



Tampa Bay Chapter

P.O. Box 7034
Brandon, Florida
33508

www.bpusatampabay.com

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

*Robyn Michelle Nemitz and
Sean Richard Reber*

MEETING INFORMATION

Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting

(held the second Sunday of the month)

Sunday May 10 and June 14, 2020

St. Joseph's Hospital

Medical Arts Building, Auditorium

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

Call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946

for directions or information.

Regular Monthly DAYTIME Meeting

Riverview/Gibson/Brandon areas

(held the second Friday each month)

Fridays, May 8 and June 12, 2020

10:00 AM to Noon

New Hope United Methodist Church

121 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 28 and June 25, 2020

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

New Hope United Methodist Church

121 N Knights Ave, Brandon, FL

Call Charles L'Homme at 813-335-7628

for directions or information.

The meetings are currently not being held. We will update the website and send out notices when we begin to meet again. I have put in the dates as hopefully we will begin to meet before too long.

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 2020

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 2020

The end of spring and beginning of summer brings rain, insects, hot weather, and the beauty of nature. Butterflies are seen as are insects we don't want to see such as love bugs. We celebrate our mothers and fathers during May and June (though they should be celebrated every-day). At this time in the world things are very different and more difficult. I hope all of you are well and staying safe.

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

813.784-6929



www.angelofhopetampabay.com/

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

Lori Scragg (Adult Child & Wrecks) (813) 361-2946

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.

se

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.

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 Michelle Nemitz

12-28-82 to 6-16-98

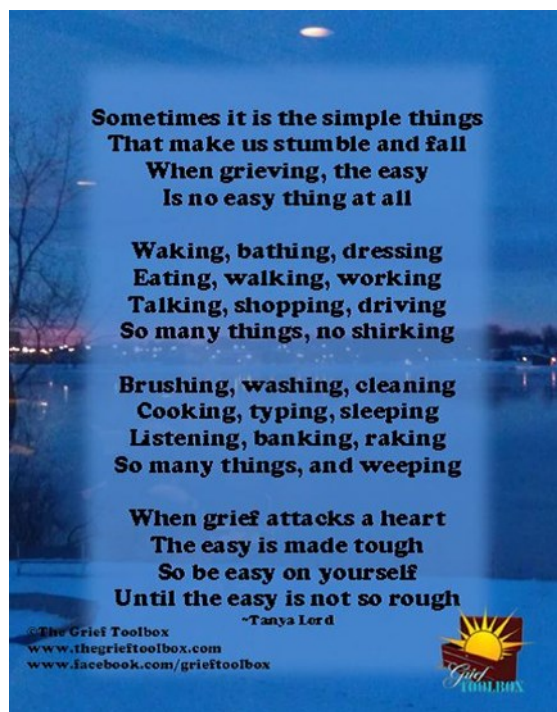


Dearest Robyn,

We still miss and love you more than words can begin to express. I chose this poem because it helped me to better understand how God could take you away from us. I had always thought of you as a gift from God, and I was upset thinking He was an "Indian Giver". When I read this I saw things from a different perspective. There isn't a day that goes by where you are not thought about. Your dad and brother join me in sending you lots of love.

By the way your brother has met people who remember you from your television appearances and your story of the angels. You had an impact on others besides us.

With Love Always!
 Mom





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	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	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	Thompson, Kimberly Karlin 5/5/1976 - 12/6/1999 P - Sam & Ingrid Thompson Turner, Devon 5/2/1986 - 7/28/2005 M - Marie Lawson
Bracewell, Madisyn Nevaeh 5/8/2002 - 5/8/2002 P - Jessica & Joshua Bracewell GP - Mark & Pamela Leonhard	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	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	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
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	Mack, Anthony Joe 5/31/96 - 9/28/14 P - Barbara & Rob Riches 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	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	Zalewski, Christine 5/2/66-3-/3/13 P - Louie & Eileen Zalewski
Holton, John William 05/20/52 - 08/10/94 M - Ann Holton Holmberg, Michael David 5/15/1976 - 3/02/2011 M - Mary Ellen Holmberg B - Kristian and Stephen	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	Stolley, Allison 5/5/82 - 12/12/14 P - Robin & Dan Stolley	
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			



May Anniversaries

Bracewell, Madisyn Nevaeh 5/8/2002 - 5/8/2002 P - Jessica & Joshua Bracewell GP - Mark & Pamela Leonhard	Colla, Aaron Dante 11/15/01 - 05/24/02 P - Amanda Colla GP - Jana & Frank Colla A - Danielle B - Dylan	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	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
Buchanan, Sierra Lan 03/07/96 - 05/25/96 P - Kim & Bryan Buchanan S - May Linh Buchanan Caldwell - Faight, Thomas E. 2/9/1997 - 5/24/2003 M - Shannon Caldwell	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	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	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
Casey, Ryan 10/15/86 - 5/4/12 P - Mike & Katie Casey S - Lauren Casey			

May Anniversaries cont'd

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

Lofitis, Tabitha Marie
5/25/1984 - 5/21/2019
M - Misty Lampp
GM - Harriet Lampp

Morris, Zachary Ian "Zack"
1/6/01 - 5/25/19
P - Laura and Kevin

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

Reber, Sean
1/30/86 - 5/28/18
P - Rick & Sherry Reber
B - Derek, Ethan, Jared, and Seth
GP - Robert & Leila Runyon

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 Mae
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, Catherine Novak
6/8/1967 - 12/13/2008
M- Christina Daws
B- Michael, John & Richard Lane

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.

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.

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 Pelaez

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

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

Parnel, Jordan
6/6/85 - 12/23/17
M - Polly Parnell

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 & Shelby
B - Randy

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

Zettles, DJ
9/25/93 - 6/13/16
P - Doug & Tammy Zettles
GP - Fred & Barbara Coate



I want to let new members know that if you want your child listed in the newsletter during their birth and anniversary months, I need to hear from you. I need their full name, dates of birth and death and names of parents or siblings or even grandparents you want listed. I will list missed children in the next newsletter.

I have added a few new ones without having heard from the parent(s). Therefore if the last name of the child is different from yours, I have made an error. I also have not had siblings or grandparents to add. I apologize, but figured it was better to include even if an error or omission occurs. Please get in touch with me if you want additional information listed or have any corrections.

NATIONAL GATHERING 2020



Bereaved Parents USA

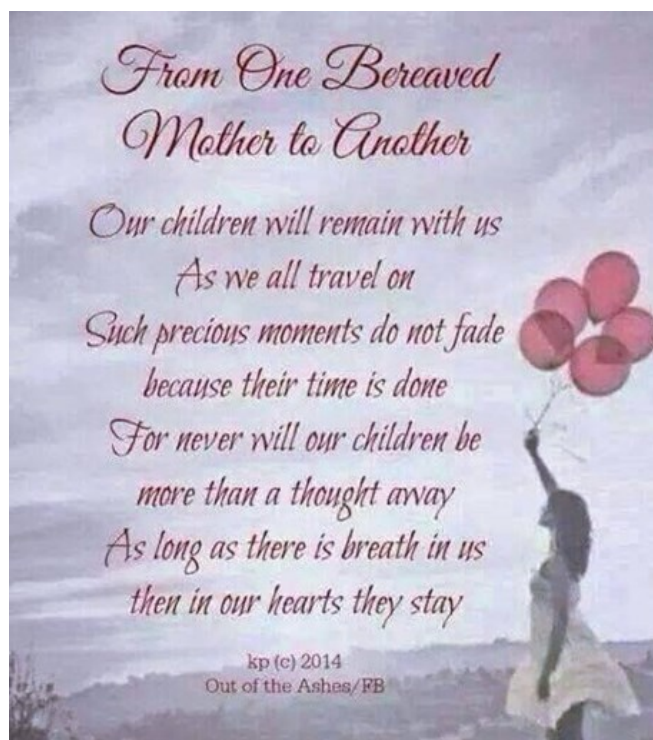
August 7-9 ♥ St. Louis, Missouri

Now is the time to think about going to the National Gathering. For all the details, go to <https://www.bereavedparentsusa.org/>. Attending a gathering is a great experience as you meet many others who are bereaved and also learn ways to cope with grief.

Due to the Pandemic
the following events have been
cancelled:

BP Butterfly Release
And the
Angel of Hope Tea

At this time we are not sure if
the Gathering will be cancelled
or not. Hopefully we will know
soon.



Source: www.pinterest.com

Ask My Dad How He Is

My Dad, he tells a lot of lies, he never did before.
But from now until he dies; he'll tell a whole lot more.

Ask my Dad how he is, and because he can't explain,
He will tell a little lie, because he can't describe the pain.

Ask my Dad how he is, and he'll say "I'm alright".
If that's the truth, then tell me; why does he cry each night?

Ask my Dad how he is, he seems to cope so well.
He didn't have a choice you see, nor the strength to yell.

Ask my Dad how he is, "I'm fine, I'm well, I'm coping."
For God's sake Dad, just tell the truth.
Just say your heart is broken.

He'll love me all his life, I loved him all of mine.
But if you ask him how he is, he'll lie and say he's fine.

I am here in Heaven. I cannot hug from here.
If he lies to you, don't listen. Hug him and hold him near.

On the day we meet again, we'll smile and I'll be bold.
I'll say "You're lucky to get in here, Dad, with all the lies you told!"



Credits: Author unknown, poem altered for "dad". Picture is the "New Dad" figurine by Willow Tree

International Bereaved Mother's Day: An Open Letter to my Fellow Sisters in Loss

Dear Mama,

*I know that you never-**in your wildest imagination**-thought that you would need a day set aside for your broken heart and your empty arms.*

Who thinks when they learn a new life is growing inside that this same life might be cut short? What heart is brave enough to consider the possibility?

Yet here you are.

I'm so, so sorry.

But there are a few things I want you to know. There are some important truths to remember on this broken road-truths that can help you hold onto hope and finish strong.

You are not a failure. I don't care about those silly social media memes that are tossed around like candy from a Mardi Gras float. *You kept your baby or your child as safe as you knew how.* **You are not omnipotent nor omniscient.** You did the best you could. That's all **ANYONE** can do.

You are a mother even if you don't have a single child to hold on earth. You have a child-just not one that others can see. When people ask how many children you have, answer boldly and count the one (or more!) that wait for you in eternity.

Your love is valid and worthy of expression. Love for your missing child may look different than love for a child still walking the earth with you. That's OK. Grief is love with no place to go. Tears are fine. Laughter is fine. Speaking his name is your privilege. Carrying her legacy is your honor. No one gets to tell you how or when to express your heart.

You are brave. Bereaved mothers are not the only brave ones on this planet but they are some of the bravest ones I know. You have received the heaviest blow a mama's heart can know and you are still standing. You get up every day and carry on. You continue to love the people in your life and serve your family. You have not given up although giving up would be the easiest thing to do. Don't discount your own courage.

You are strong-not because you want to be but because you have to be. Other people depend on you and you are trying your best not to let them down. It's no compliment when someone says, *"I just wouldn't be able to survive."* Because, really-what choice do we have? We bear up under the burden because the alternative is to further burden our families.

You are beautiful. Every time you look in the mirror and notice the circles under your eyes or the lines around your mouth, don't think that makes you ugly. They are scars-scars of love and sacrifice. They bear witness to the fact that you choose to carry on and carry your child's legacy even though it costs every ounce of energy and will you can muster. You may not like the way you look in pictures, but trust me, you are beautiful.

You are a living legacy for your missing child. You carry his light. You honor her memory. You keep it fresh and alive and present and refuse to let others forget or ignore it. **You have a story to tell so tell it.** Your story may be the key to unlock another mom's prison. We cannot do this alone. We need one another. Don't let fear of being dismissed or misunderstood silence you. Speak up. Stand out. Shout your truth for others to hear.

This day is for YOU.

It is set aside for all the mothers who love a child they can no longer hold.

Observe it however is meaningful and healing for YOU.

There's no right way or wrong way to grieve. This day is for YOU.



The author is Melanie and the website where you can see the added pictures and other articles is:

<https://thelifeididntchoose.com/2018/05/06/international-bereaved-mothers-dayanopenlettertomy-fellow-sisters-in-loss/>

Sunrise - 1-30-1986

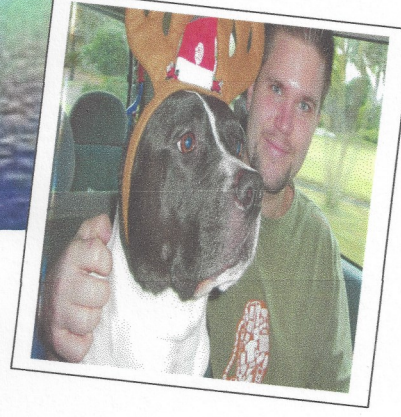
Sunset - 5-28-2018

Sean Richard Reber

Two Years In Heaven

*When Someone You Love
Becomes A Memory*

Their Memory Becomes A Treasure



Sean Loved:

- *His Family*
- *His Grandparents and Extended Family*
- *Reading - History & Stephen King*
- *Fishing*

- *Animals*
- *Visiting on the Farm*
- *Cooking and Eating*
- *Being with Friends*

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.

<http://www.bpusatampabay.com/>

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

We sold these at the Candle Lighting. We still have some and will take orders 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 than the angel pins. Also a name can be engraved on the back of the angel ornament.

Cost \$20.00



This ornament is 2 1/2 inches high. We have ordered them in blue as shown, but also in pink and silver.

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.

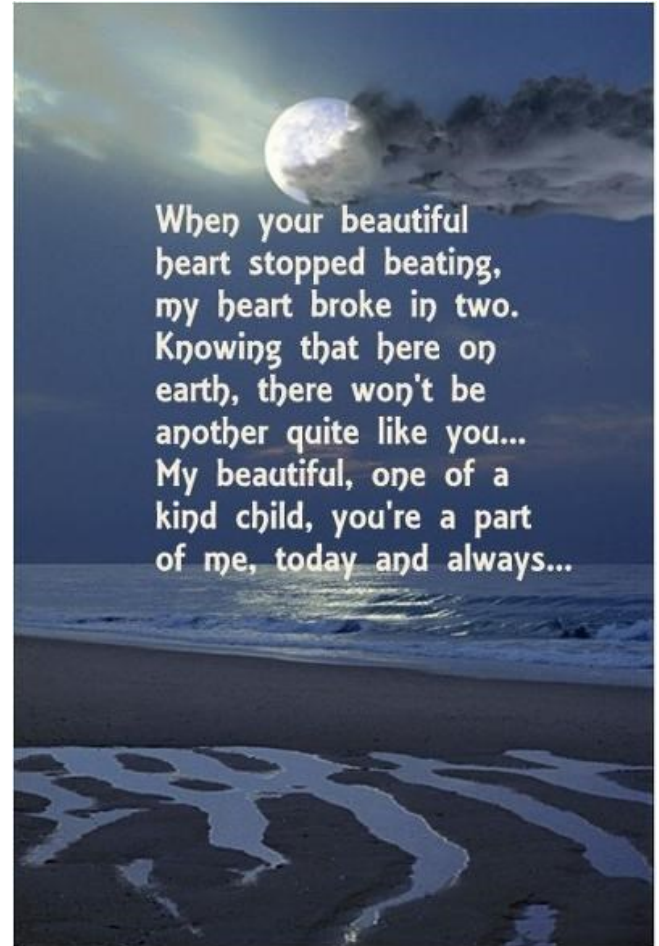
Welcome

We are the parents whose children have died. We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters no longer walk with us through life. We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren.

We come together as Bereaved Parents of the USA to provide a safe space where grieving families can connect, share our stories, and learn to rebuild our lives.

We attend meetings whenever we can and for as long as we find helpful. We share our fears, confusion, anger, guilt, frustrations, emptiness, and feelings of hopelessness, knowing these emotions will be met with compassion and understanding. As we support, comfort and encourage one another, we offer hope and healing. As we confront the deaths of our loved ones, our shared grief brings us to a common ground that transcends differences, building mutual understanding across the boundaries of culture, race, faith, values, abilities, and lifestyle.

Together we celebrate the lives of our children, siblings, and grandchildren, sharing the joys and the heartbreaks as well as the love that will never fade. Together, strengthened by the bonds we create, we offer what we have learned from one another to every bereaved family, no matter how recent or long ago the death.



Address Correction Requested

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

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

