



Tampa Bay Chapter

P.O. Box 3226
Tampa, Florida
33601-3226

www.bpusatampabay.com

MEETING INFORMATION

Regular Monthly SUNDAY Meeting

Sunday, September 9, 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, September 14,

10:00 a.m. to noon

NEW Location The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce (new building)

330 Pauls Drive, Ste. 100 (TECO Board Room)

Brandon, Florida 33511

CALL Linda Delk at 813-661-0680

for directions or information.

Regular Monthly BRADENTON Meeting

(held the third Monday each month)

Monday, September 17,

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

NEW LOCATION

Call Melissa Coxwell at 941-708-7052

Regular Monthly PLANT CITY Meeting

(held the fourth Thursday of the month)

Thursday, September 27,

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,

September 10 and October 8, 7:00 p.m.

I-HOP Restaurant, 11710 Morris Bridge Road

Temple Terrace, FL 33617

November 9 - 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 Sunday, 7 p.m. on your calendar and invite family and friends to attend our annual Candlelight Remembrance Service at 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!

Life Path Hospice

Journey of Hope Adult Retreat, September 29, 2007

Rotary's Camp Florida, 1915 Camp Florida Road, Brandon

Call Diane Schnelly, Bereavement Department at 813-357-5609!

September 2007

*This month's newsletter lovingly sponsored by
the families of:
Caylee Marie Cepero
Captain Christopher G. Cash*

Please note - Our website is now .com and not .org - www.bpusatampabay.com

Su	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	Labor Day 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

GRANDFOLK'S PRIVILEGE

by Edgar A. Guest

We've had the grandson for a week;
A week of constant play,
And now his grandma scarce can speak
So tired is she today.
And I, myself, am somewhat frayed
And sore of back and limb.
From dawn to dusky eve we've played
A solid week with him.

I've ridden him up hill and dale,
A cowboy brave and true,
And when my breath began to fail
His grandma galloped through;
I've marched with him to horn and drum,
And countless books I've read,
And waited for the night to come
When he'd be tucked in bed.

Oh, there's no doubt that fun we had,
Too much of joy, perhaps
Grandfolks can stand a roguish lad
At times upon their laps,
But wearying of shriek and shout
And endless strength and zest,
Of pluck and patience they run out,
Then all they want is rest.

How very nicely things are planned!
The little children come
To parents young enough to stand
The noise of horn and drum;
But grandfolks who delight to play
With merry girls and boys
With them are not compelled to stay
When wearied of the noise.



Remember
Grandparents Day
Sunday, September 9

Chapter News

ANGEL OF HOPE UPDATE

Please check out our new website at www.angelofhopetampabay.com



LOCATION

Now that we have confirmed a beautiful location in Temple Terrace on River Hills Drive and 56th street closest to the beautiful Hillsborough River, we can move forward with more publicity and construction plans. This centrally located memorial will be for all of Hillsborough County and surrounding communities.

Don't forget that we already have memorial bricks available to order that will be placed in loving memory of your loved ones on the surrounding patio around the Angel. Order forms are available on the website or by calling Beverley at 813-832-3175! Thank you for your continued support and interest!



GOLF OUTING!

Save the date of Monday, November 5, 2007, Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club, 200 Inverness Ave., Temple Terrace, FL 33617! We need sponsors, donors, workers and golfers! Please call Gina Casal at 813-813-746-4796 for more information!

Cartridge Buy Back Program to Benefit the Angel of Hope!

Please bring your empty inkjet and laser toner cartridges to any of our Angel of Hope or BP/USA meetings. Barbara Dietrich has volunteered to collect these and turn them in for a refund to benefit the Angel of Hope or call her at 813-340-9120.

A New Magnet Available

Angel of Hope has a new supply of the ribbon magnet "In Loving Memory of". You can write your loved one's name and date on the magnet with a permanent marker.



Please call Beverley at 813-832-3175 to order your magnets at \$5.00 each!

Crop for Hope

Saturday, September 15th from 8:30-11:30 am

Please see Page 5 for details!

Tee Shirts

Angel of Hope Tee Shirts available at \$12 each! Please call Gina Casal at 813-746-4796 to place your order!



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 (813) 996-4281
(Se Habla Espano)

CRISIS CENTER 211

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

Love Gifts

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

Thomas & Judy Sluder
 In loving memory of their children
Kathryn Sluder
 8/31/1966-3/17/2002
Keith Sluder
 4/25/1964-5/11/2006

Alice Ellis West
 In loving memory of her son
Douglas William Ellis
 11/9/1962-12/17/1983

John & Brenda Kelly
 In loving memory of their daughter
Amanda Jean Kelly
 11/15/1986-7/7/1987

Nancy M. Milam
 In loving memory of her son
Perry Edward Milam
 11/4/1974-10/1/1994

Jeff & Maritza Patet
 In loving memory of their son
Nathan Gabriel Patet
 12/18/1988-6/10/1990

Gustavo & Lourdes Arenas
 In loving memory of their grandson
Nathan Gabriel Patet
 12/18/1988-6/10/1990

Randy Waldrop
 In loving memory of his son
Caleb Waldrop
 8/4/1977-6/4/1999

Larry & Jeanne O'Neil
 In loving memory of their son
Clark Dean O'Neil
 9/1/1962 - 10/24/2004

Ben & Sue Bowditch
 In loving memory of their daughter
Karron Michelle Russell
 1/20/1967 - 9/12/2000

A special thank you to the
Hillsborough Cnty. Sherriff's Dept.
 for the approval of a Community Grant to our organization.

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.

MONTHLY MEETING TOPICS

September- How do men & women grieve differently?

October - Surviving the Holidays!

November- Gift donations!

December- Candle Light Service

Our Apologies



The following name should have been included in recent Anniversary/Birthday listings:

Gary D. Gardner, Jr.

August 25, 1995 to October 4, 2000



Our Children . . . Remembered

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

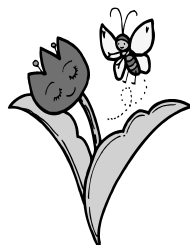
September Birthdays

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	Durazzo, Jill 9/8/1964-3/13/1980 P-Paul & Diane Durazzo B-Richard (deceased)	Mart, Aaron Paul 09/24/96 - 09/11/99 P - Hank & Donna Mart B - Daniel GP-Betty & Trevor Harvey, Mi- chael & Iris Willsher, Gene & Mim	Peel, Matthew Shane 9/9/92 - 9/9/92 A - Beth Biggs U- Eddy Biggs GM - Patricia Campbell
Cash, Christopher 9/13/1977 - 8/23/2004 M-Rita & Thomas Zvada P-Charles & Mika Cash Child-Leah Cash B-Charles Cash II S-Colleen & M ?? GP-Gustavo & Ida Arencibia	Funk, Benjamin 9/9/1976 - 6/25/2001 P - Mr & Mrs Funk	Mendoza, Jennifer 9/26/1986 - 3/3/2005 F-Joey Mendoza	Perrotti, Paul 9/5/1969 - 9/25/1995 F - Donald J. Perrotti
Castellano, Lina 9/15/1966 - 2/20/2004 P-Sam & Jean Castellano	Gould, Richard J. 9/26/1981 - 3/3/2001 M-Cindy Phelps-Wise F-Ralph Gould B-Ryan, Bryan & Mark S-Karen	Moore, Vanessa 9/3/1980-11/11/2005 M-Pat Moore	Stock, Jessica 9/21/1978-6/6/2004 M-Rose Stock
Cepero, Caylee Marie 9/3/2000 - 3/8/2005 P-Dawn and Lee Cepero B-Corbin S-Kennedy GP-Sandy Boehning	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	Will, Madison Kathleen "Madi" 9/2/1995 - 10/4/1995 P - Carl & Lisa Will S - Megan & Rachel Will B- Zachary & Seth Will
Daly, Cole 9/9/1983 - 12/17/2001 M-Katie Brock	Knight, Matthew A. 9/1/1982 - 12/28/2001 P-Ron & Sandy Knight GM-Doris I. Knight	O'Neil, Clark Dean 9/1/1962 - 10/24/2004 P-Larry and Jeanne O'Neil B-Kevin & wife Rene' S-Kitty & husband Joseph; Jenni- fer & husband Randy	Williams, Travis Aaron 9/11/1979 - 4/19/2000 P - Bill & Linda Williams GP - Loretta Ayers, Raymond Ayers & Edna Williams
	Kushner, Jonathan 09/13/62 - 10/28/73 P - Lorraine & Gil Kushner B-Andy & David		
	Lane, Jim 9/7/1966 - 1/2/2005 M-Carol Lane		



September Anniversaries

Carter, Cassandra D. "Casie" 2/22/1982 - 9/28/1999 P-Ted & Gayle Carter B-Justin Carter GP-Luna Carter	Metallo, Armando 5/3/1984 - 9/15/2005 P-Angelo & Luisa Metallo S-Ana, Angelo, Luisa, & Joe Met- allo GP-Armando & Ana Metallo and Graciela & Dorotheo Martinez	Pispitsos, Richard John 01/23/72 - 09/14/98 P - Catherine Webb & Philip Finkelstein S - Michelle Webb GP-Anne & Owen Beglane
Cooley, Malena Rose 3/23/1998 - 9/4/2000 P - Scott & Traci Cooley B - Nolan S - Madelyn & Olivia	Mink-Miller, Deborha 3/26/1965 - 9/27/1991 M-Diane Mink S-Renee Mink Crosby	Roberts, J. Michael 5/31/1963 - 9/25/2002 M-Ann Roberts Mitchel GP Merle H. Brunson
Harris, Eric Michael 2/4/1984 - 9/12/2003 P-Mike & Pam Harris B-Mark GM-Joan & Verna Harris	Nichols, Melissa 11/9/1982 - 9/4/2002 M-Terrena Nichols F-Shannon Nichols S-Brandy Nichols B-Shannon Nichols, Jr.	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
Henry, Sumara Raquel 07/12/88 - 09/18/93 P - Louis & Cindy Henry GP-James & Ruby Reese & Bernice Henry	Peel, Lee Anna Campbell 8/5/1972 - 9/9/1992 M - Patricia Campbell S - Beth Biggs B - Eddy Biggs GP - Estele & James Carleton	Schulman, Adam J. 6/7/1971 - 9/26/2004 M-Pat Schulman B-Freddie Kelly Jr. & Kenny Schulman
Horst, Trey 4/16/1974 - 9/8/2000 P - Art & Linda Horst B-Todd & Thad S-Trisha & Tammy	Peel, Matthew Shane 9/9/92 - 9/9/92 A - Beth Biggs U- Eddy Biggs GM - Patricia Campbell	Smith, Clay Daniel 10/24/1967 - 9/30/1996 P-Francia & Chuck Smith B - Jed & Kyle
Mart, Aaron Paul 09/24/96 - 09/11/99 P - Hank & Donna Mart B - Daniel GP-Betty & Trevor Harvey, Michael & Iris Willsher, Gene & Mim	Perrotti, Paul 9/5/1969 - 9/25/1995 F - Donald J. Perrotti	Thornton, Teresa E. 01/12/66 - 09/24/81 P - Ken & Mirta Thornton S - Lisa Buckner B - Nick Thornton GP-Tony & Berneda Pino
McMillion, James Christopher 7/26/1984 - 9/26/2003 GP-Ralph & Martha Hamilton	Pippin, Shawn 10/16/1984 - 9/16/2002 M-Anita Pippin	Victa, April Melody 2/20/1976 - 9/17/1998 P-Ron & Suzie Giles



Please note - Our website is now .com and not .org
www.bpusatampabay.com

A Grandparent's Grief

In our involvement in grief over the death of our child, we failed to realize that grandparents also grieve. Although not in the same way or to the same extent we do, they do grieve. Their grief is two sided, one for the child who is dear to them and the other for their own child who is suffering.

Just as the parent does, the grandparent loses his future. One of the joys of grandparenthood is the knowledge that through grandchildren they achieve immortality. It is expected that their name will be carried on through them. At the death of their grandchild, that branch of their family tree is cut off. What should have been will not be. In the case of an only child, there will be no future generation. Just as for the parent, the family of the grandparent will never be complete again. They, too, feel the empty place at family gatherings.

Feelings of guilt can be strong for grandparents. Survival guilt is the strongest. It is never expected that a grandparent will live longer than the grandchild. Grandparents usually feel that they have lived a long and full life. The dead child was denied that. "Why not me," is a phrase most have uttered. The fact that they are still alive while a young child or young adult is dead is difficult for many to bear.

Grandparents feel anger just as parents do. They can be angry with God for taking the child, or even for not taking them. They can be angry at the doctors or nurses, feeling that they didn't do enough for the child. They can be angry at the person they feel is responsible for the child's death.

Sometimes the death of a grandchild brings back memories of their own child who died many years in the past. This can be a painful revival of the grief they felt was over that they had buried. This is a very common experience for grandparents since the deaths of children occurred more often before the days of advanced medical technology.

In addition to grief over the death of their grandchild, there is sadness and pain at seeing their own child in such torment. Seeing one's own child in pain and not being able to ease that pain is extremely difficult for grandparents and leaves them with feelings of helplessness and frustration.

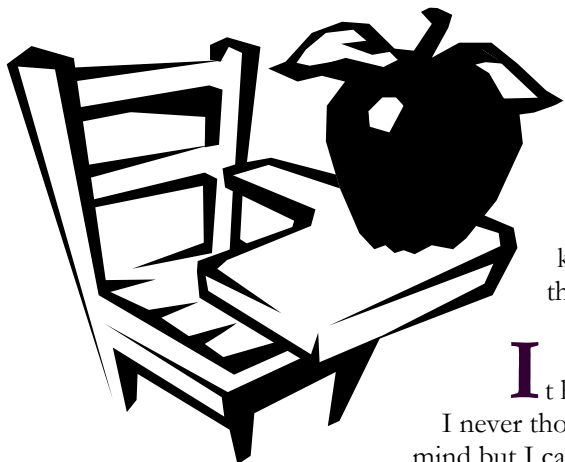
Many try to take over necessary tasks, such as cooking or caring for surviving siblings. These chores may seem so mundane to grandparents that they do not perceive themselves as being helpful to their suffering child. If grandparents are sick or incapacitated and cannot be of help to their child, they may feel guilty. In today's mobile society, many times grandparents must travel great distances to be with their child. If travel is not possible, this can be a source of guilt.

Many times grandparents feel that by not showing their grief they are providing physical and emotional strength for their child. This is a mistake. Suppressing their grief can be as damaging for grandparents as it is for parents. This can lead to grief and create problems for the grandparents. In addition, the bereaved parent may see this as a lack of concern.

We bereaved parents must consider the needs of the grandparents and at the same time be open and honest with them about our needs. We must let them know how they can help us, but at the same time we must be aware that they too, need help. Mutual sharing of feelings between bereaved parents and grandparents will be helpful to both in the recovery process. The sharing not only of painful feelings, but also happy memories of the child with grandparents can be helpful for both, and it can also create a deeper relationship in the family.

*By Margaret Gerner
BP/USA St. Louis, Mo.*

The First Day of School



My heart ached for any parent whose child would have started school today. I looked around at the mothers and fathers TOO eager to drop their kids off, and I wondered if somewhere near a parent was crying because their child was not attending.

It has taken me many years to overcome the sadness of the first day of school. I never thought the overwhelming pain would ease. The "what-ifs" still linger in my mind but I can fade them out with happy thoughts of the day.

I am still aware that today Nadine would be skipping off to her grade one classroom and I can't help wondering which teacher she would have had. But, my heart does not ache for me as it did most other Septembers ...today I ache for the parent who has just begun their journey; the parent experiencing the first day of school without their child.

*By Shannon Stevens,
Powell River, British Columbia*

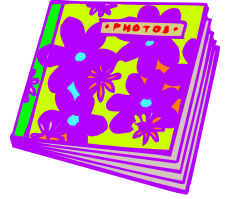


Rosh Hashanah or the Jewish New Year is a time for each of us to look inside ourselves. Reach out to your friends, family and near ones on this auspicious occasion and wish them a Happy Rosh Hashanah....

Crop for Hope News



Saturday, September 15th from 8:30-11:30am



Are you finding your photos are taking over your den? Do you want to show off your photos of your family? Are you trying to think of the perfect gift for a special friend? Do you enjoy your albums, or do you still need to dust the cob webs off of your pictures? Scrapbooking your photos and journaling the events that make your lives worth living is something that can help you preserve good memories for generations. Doing a scrapbook doesn't have to be overwhelming. It can be as simple or extravagant as you'd like.

I'd like to personally invite you to join the **Angel of Hope's Crop for Hope** that I will host on the third Saturday of the month, every three months. Our next Crop for Hope will be on **Saturday, September 15th from 8:30-11:30am**. We will have a different location, which will be at the **Mimi's Café on N. Dale Mabry**. This Angel of Hope fundraiser is for anyone that takes pictures. There is something for everyone, no matter what you do with your pictures. You can even come to make cards if you'd like. Bring some friends and have a great time reliving your wonderful memories. This is a great way to work on your albums, meet others and just have a great time! All while helping the Angel of Hope Memorial Garden. The registration fee is \$15 of which 60% is donated to the Angel of Hope, along with 10% of any orders purchased from me.

Here are a few simple tips to help get you started on your first scrapbook:

- ◆ Sort through your pictures and memorabilia to see what you have;
- ◆ Organize your pictures and memorabilia with some kind of file system (ex. Children, holidays, years, etc...);
- ◆ Determine your scrapbook style- simple, extravagant, or just digital;
- ◆ Find tools that you will need according to your scrapbook style; simple can be pocket albums; extravagant can be your traditional album with your creativity at work; Digital can be digital storybooks that you can get off the internet;
- ◆ Relax & Have Fun!

Whatever you choose to do with your pictures and memories, I'm here to help you. I am a Creative Memories Consultant and it is my job to see that your pictures are safe! Whether you haven't begun to look at them or you are stuck on what to do for your next album page, I want to help. I will also be teaching new techniques and you will also get great ideas from the time that you spend with the other scrapbook divas in the room! We will also have opportunities to make & take embellishments to enhance your scrapbook pages or cards.

Bring everything that you own to work on your scrapbook projects and just have some fun with your memories. Whether, you just bring your pictures and organize them, or you work on completing your latest album project, or getting a head start on those holiday cards, this is special time for you to learn about preserving your photos and memories for generations to come and having fun with the process too!

Please send your registration fee of \$15 to me by Wednesday, September 12th if you plan to attend to Gina Casal, 3815 Olde Lanark Dr., Land O Lakes, FL 34638. Checks should be made out to the Angel of Hope. Space is limited so **RSVP** and reserve your spot today! I hope to see you there and help support the Angel of Hope!!!

Sincerely,

Gina Casal, Creative Memories Consultant, CM ID # 89474139

GinaCasal15@tampabay.rr.com

www.mycmsite.com/ginacasal

Anniversaries

by Elaine E. Stillwell

In memory of Peggy and Denis O'Connor, on the thirteenth anniversaries of their deaths, August 2 and August 6, 1986.

When we have lost someone special in our lives, we know how much anguish we experience as the death anniversary approaches. It seems every single cell of our bodies remember. Even if we want to forget the day and the pain associated with it, our bodies won't let us. Some people say it's a day to stay in bed and pull the covers up over our heads. But others, like me, feel it is a day to do something special to remember my special persons, in my case, my nineteen-year-old daughter, Peggy, and my twenty-one-year-old son, Denis, who died four days apart from the same car accident.

It has been thirteen years for me without my beautiful Peggy and my first-born, Denis. Thirteen years without their smiles, hugs, jokes, teasing, laughter, gossip, tenderness, music, voices, chatter, noise and endearing mannerisms. At each anniversary, my husband and I have always chosen to do something they would have enjoyed or perhaps would have wished us to do.

It could be shopping 'til I drop, which was Peggy's specialty; eating Rocky Road ice cream, a favorite of hers; baking chocolate chip cookies, for which she was famous; having a barbecue with friends, of which she had many. It could be attending a concert, which Denis loved; walking along the beach or having a picnic dinner where Denis was a lifeguard; renting a movie that I know he would have loved; making French toast, his all-time favorite waker-upper; playing with our dog, whom he would have gone wild over, since he always wanted a pedigreed black lab of his own.

Attending local street festivals, going swimming, watching tennis matches, having a beer, enjoying a lobster fest, playing favorite cassette tapes of theirs, installing a garage-door opener (which they would have loved), eating in an oceanfront haunt of theirs, having special masses in their honor and inviting close friends and relatives to attend, reminiscing together, planting flowers and shrubs in their memory, sharing their story with others, praying to them, lighting candles for them, writing an article in their honor - all these things keep them close to my heart and make their anniversary days special.

Tears can fall, and that's okay, because tears bring a sense of release and healing. The funny thing is, the tears are a mixture of happiness and sadness that we can't really separate, a combination of tears of joy for having memories to touch our hearts, and tears of sorrow wishing they were here with us, holding our hands and saying all those things we want to hear repeated.

Anniversaries are a time to share with others our special love for the people we miss. I call it, "Sharing Peggy and Denis with the world." It keeps their memories alive in others, and it makes my heart feel so much better.

Plan ahead. Include dear friends. Surround yourself with loving people who make you feel comfortable and cared about. Share your memories. Tell those funny stories. Don't be afraid of tears. Give a toast to your special person. Release some balloons. Do what is good for your heart

Capt. Christopher G. Cash



To our very special " Spirit in the Sky "

Are you at the Feast you always told us about?

*" Do not ponder on the bread crumbs on earth,
for He will have a Feast waiting for us."*

Happy 30th Birthday - September 13, 1977

Love you Forever & Always, Your Family,

"The Gang"

Happy Birthday, Caylee!

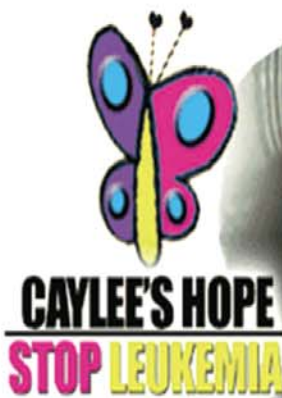
Caylee Marie Cepero
9/3/2000-3/8/2005



We know such love is real, that angels really do live, it's true.
God entrusted us with one, before we ever really knew;
and we are so grateful to him for the time he gave us with you;
so grateful to him for the opportunity to know you;
so grateful to him that he chose us to be your family;
and so grateful to him that we will be with you again.



September is
Childhood Cancer
Awareness Month!



Happy Birthday, Mini-Me. I still believe Heaven for you is a castle where every night's vision is of me tucking you in. I hope in Heaven you are surrounded by everyone who loves you. There is no time in Heaven, and one day we will be there with you again, our beautiful princess. Until then, we will follow your strong twinkle in the sky, the one that lights your room as you dance in your glorious castle. One day we will walk with great honor across Heaven's bridge and never let you go.

Happy Birthday, Caylee, our precious Sleeping Beauty, from all of your family and everyone who has come to know and love you. Today is one day closer for us to walk across the bridge to meet you.

Love forever,
Mama & Papa



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.



Grief is the price we pay for love. We did not lose our children. They died, taking with them our hopes and dream for the future, but never, never taking away their love. Though death comes, love will never go away. Hold it tight, the love our children gave us. Hold it tight through the storms of grief and bring it with you into today. Love never goes away.

Darcie Sims

"People are wonderful. There is good in everyone. It may be hard to see at times. It may be clouded over by meanness or selfishness. But, within everyone there is an angel waiting to be released."

*--Robert H. Schuller,
Life's Not fair but God is Good*



Our Guardians

*When angels sense you need them, And angels always do.
They come, unseen, from everywhere, To help and comfort you.
They hover close beside you, Till all your cares are gone.
Till they can see you're ready, Once again to carry on.
Then some of them fly away, And take their gentle touch.
To other hearts that need the love, Of angels very much.
But one, at least, stays with you, As your constant friend and guide.
For guardian angels never leave, They're always at your side.*

~Author Unknown~

Please note - Our website is now .com and not .org www.bpusatampabay.com



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

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #15
Gibsonton, FL 33534**

September 2007

POSTMASTER - Dated Material

Please do not delay.



Please note - Our website is now .com and not .org - www.bpusatampabay.com