. If you are able to talk candidly, other people are more likely to recognize your need to remember that special person who was an important part of your life.

Do what is right for you during the holidays

Well-meaning friends and family often try to prescribe what is good for you during the holidays, instead of going along with their plans, focus on what you personally want to do. Discuss your wishes with a caring, trusted friend. Talking about these wishes will help you to clarify what it is you want to do during the holidays. As you become aware of your needs, share them with your friends and family.

Express your faith

During the holidays, you may find a renewed sense of faith or discover a new set of beliefs. Associate with people who understand and respect your need to talk about these beliefs. If you faith is important, you may want to attend a holiday service or special religious ceremony.

Plan ahead for family gatherings

Decide the family traditions you want to continue, and the new ones you would like to begin following the death of someone loved. Structure your holiday time. This will help you anticipate activities, rather than just reacting to whatever happens. Getting caught off guard can create feelings of panic, fear and anxiety during a time of the year when your feelings of grief are already heightened. As you make your plans, however, leave room to change them if you feel it is appropriate.

Embrace your treasure of memories

Memories are one of the legacies that exist after the death of someone loved. And holidays always make you think about times past. Instead of ignoring these memories, share them with your family and friends. Keep in mind that memories are tinged with both happiness and sadness. If your memories bring laughter, smile. If your memories bring sadness, then it's all right to cry. Memories that were made in love - no one can ever take them away from you.

Renew your resources for living

Spend time thinking about the meaning and purpose of your life. The death of one loved creates opportunities for taking inventory of your life - past, present and future. The combination of a holiday and a loss naturally results in looking inward and assessing your individual situation. Make the best use of this time to define the positive things in life that surround you.

As you **approach the holidays, remember: grief is both a necessity and a privilege.**

It comes as a result of giving and receiving love. Don't let anyone take your grief away. Love yourself. Be patient with yourself. And allow yourself to be surrounded by loving, caring people.

by Dr Alan Wolfelt, Associated Bereavement Services (Hospice of Tacoma)

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.

Think of your child, then, not as dead, but as living; not as a flower that has withered, but as one that is transplanted, and touched by a Divine hand, is blooming in richer colors and sweeter shades than those of earth.

By **Richard Hooker**, *British theologian*

Address Correction Requested

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

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

