



Tampa Bay Chapter
c/o Lori Scragg
1406 Stephens Oak Ct
Plant City, FL 33567
www.bpusatampabay.com

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

*Caylee Marie Cepero,
 Steve Gregory, and
 Keith Joseph Scragg*

MEETING INFORMATION

****Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting**

(held the second Sunday of each month)

Sundays, September 10 and October 8, 2023

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

St. Joseph's Hospital

Medical Arts, 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 September 8 and October 13, 2023

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 of each month)

Thursdays, September 28 and October 26, 2023

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

New Hope United Methodist Church

**NEW LOCATION 121 N. Knights Ave.,
 Brandon, FL**

The Brandon daytime meetings will be held in rooms 3-4 of the Sanctuary Bldg (take right when coming in). The Brandon nighttime meetings will be held at new address listed above (same as daytime).

* Held different weeks during the holidays

Call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946

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
September 2023						

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 2023						

The summer is almost over, though the weather remains the same. Hopefully all of you have enjoyed your summer and made some new memories. School has started again and with it, more traffic. Amazingly, the holidays are right around the corner. See pages 10 = 11 for information and sign up form for the Candle Lighting. Please don't forget to pay attention to the RSVP date.

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 & accident)	813-361-2946
Sandy Boehning (grandparent)	813-989-3255
Gregg Lalis (Death of young child)	813-778-2605
Julie Woofter (suicide)	813-754-4848
Sherry Reber (Sibling & Overdose)	813-598-2285
Rita Zvada (Se Habla Espanol)	813-961-1011
Barbara Dietrich {Death of only child)	813-340-9120

Crisis Center 211

Love Gifts

Love Gifts-A Thoughtful Way to Remember

Love Gifts are a beautiful and loving way to remember a loved one. Through Love Gifts, we are able to reach out to others with our brochures and newsletters as well as obtain books and other information for our library. We truly appreciate every Love Gift, donation and sponsorship. Our Chapter work is done by volunteers and these donations help us reach out in many ways.

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PRICE ADJUSTMENT TO Sponsor A Newsletter Page

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

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

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

Refreshments

Some of us like to remember our child's birthday or the anniversary of his or her death by bringing a cake or cookies to the meeting that month. We would appreciate having you bring a special treat to any meeting. You may also want to bring and share a picture of your child.

Newsletter Articles or Contributions

Have you written a poem or article about your bereavement process? Would you like to share it in the newsletter? We are looking for article submissions every month from members of our chapter. Articles will be edited if needed. Please contact Debbie Nemitz @813-501-9567 or debbie.bpnews@gmail.com if you have any questions.



September Birthdays

Arnold, Ryan 9/1/1988 - 11/28/2007 P - Ron & Marcia Arnold B - Jason and Matt GP - Charlie & Kathy Arnold, and Allan & Florence Knopf	Daly, Cole 9/9/1983 - 12/17/2001 M - Katie Brock	Jones, G. Randy 9/6/90 - 4/9/17 M - M Cristina Jones F - Charlie Jones B - Brian Jones GP - Jorge and Maria Rodriguez and Gilbert Jones	Peel, Matthew Shane 9/9/92 - 9/9/92 A - Beth Biggs U- Eddy Biggs GM - Patricia Campbell
Brady, Mark A. 09/27/57 - 01/03/89 M - Margaret Brady S - Margaret J. Bruner B - Hayward L. "Bubba" Brady, Jr. GP - Wallace & Josephine Bagley and Wm. & Cinderalla Brady	Dechant, Matt 9/26/1984 - 4/14/2007 F - Tom Dechant	Kelley, Christopher Shawn 09/07/1972 - 5/26/2012 M - Patricia L. Kelley F - Harry J. Kelley SM - Donna Kelley	Perrotti, Paul 9/5/1969 - 9/25/1995 F - Donald J. Perrotti
Brown, Linsey 9/29/1983 - 7/4/2010 M - Stacy Valdivia B - Matthew Brown	Donnarumma, Sophia Marie 9/1/2000 - 12/23/2004 P - Benjamin & Diane S - Olivia GM - Pat Donnarumma	Knight, Matthew A. 9/1/1982 - 12/28/2001 P - Ron & Sandy Knight GM - Jack & Mary Griffin & Doris I. Knight	Will, Madison Kathleen "Madi" 9/2/1995 - 10/4/1995 P - Carl & Lisa Will S - Megan & Rachel Will B - Zachary & Seth Will
Brown, Tracy M. 9/10/74 - 3/26/16 M - Phoebe Brown F - Brian Ascii B - Justin Ascii Daughter - Taylor Rose Brown	Eddy, Steven 9/16/1960 - 7/9/2008 M - Marilyn Eddy S - Pam Bishop & Tammy Eddy B - Sonny N - Angie Valente & Missy Bishop	Kushner, Jonathan 09/13/62 - 10/28/73 P - Lorraine & Gil Kushner B - Andy & David	Williams, Travis Aaron 9/11/1979 - 4/19/2000 P - Bill & Linda Williams GP - Loretta Ayers, Raymond Ayers & Edna Williams
Cash, Christopher 9/13/1977 - 8/23/2004 M - Rita & Thomas Zvada F - Charles & Mika Cash Child - Leah Cash B - Charles Cash II GP - Gustavo & Ida Arencibia	Finucane, Peter 11/23/1997 - 9/1/2017 M - Cindy Finucane	Lane, Jim 9/7/1966 - 1/2/2005 M - Carol Lane	Zettles, DJ 9/25/93 - 6/13/16 P - Doug & Tammy Zettles GP - Fred & Barbara Coate
Castellano, Lina 9/15/1966 - 2/20/2004 P - Sam & Jean Castellano	Funk, Benjamin 9/9/1976 - 6/25/2001 P - Mr & Mrs Funk	Mart, Aaron Paul 09/24/96 - 09/11/99 P - Hank & Donna Mart B - Daniel GP - Betty & Trevor Harvey, Michael & Iris Willsher, Gene & Mim	
Cepero, Caylee Marie 9/3/2000 - 3/8/2005 P - Dawn and Lee Cepero B - Corbin S - Kennedy GP - Sandy Boehning	Gould, Richard J. 9/26/1981 - 3/3/2001 M - Cindy Phelps-Wise F - Ralph Gould B - Ryan, Bryan & Mark S - Karen	Morrill, Daniel 9/30/1972 - 9/8/2007 M - Amelia Lubrano	
	Gray, Jay 09/07/70 - 11/09/01 M - Dee Gray	O'Berry, Michael Sean 09/13/94 - 12/15/97 P - Mike & Valerie O'Berry B - Christopher O'Berry GM - Linda Hoffman A - Joyce Weil U - Mike Kasrich	
	Holland Jeffrey K. Moses 9/10/1986 - 7/7/2009 P - Thomas & Donna Holland and Henry Moses Sibs - Derrick & Logan GP - Beverly Cash, Joan & Steve Holland		



September Anniversaries

Carter, Cassandra D. "Casie" 2/22/1982 - 9/28/1999 P - Ted & Gayle Carter B - Justin Carter GP - Luna Carter	Finucane-Terlop, Peter 11/23/97 - 9/1/17 M - Cindy Finucane	Guy, Reese 3/27/2002 - 9/23/2020 M - Tammy Guy Dad - Josh Miller Grandparents - Kelly & Kerry Rhodes	Horst, Trey 4/16/1974 - 9/8/2000 P - Art & Linda Horst B - Todd & Thad S - Trisha & Tammy
Castillo, Schyler 2/5/12 - 9/1/22 F - Randall Castillo B - Siobhan Castillo S - Brayden Castillo	Gereau, Ryan 5/20/1987 - 9/12/2008 M - Laurie Gereau	Harris, Eric Michael 2/4/1984 - 9/12/2003 P - Mike & Pam Harris B - Mark GM - Joan Matthews & Verna Harris	Hoyt, Scott 10/27/75 - 9/16/18 M - Kathy Kellinger
Cooley, Malena Rose 3/23/1998 - 9/4/2000 P - Scott & Traci Cooley B - Nolan S - Madelyn & Olivia	Gravette, Austin Lee 8/31/1993 - 9/26/2009 P - Randy & Pamela Gravette S - Jessica Lynne Beauchamp GP - Oscar & Penny Rodriguez	Henry, Sumara Raquel 07/12/88 - 09/18/93 P - Louis & Cindy Henry GP - James & Ruby Reese & Bernice Henry	Kowall, Spec. Corey J. 2/1/1989 - 9/20/2009 M - Kelly Kowall Sibs - Kyla & Kristen GP - Marshall & Marty Schoeff
	Gregory, Stephen John 11/4/1962 - 9/1/2016 P - DeLores and John (stepfather) B+ Mike Gregory S - Pam Gregory		

September Anniversaries cont'd

Kenefick, Aaron Michael
2/5/1979 - 9/8/2009
M - Susan Price
Sibs - Jacque & Jade
GM - Carol Price

Kutz, Dylan
4/12/95 - 9/7/13
P - Marivic & Richard Kutz

Lowe, Anna
1/30/1994 - 9/30/2007
M-Beth Lowe

Mack, Anthony Joe
5/31/96 - 9/28/14
P - Barbara & Rob Riches

Mart, Aaron Paul
09/24/96 - 09/11/99
P - Hank & Donna Mart
B - Daniel
GP - Betty & Trevor Harvey, Michael &
Iris Willsher, Gene & Mim

McMillion, James Christopher
7/26/1984 - 9/26/2003
GP - Ralph & Martha Hamilton

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

Mink-Miller, Deborah
3/26/1965 - 9/27/1991
M - Diane Mink
S - Renee Mink Crosby

Moore, Maya
7/16/05 - 9/23/20
Mom - Maryam Ahmed
Dad - Clarence Moore II
Sister - Maha Smith
Brother - Clarence Moore III
Grandparents - Mery Love and
Tahira Abuukar

Morrill, Daniel
9/30/1972 - 9/8/2007
M - Amelia Lubrano

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

Peel, Lee Anna Campbell
8/5/1972 - 9/9/1992
M - Patricia Campbell
S - Beth Biggs
B - Eddy Biggs
GP - Estele & James Carlet

Peel, Matthew Shane
9/9/92 - 9/9/92
A - Beth Biggs U - Eddy Biggs
GM - Patricia Campbell

Perrotti, Paul
9/5/1969 - 9/25/1995
F - Donald J. Perrotti

Pippin, Shawn
10/16/1984 - 9/16/2002
M - Anita Pippin

Pispitos, Richard John
01/23/72 - 09/14/98
P - Catherine Webb & Philip Finkelstein
S - Michelle Webb
GP - Anne & Owen Beglane

Rainey, Wendy Michelle Price
3/7/1968 - 9/27/2006
M - Shelia Farmer
B - Peter Price
S - Emily Furst

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



Russell, Karron Michelle
1/20/1967 - 9/12/2000
P - Ben & Sue Bowditch and
Children - Brytani, Derak & Melody
Sisters - Catherine, Roben & Laurie
Bobby Jr. & Scott
GP - Cathren Dickerson and Jimmy
& Kay Senseney

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

Scragg, Keith Joseph
8/4/1986 - 9/5/2008
P - Richard & Lori
Son - Macklin
B - Matthew
S/O - Emily Popke

Smith, Clay Daniel
10/24/1967 - 9/30/1996
P - Francia & Chuck Smith
B - Jed & Kyle

Thornton, Teresa E.
01/12/66 - 09/24/81
P - Ken & Mirta Thornton
S - Lisa Buckner
B - Nick Thornton
GP - Tony & Berneda Pino

October Birthdays

Baez, Roberto G
10/30/1985 - 10/3/2005
M-Jeannette Carrasco Baez

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

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

Burger, Teresa
10/26/58 - 07/10/87
M - Cecelia Burger
B - Hal & Curt Burger

Carpenter, Ben
10/3/1965-5/10/1995
P-Carl & Marilyn Carpenter

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

Cason, Todd
10/28/1968 - 4/12/2003
P-Earl and Kay Cason
Child- Spouse-

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

Fitzpatrick, Brad R
10/8/72 - 10/27/2000
M - Barbara Fitzpatrick

Jayden, Ojeda
10/16/14 - 10/16/19
M - Alecia Ojeda
S - Jorge, Sacari, Jenavecia

Hester, Debbie
10/14/61 - 07/25/98
P - Buddy & Sue Butler

Hoyt, Scott
10/27/75 - 9/16/18
M - Kathy Kellinger

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

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
GP-Beverly Jaudon Quincannon

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

Mira, Anita
10/22/1992 - 12/4/2010
M- Patricia Mira

Nichols, Shannon Jr.
10/5/1979 - 3/29/2004
M-Terrena Nichols
F-Shannon Nichols
S-Brandy & Melissa Nichols

Ojeda, Jayden
10/6/04 -10/6/19
M - Alicia Ojeda
B - Jorge Adiazole

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

Pippin, Shawn
10/16/1984 - 9/16/2002
M-Anita Pippin

Rigney, Kyle
10/27/90 - 12/13/2020
F - Louis Rigney

Short, Kimberley
10/21/1969 - 2/11/1993
P - Terrance & Sue Short

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

October Birthdays cont'd

Schmedlen, Nathan
10/27/1968-2/2/1990
M-Rose Schmedlen

Smith, Clay Daniel
10/24/1967 - 9/30/1996
P-Francia & Chuck Smith
B - Jed & Kyle

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

B - Siobhan Castillo
S - Brayden Castillo
P - Mae Theriault

Thomas, Destiny Jean
10/1/1990 - 4/24/1998
F-Craig Thomas
B-Braxton and tin
GP-Augie & Betty Thatcher and
Marty & Carol Thomas

Thompson, Timothy A.
10/27/70 - 01/07/93
P- Bettie & Richard Thompson

Verde, Alex
10/1/1987 - 11/14/16
M - Andria Verde
S- Amber Davis

Wallowicz, Michael (Mikey) Kevin
10/23/1981 - 4/28/1990
P - Jim & Judy Wallowicz
B - Jimi Wallowicz
GM-Josie Varselona

Thomas, Destiny Jean
10/1/1990 - 4/24/1998
F-Craig Thomas
B-Braxton and tin
GP-Augie & Betty Thatcher and
Marty & Carol Thomas

Thompson, Timothy A.
10/27/70 - 01/07/93
P- Bettie & Richard Thompson

Verde, Alex
10/1/1987 - 11/14/16
M - Andria Verde
S- Amber Davis

Wallowicz, Michael (Mikey) Kevin
10/23/1981 - 4/28/1990
P - Jim & Judy Wallowicz
B - Jimi Wallowicz
GM-Josie Varselona



October Anniversaries

Baez, Roberto G.
10/30/1985 - 10/3/2005
M-Jeannette Carrasco Baez

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

Ferrera, Alex
8/11/1977 - 10/4/1997
P - Nelson & Guisela Ferrera
B - Paolo Ferrera
GM - Magda Alvarez
Aunt - Mirta Diaz
Uncle - John Ferrera

Fitzpatrick, Brad R.
10/8/1972 - 10/27/2000
M - Barbara Fitzpatrick

Gardner, Gary Dwain Jr.
8/25/1995 - 10/4/2000
P - Gary & Janelle Gardner
B - Jacob Gary Gardner

Gonzalez, Tarik C.
1/16/1976 - 10/12/2007
M-Susan Zapata
GM-Jacqueline Rodriguez

Griner, Matthew Ian
7/10/1985 - 10/27/2006
P-George & Barbara Griner
B-Daniel & Kurt
GP-Bill and Ann Griner

Gugliotta, Dan & Nadine
3/26/1976 - 10/14/2003
P-Dan & Nadine Gugliotta
Son-Jason

Howard, Joseph
3/14/1985-10/5/2002
M-Krista Howard

Jayden, Ojeda
10/16/14 - 10/16/19
M - Alecia Ojeda
S - Jorge, Sacari, Jenavecia

Johnston, Nathan
8/22/1981-10/19/2005
M-Indra Johnston-Wilhour

Kelley, Emmanuel
2/27/1987-10/25/2006
M-Cynthia Kelley
A-Deitra Luropler
C-Angel Kelley

Knox, Patricia Lynn
7/27/1964 - 10/21/1997
M - Shelby Jean McClure

Kushner, Jonathan
09/13/62 - 10/28/73
P - Lorraine & Gil Kushner
B-Andy & David

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

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

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

Ojeda, Jayden
10/16/04 - 10/16/19
M - Alicia Ojeda
B - Jorge Adriaazole
S - Sacaria and Jenavecia Ojeda

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



ADVICE FROM A FELLOW BEREAVED PARENT

Susan Chan knows firsthand what it feels like to lose a child. Her 18-year-old daughter, enjoying the waning weeks before high school graduation, was thrown from her boyfriend's motorcycle after a deer jumped in their way. "You never expect this is going to happen to you," she said. "You read headlines and it's always about somebody else, and one day you're a headline. It's so hard to explain to somebody who hasn't been there what it's like to lose a child. There's no good way." She offers the following advice to bereaved parents:

- Grief is not an event. It is a process. It does not have a distinct finish line. Each person's journey is as unique as his fingerprints.
- Your grief journey will be guided by many things besides the relationship you had with the child who died. It will be influenced by your past life experiences (including previous losses), your religious beliefs, your socio-economic status, your physical health, the availability of a support network and, in many cases, the cause of the death itself.
- People want you to be "over it" way sooner than you can ever imagine. They don't seem to understand that this is not the flu. We learn to integrate it into the fabric of our lives. What they don't realize is that we will never be the same people we were before our child died.
- Grief is not a predictable journey. One day we may feel somewhat stronger, the next day we may crash and burn. Grief is sometimes like winding a ball of yarn — you wind and wind on it and sometimes drop it and it unravels before you, then it is time to start winding it up again.

It is important to remember that as we grieve, we must also mourn the death of our child.

The two words are usually used interchangeably, but they mean different things. Grief is on the inside — what we are feeling. Mourning is "grief gone public" — in other words how we are allowed to express our grief outside of ourselves. (Definitions from the work of Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt, director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition).

- We have a great need to tell and retell our story far longer than many people are willing to listen. We need to find safe places to tell our story.
- Pain is part of the grief process and cannot be ignored or "gotten around" if we are to heal. Remember that letting go of the pain does not mean letting go of the love you had for your child. That love will remain with you always.
- At some point each of us must make a conscious decision to heal. We must decide whether we want to become bitter or better.
- Everyone seems to have an explanation for why this happened to you. It is a characteristic of our society that we want to be problem solvers. I haven't met a bereaved parent yet who felt there was a reasonable and acceptable explanation for why their child had to die.
- We need to be selfish as we grieve. By this I mean we must be good to ourselves, be patient with ourselves, look to what we need to do to move forward.
- We need to be open to the help others can provide. This is not a journey we need to make alone. Ask for help when you need it. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness, but an acknowledgment that you want to heal.

*Lovingly lifted from Mid Hudson New York BP/USQA Chapter Newsletter
and from Tampa Bay April 2010*



Steve Gregory

11/4/62 to 9/1/16



The years keep clipping by and it seems like yesterday you were still here with us Steve. Your big smile and kind heart will never leave us. So many fond memories always put a smile on all our faces and give us a boost in life. We miss you.

Love you Steve,

Mom, John, Mike, and Pam



Keith Joseph Scragg

8/4/86 to 9/5/08



We love and miss
you very much.

Mom, Dad, Matt, and
Macklin



2023 Candlelight Ceremony Sunday December 10**Participation Form**

(Please return this registration by November 26 to have your child's name / picture appear in the Program. Send to: BP/USA, c/o Lori Scragg, 1406 Stephens Oak Ct., Plant City, FL 33567

I (family) will be attending the service on December 10, 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: _____

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 take it (them) home afterwards)

Your Name _____

Address/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

December 10, 2023 Candle Lighting Remembrance Ceremony

We are encouraging everyone in attendance to wear a mask for the safety of all, but not required.

Bereaved Parents of the USA, Tampa Bay Chapter, will hold its annual Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony at 7 PM. on Sunday December 10, 2023. (Please begin to arrive by 6:15 PM so that we can begin the program on time at 7). The ceremony will be held at: St. Joseph's Hospital Medical Arts Building.

This day is the day of 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 – This year we will be having a pot-luck dinner after the Candle Lighting as we have done in previous years. We encourage all to participate in the dinner. During this time, we will be announcing the winners of the raffled gift baskets.

PICTURE PRESENTATION-A Special Slide Picture Presentation of our beautiful Children! If you are planning to attend our Candle Light Ceremony, email a picture of your child to debbiebpnews@aol.com or mail a picture of your child to: Lori Scragg, 1406 Stephens Oak Ct., Plant City, FL 33567. Either way include their full name as you want it displayed on the slide presentation and also the birth and death dates. 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 debbiebpnews@aol.com, but please be sure it is at least 600 dpi. If you have an 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 used in button should have plenty of space around it)

NO BOUTIQUE-There will be FUNDRAISING RAFFLE OF GIFT BASKETS. You can donate a basket in memory of your child/children or you can send a donation in with your registration, and we will do one for you in memory of your child/children. Please call Lori Scragg at 813-361-2946 if you have questions. The raffle tickets will be \$1 for one ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets, and \$10 for 15 tickets and \$20 for 35 tickets.

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 Lori Scragg, 1406 Stephens Oak Ct., Plant City, FL 33567

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

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

We have added a new page to our website and to our newsletter. It will be for ongoing fund raisers. There are already a couple of companies who have an ad and will be making a donation to Bereaved Parents when their items are purchased. If any of you have businesses and would like to advertise, please get in touch with Debbie by calling 813-501-9567 or emailing debbie.bpnews@gmail.com.

Please check out the first two companies who are participating. There is more information on our site.



Please check this page out. The link on our website will take you to their website where you can order one of these very well made, soft, beautiful angels with long arms and a Velcro closure so they can actually hug you. Be sure to go through the link on our webpage so that Bereaved Parents gets the generous amount being donated with each purchase.

Thanks to those who have ordered from Heavenly Hug.

<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

Reduced to only \$10.00



This ornament is 2 1/2 inches high. We are out of the blue one shown, but we have **one pink and 2 gold** that are quite similar.

The cost is now \$10.00

These magnetic ribbons are approximately 5 or 6 inches. You write your child's name on it with permanent ink and then put it on your car (or whatever metal you choose).

The cost is now reduced from \$5.00 to \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00



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 lis-

**Bereaved Parents National Gathering
July 20 -23 in
Washington D.C. - Dulles Hilton**

**Information can be found at
www.bereavedparentsusa.org**

Welcome

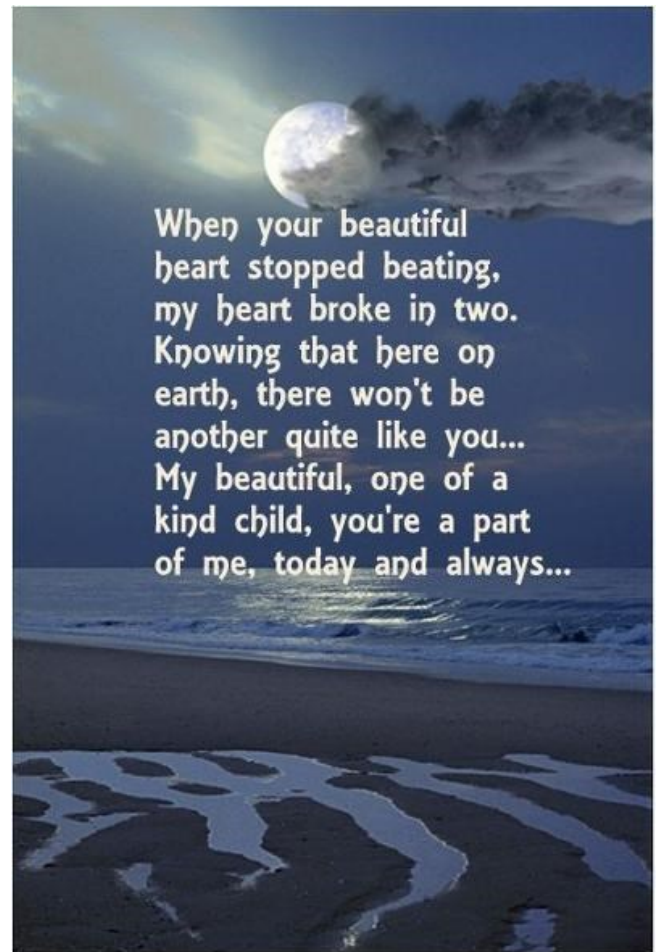
We are the parents whose children have died. We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters no longer walk with us through life. We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren.

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.

We are the Bereaved Parents of the USA. We welcome you.



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.

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

