



# Tampa Bay Chapter

P.O. Box 3226  
Tampa, Florida  
33601-3226  
www.bpusatampabay.com

## MEETING INFORMATION

### Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting

Sunday, November 11, 6:30 to 8:30  
(We normally have short separate break out sessions for Fathers and Mothers)

St. Joseph's Hospital  
Medical Arts Building, Auditorium  
3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Call Beverley Hurley at 813-832-3175 for directions or information.

### Regular Monthly DAYTIME Meeting

Riverview/Gibson/Brandon areas  
(held the second Friday each month)

Friday, November 9,  
10:00 a.m. to noon

### The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce (new building)

330 Pauls Drive, Ste. 100 (TECO Board Room)  
Brandon, Florida 33511  
PLEASE CALL Linda Delk at 813-661-0680 for directions or information.

### Regular Monthly BRADENTON Meeting

(held the third Monday each month)

Monday, November 19,  
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

NEW LOCATION  
Melissa Coxwell at 941-708-7052 for directions or information.

### Regular Monthly PLANT CITY Meeting

(Due to Thanksgiving held the fourth Thursday of the month-our meeting will be the third Thursday)

Thursday, November 15,  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

South Florida Baptist Hospital  
301 N. Alexander Street, Plant City  
in the Community Conference Room  
Call Sue Bowditch at 813-661-9334 for directions or information.

## Upcoming Events:

**Angel of Hope monthly meeting,**  
Please call Beverley Hurley 813-832-3175 for info!

### November Meetings - Gift Night

Share a special Christmas story or memory about your child and if you can handle it, purchase a gift that you would have bought for your child.

All gifts will be donated to charity.  
(This is strictly voluntary-please do not wrap gift)

### December 9 - Annual Candle Light Service

Mark your calendar and invite family and friends to attend our annual Candlelight Remembrance Service at St. Joseph's Hospital.

*If you want to volunteer to help with this service or donate items for the boutique in memory of your child, please call Beverley Hurley at 813-832-3175!*

## November 2007

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

*Janna Marie Snyder*

November				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21		23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## NOVEMBER GIFT NIGHT

Share a special Christmas story or memory about your child and if you can handle it, purchase a gift that you would have bought for your child - please purchase gifts fitting for ages from infant to 15 years old. All gifts will be donated and delivered to charity by Charles L'Homme! (This is strictly voluntary-do not wrap gifts!)



## LAST CHANCE ! DON'T FORGET !!

Send in your picture by November 20!

Again this year - Send in a picture for the Special Picture Presentation of our beautiful Children! If you are planning to attend our Candle Light Service this year, 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:



David Hurley  
3805 W. San Juan Street  
Tampa, FL 33629



Picture should be of your deceased child only. If your child's picture was included last year or any of the National Gathering closing ceremonies or Chapter Newsletters and you want to use the same photo, just let us know that. Pictures mailed in will be available for pick up at the registration table at the Candle Light Service or include a self addressed stamped envelope. You can scan the picture yourself and email to David Hurley at [david.hurley@gte.net](mailto:david.hurley@gte.net).

Any questions please call David or Beverley Hurley at 813-831-2588.

**You will not want to miss this beautiful tribute to all of our children who are gone but not forgotten!**

# Chapter News

Dear BP/USA Members,

The Tampa Bay Chapter of the BP/USA is strong and still operating daily with much continued success. We continue to service this community as we have for the past thirty-five years working on new ways to help you in your grief journey.

It has been reported to us that some people, who may even have been past members of our Chapter, are contacting our members. We want you to know that all information you have given us will always remain confidential and any use by persons without our consent is in fact certainly against our privacy policy and may even be illegal.

Please report any such phone calls or abuse of your confidential information to our local Committee Member, Linda Delk at 813-661-0680.

Thank you for your understanding,  
BP/USA Tampa Bay Chapter  
Steering Committee

## ANGEL OF HOPE UPDATE

Please check out our new website at [www.angelofhopetampabay.com](http://www.angelofhopetampabay.com)



THE COMMITTEE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH **ANTIQUITIES** TO BE PRESENT AT THE **COMFORT INN**, 820 BUSCH BLVD ON **DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup>** TO PHOTOGRAPH YOUR CHILD(REN). A **\$10.00 COUPON** WILL PROVIDE A 10 x 13 SEPIA TONE PHOTOGRAPH OF YOUR CHILD. THE ANGEL OF HOPE COMMITTEE WILL RECEIVE 100% PROFIT FROM THE SALE OF THE **COUPON**. **ANTIQUITIES** WILL PROVIDE CLOTHING SIMILAR TO THAT WORN IN THE ABOVE SAMPLE FOR THE PHOTOGRAPH. ADDITIONAL PHOTO PACKAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH **ANTIQUITIES**. PLEASE CALL **JOAN MORROW AT (813) 963-2301** TO PURCHASE YOUR **\$10.00 COUPON AND MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT**.

## Telephone Friends

Need to talk? 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.

Linda Delk (General Information)	(813) 661-0680
Theresa Farmer (Homicide)	(813) 994-0707
Traci Cooley (Drowning)	(813) 300-6877
Ron Ellington (Suicide/Grandparent)	(727) 410-2308
Serena Graves (Sibling Contact)	(813) 810-7169
Violeta "Cookie" Fernandez (Se Habla Espano)	(813) 996-4281
<b>CRISIS CENTER</b>	<b>211</b>

Bereaved Parents/USA National Office  
Post Office Box 95, Park Forest, IL 60466  
Phone/Fax: (708) 748-7866  
[www.bereavedparentsusa.org](http://www.bereavedparentsusa.org)

## Love Gifts



David & Beverley Hurley  
In loving memory of her daughter  
**Debbie Bray**  
11/14/1967-6/1/1990



Patricia Schulman  
In loving memory of her son  
**Adam J. Schulman**  
6/7/1971-9/26/2004

Linda Delk  
In loving memory of her daughter  
**Melissa Delk**  
11/13/1972-12/9/1977

Frank & Robbie Edwards  
In loving memory of their grandson  
**Alec Michael Williams**  
5/17/1996-7/21/1996

Diana Reams  
In loving memory of her son  
**Brian Harold Collum**  
5/11/1965-3/7/2005

George & Jackie Loadholtz  
In loving memory of their son  
**Glenn Edward Loadholtz**  
11/25/1969-2/15/2005

Henry & Eloisa Valenzuela  
In loving memory of their son  
**Anthony J. Montagano**  
12/2/1991-1/02/2001

Tommy & Barbara Dietrich  
In loving memory of their daughter  
**Jamie Rachel Dietrich**  
11/20/1977-11/17/2004

Marian Bullard  
In loving memory of her granddaughter  
**Janna Marie Snyder**  
11/21/1978-11/11/1995

### 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.



### Picture Boards

Please bring your child's picture for our Picture Board to be displayed at all meetings!

### 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. Thank you!



**PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CANDLE LIGHT PARTICIPATION FORM (see Page 7) AND PICTURE !**



## 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

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

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

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

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

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  
11/25/1969 - 2/15/2005  
P-George & Jackie Loadholtz  
S-Gwen Walkowlak

Milam, Perry  
11/4/1974 - 10/01/1994  
M - Nancy Milam

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

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

Pike, Taylor  
11/9/1985-5/14/2007  
M-Connie 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  
11/3/1974-11/26/2003  
M-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  
GF-Pola Lesprier

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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  
B - 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

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

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

*If we have omitted your child,  
misspelled your child's name, or  
listed incorrect dates, please  
accept our apologies and call  
Beverley Hurley at (813) 832-  
3175 to correct the information.  
Call any of our telephone friends  
if you are having a  
hard time on these days.  
We truly understand your pain;  
for we, too, remember our  
own children.*

**MONTHLY MEETING TOPICS**  
**November - Gift donations!**  
**December - Candle Light Service**

**Please note - Our website is now .com  
and not .org  
[www.bpusatampabay.com](http://www.bpusatampabay.com)**



In loving Memory of  
**Janna Marie Snyder**  
 November 21, 1978 to November 11, 1995



OUR SPECIAL VETERANS DAY "ANGEL"



WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH AND WILL  
 ALWAYS HOLD YOU IN OUR HEARTS

MOM AND DAD  
 BROTHER JEFFREY  
 GRANDMA

AUNTS AND UNCLES  
 COUSINS  
 FRIENDS

## Sharing Grief

*Opening To Receive Comfort*  
<http://www.dailyom.com/>

When we experience something that causes us to feel shock and sadness, we may feel the urge to withdraw from life. It may seem like remaining withdrawn will keep us protected from the world, but during these times it is important to reach out to those trusted and precious people who care about us the most. Even with our best information and reasoning, we never know when someone else's experience or perspective can give us additional information that we need. The universe speaks to us through many channels, and when we open ourselves up to receive its messages, we also receive nurturing care from a loving partner in life's journey.

Grief is part of the human experience, and sharing our vulnerability is what creates truly close bonds in our relationships. Opening ourselves up in this way gets to the core of our being, past all of our defenses and prejudices. When life seems to crack the outer shell of our world, we are both raw and fresh at the same time. It is then that we discover who is truly willing to walk with us through life. We also see that some of those sent to us may not be the ones we expected to see. Regardless, we learn to trust in the universe, in others, in our own strength and resilience, and in the wisdom of life itself.

Sharing grief allows us to ease our burden by letting someone else help carry it. This helps us process our own inner thoughts and feelings through the filter of a trusted and beloved someone. We may feel guilty or selfish, as if we are unloading on someone who has their own challenges. Although, if we think about it, we know we would do the same for them, and their protests would seem pointless. Remember that not sharing feelings with others denies them the opportunity to feel. We may be the messenger sent by the universe for their benefit, and it is on this mission that we have been sent. By sharing our hopes and fears, joys and pains with another person, we accept the universe's gifts of wisdom and loving care.

## The Empty Chair

*by Ronnie Peterson, Northern NY*

I remember the first Thanksgiving after Tony was killed. I didn't know how we could possibly get through that dinner, with his empty chair.

The solution that occurred to me was to fill his chair with someone else — several someones. Grandpa came to spend the week; a newly widowed friend came to dinner, and so did her delightful young nephew and his bride, who had just moved to town. They brought the salad. And we were thankful — for each other, for the love among us, and for memories.

If this will be your first Thanksgiving, do something different. The pattern for your life has been broken. Break it some more! Have dinner at a different place, or with different people. Go away for the weekend. Be kind to yourself. You do not have it all, but you have something.

## Thanksgiving Prayer

I'm thankful this Thanksgiving  
 That my grief is not so new.  
 Last year it was so painful  
 To think of losing you.

Death can't claim my love for you  
 Tho we are far apart,  
 Sweet memories will always be  
 Engraved upon my heart.

Time can never bring you back  
 But it can help me be  
 Thankful for the years of joy  
 You brought our family.

To all the parents with grief so new  
 I share your loss and sorrow.  
 I pray you find with faith and time  
 The blessings of each tomorrow.

*by Charlotte Irick*

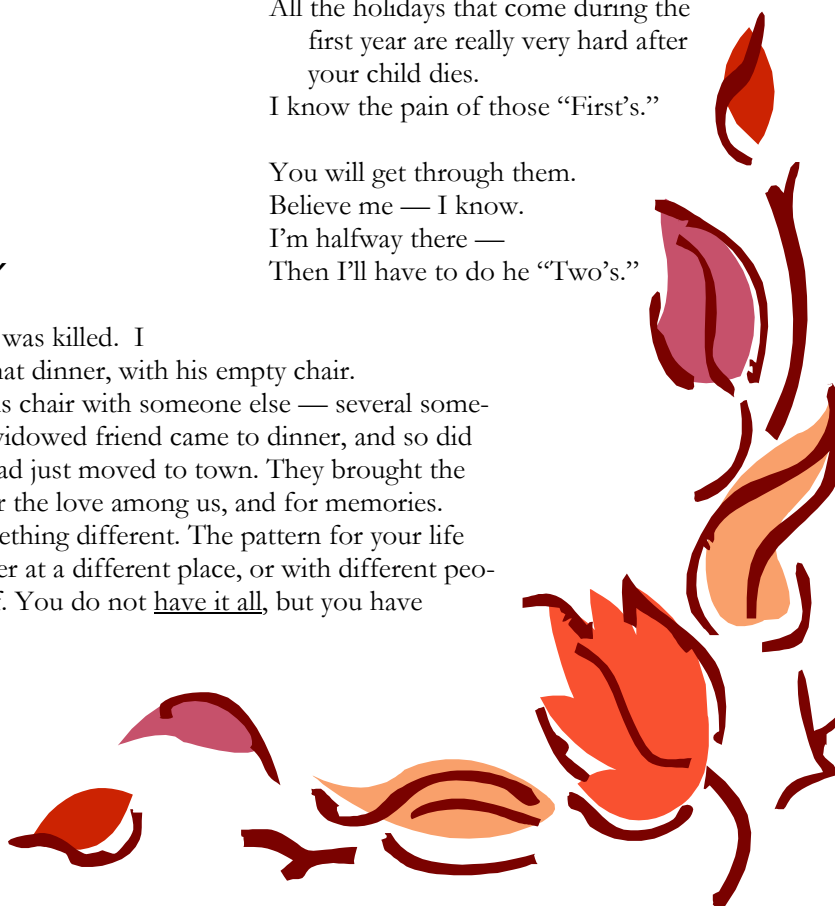
## THE FIRST IS THE WORST

*By Michelle Ramsey, Tampa, FL*

They say the first is the worst.  
 I know the pain of not having my  
 child.  
 I know the pain of not being able to  
 hold her.  
 I know the pain I went through to  
 have her.  
 I know the pain of burying my child.  
 I know the pain every time I go to the  
 grave.  
 But no one said how the pain would  
 increase when the ...  
 First Valentines Day came  
 First Easter came  
 First Mother's Day came  
 First Father's Day came  
 First Birthday came.

All the holidays that come during the  
 first year are really very hard after  
 your child dies.  
 I know the pain of those "First's."

You will get through them.  
 Believe me — I know.  
 I'm halfway there —  
 Then I'll have to do the "Two's."



**From: THE BEREAVED PARENT**

By Harriet Schiff

A very difficult area of functioning is coming to grips with the knowledge that there is absolutely no way of getting around holidays, despite your best efforts to avoid them. And they are horrendous times for many years. Their pain cannot be minimized. But they still must be faced.

One family, trying to avoid thanksgiving - which was the dead child's birthday as well - decided that family gatherings were no longer for them. They would travel or simply ignore the festivities. One day the mother came upon her ten year old daughter crying and asked what was wrong. She was sobbing, reported the mother, "All the children in school had told of their plans and made table decorations for the holiday and Lynn felt completely removed from her classmates. She cried that she was not only deprived of her brother who was dead, but she couldn't even have Thanksgiving dinner and a turkey! I listened and held her in my arms and cried. What she was saying made sense. After all, we still had three living children. They also mattered. That night I talked to my husband and we decided that, no matter how bleak and empty it would be, we would have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

The family sat around the table, very quietly at first. The father said grace and thanked the lord for a bountiful meal. When he was through, their ten-year old said she had

something to add. "I want to thank Mommy and Daddy for making this very special dinner for our family. And most of all I want to thank you, God, for having let us have my brother Eric for six years." The mother, who will never forget what her daughter said, told me there was not a dry eye at the table for a few minutes. But, gradually as the meal progressed, they made an effort to discuss why the holiday was celebrated. From there, the parents told of amusing experiences at Thanksgiving dinners in their younger years. The mother said she planned to tell the stories to lighten the atmosphere just as carefully as she planned the menu. By the time the meal was over, the parents discovered what had been built up in their minds as unsurvivable had become just another turning point.

There will be many such turning points as you work your way forward. You've already survived what you were certain you could not live through - the death of your child. Turning points, plateaus, are merely steps in coping and nothing more. As you go through each holiday, each season, each happy/sad occasion, you will gain strength from having passed beyond yet another painful event.

**Again This Year ... Picture Buttons**

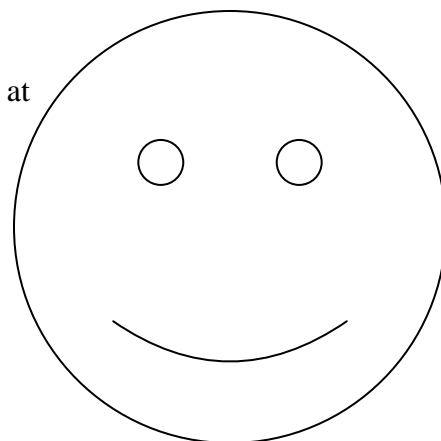
Families wishing to have a picture button of their child made can do so at the Candlelight Ceremony. Price for each button is \$3 and you can get one made 30 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Buttons are round and measure approximately 2 1/4 inches in diameter.

If you are interested in having a button made, be sure to bring a 3" to 4" picture that will be on the button.

**Your picture will become the button!**

You can even have a copy of your child's footprint and/or handprint made into a button.

Note: Use Mr. Smiley Face to measure your desired picture!



The message printed on the inside bottom front of the card:

In Remembrance of Our Child

This is a general holiday greeting card with special meaning for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents as well as those who support them.

On the front of the card is an embossed evergreen bough supporting an ornament hook. The hook holds a globe ornament which is embossed and completely white except for a rich green band around the center. Embossed in the center of the green band, and also circling the ornament, is a line of pure white butterflies, or are they angels . . .

Printed on high-quality paper the actual size of the card is 4-1/2" x 6". The cards come in packages of 20 with matching envelopes.

The message printed on the inside of the card:

*Wishing you  
a season filled with peaceful memories  
carried forever in your heart.*

The acknowledgement printed on the back of the card:

Proceeds from the sale of this card benefit Bereaved Parents of the USA/Hinsdale Chapter or HINSDALE SUPPORT GROUP for BEREAVED PARENTS, SIBLINGS and GRANDPARENTS! 742 S.W. 75th, HINSDALE, IL 60521-2702

© 2007 by BPSUSA/Hinsdale, IL

**25th Annual Sale  
HOLIDAY CARDS for 2007**

ORDER FORM		
Quantity	Price	Total
_____ Pkgs. Holiday Cards (20 cards/pkg)	\$12.00	\$ _____
<b>NOTE:</b> 10% discount for orders of 10 or more packages	<b>Discount</b>	- \$ _____
<b>NOTE:</b> 15% discount for orders of 15 or more packages paid for with a check from a non-profit group	<b>Discount</b>	- \$ _____
<b>Postage and Handling:</b> \$4.50 for the first package .50 each additional package	<b>Postage***</b>	\$ _____
	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

NOTE: We cannot ship cards without correct postage. Take only one discount.

**Butterfly Car Magnets:** You may include payment for car magnets with your card order. Price includes shipping: \$3/each or 12 for \$20. Magnets are approx. 5" x 5", two-toned in gentle blue giving it depth, with a small space in the center of the butterfly where you could write your child's name. The BPA/USA URL is on the magnet.

# of Magnets \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ for Magnets \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL FOR ORDER \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:** Bereaved Parents of the USA

**Charge my order to:** VISA or MC (circle one) Acct # \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIP ORDER TO**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE Area Code (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND ORDERS TO**

BPA/USA • P.O. BOX 703 • HINSDALE, IL 60522-0703

For more information, call Kathy Kuzmicki at (630) 968-4515

**2007 Candlelight Ceremony Participation Form**

*(Please return by November 20 to have your child's name/picture appear in the Program)*

To: **BP/USA, c/o 3805 W. San Juan Street, Tampa, FL 33629**

- I (family) will be attending the service on December 9, and will light a candle in remembrance of my child/children

Number of people attending \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 your understanding.

- I have enclosed a picture for the Presentation.  Please use the picture from last year Presentation.

Child's name:

Date of Birth:  Death Date:

Type 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 honor of my child/children.

Your Name:

Address/Zip:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

**December 9, 2007 Candle Lighting Remembrance Ceremony**



Bereaved Parents of the USA, Tampa Bay Chapter will hold its annual Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 9. The ceremony will be held in The Medical Arts Building (MAB) Auditorium at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa.

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.

**BUTTERFLY BOARD**

We will again have a Background at to display butterflies in memory of our children. Please use the sample pattern from the October newsletter Page 6 to decorate one for your child and bring it to the Candle Light Ceremony to display.

**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, snack, sandwiches, etc.) to share with others.

**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:

**David Hurley  
3805 W. San Juan Street  
Tampa, FL 33629**

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 any of the National Gathering closing ceremonies or Chapter Newsletters and you want to use the same photo, just let David know that. Pictures mailed in will be available for pick up at the Candle Light Service-please **pick them up at the registration desk**. You can scan the picture yourself and email to david.hurley@gte.net Any questions please call David Hurley 813-831-2588.

**BUTTONS**

We have the equipment to make picture buttons. Bring a picture no smaller than 3" x 5" which will become the button. Buttons are round and measure approximately 2.25" in diameter. Cost per button is only \$3.00.

**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 Sue Bowditch at 813-661-9334!

**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 above and send it in before **November 20** to:

**BP/USA Tampa Bay Chapter  
c/o 3805 W. San Juan Street  
Tampa, FL 33629**

*Thank you!*

# 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.

To die one's self is a thing that must be easy,  
and light of consequence;  
but to lose a part of one's self--well,  
we know how deep that pain goes,  
we who have suffered that disaster,  
received that wound which cannot heal...  
It is one of the mysteries of our nature that a man,  
all unprepared,  
can receive a thunder-stroke like that and live.  
It will take mind and memory months  
and possibly years to gather together the details and thus  
learn and know the whole extent of the loss.

*Mark Twain, 1888, on the death of his daughter, Suzy Clemens*



The Bereaved Parents of the USA  
P.O. Box 156  
Gibsonton, FL 33534

**November 2007**

POSTMASTER - Dated Material

Please do not delay.



**DON'T FORGET**  
**Annual Candle Light Ceremony**  
**December 9, 7:00 p.m.**

**Send in your Participation Form TODAY and be sure to get your child's picture sent in too! (Before the deadline - See Page 7)**

# THANKSGIVING

*Shirley Ottman, Denton, TX , BP/USA*

Turkey? No! Not this year. I have no energy to dress it and no heart to decorate the house. No mind to fabricate a merry smile when grief, like snow, piles up on me and keeps me cold. Steak, I think, will be just fine. (I might not even want a taste of mine.) I'll have my husband grill one each for those who'll share Thanksgiving Day with us. I'll bake potatoes and prepare a salad, simple fare. We'll do a store bought pie for all I care. Turkey? Not this year. Another time - perhaps 2003 - but somehow, not, today, it's just too much for me.



## Volunteers Needed

Sunday, February 10, 2008

Please join us to start off the Gasparilla Classic Marathon and help earn a donation for our Chapter. These funds help our chapter to print and mail our newsletters, pay for P.O. Box fee, postage, library books and brochures to help the newly bereaved by educating them about their grief journey.

Please call Beverley Hurley at 813-832-3175 to volunteer and receive a Free Gasparilla Marathon Tee Shirt!!

