Our Children Remembered...



2006 Annual Service of Remembrance

Anne Arundel County Chapter Bereaved Parents of the USA

The Credo of the Bereaved Parents of the USA

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 fears, 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, what our color or our affluence is 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.

Annual Service of Remembrance

Anne Arundel County Chapter Bereaved Parents of the USA

Sunday, December 3, 2006

3 p.m.

St. Martins-in-the-Field Episcopal Church

Severna Park, Maryland

A Celebration of Our Children

(* indicates that text is included in the program)

PRELUDE

Marissa and Brianne Hession

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

Dave Alexander, Chapter Leader

SONG

"Be Still My Soul"*

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

THE CREDO OF THE BEREAVED PARENTS OF THE USA*

Debi Wilson-Smith

SONG

"Somewhere Down the Road"* Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

READING* AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Gene and Marlen Maier

READING

"We Remember Them"*

All friends participate. We will be led by Paul Balasic.

SONG

"Via Dolorosa"

Carl Standifer, Saxophonist

A MOTHER'S READING

"What is Love?" *
Deborah Sheahy

SONG

"Don't Give Up"*

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by Carl Standifer and Paul Fenstermacher

A SIBLING READING

"You Did Not Die"*

Joey Tyler

SONG

"All I Ask of You"*

All friends sing. We will be led by Paula Muelhauser.

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Pastor Dave Lohff

College Parkway Baptist Church

READING

"Say Their Names"*

Ann Castiglia

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND SAYING OF OUR CHILDREN'S NAMES

OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

Slide Presentation

SONG

"Touch My Heart"*

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

CLOSING

Janice Kunkel

SONG

"Find Rest, Oh My Soul"*
Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied
by Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

We wish to thank St. Martins-in-the-Field for hosting this Service of Remembrance. We also wish to thank the talented musicians for their healing gift of music, and all those compassionate friends, especially Janice Kunkel, who contributed so generously to make this day possible for all of us.

"BE STILL MY SOUL"

Be still my soul, the Lord is on thy side. Stand calm within the storm of grief and pain. Trust in thy God to order and provide Through every change His faithful light remains. Be still my soul, the restful peace within Through trying times leads to a joyful land.

Be still my soul, the wind and waves shall know The voice who ruled them while He dwelt below. Torment and doubt have slipped into the past, All dark and mysteries shall shine at last. His burning sun shall melt the ice of fear. Lift up your heart His soothing voice to hear. Be still my soul, when light you cannot see That trembling skies speak to the fear in thee. The face of God illuminates the night, Unending peace and trust in perfect light. Be still my soul, when tears fall from above You are divine eternally in love.

You are divine eternally in love.

"SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD" (Words and music by Amy Grant and Wayne Kirkpatrick)

So much pain, so many reasons why You've cried until the tears run dry And nothing here can make you understand The one thing that you held so dear Is slipping from your hands And you say

Why, why, why
Does it go this way
Why, why, why
And all I can say is

[Chorus:]
Somewhere down the road
There'll be answers to the questions
Somewhere down the road
Though we cannot see it now
Somewhere down the road
You will find mighty arms reaching for you
And they will hold the answers at the end of the road.

Yesterday I thought I'd seen it all I thought I'd climbed the highest wall Now I see the learning never ends And all I know to do is keep on walking Walking 'round the bend, saying

> Why, why, why Does it go this way Why, why, why And all I can say is

Why, why, why
Does it go this way
Why, why, why
And all I can say is
All I know to say now.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The lighting of the first candle represents grief. The pain of losing a child is intense.

It reminds us of the depth of our love for them.

The lighting of the second candle represents courage – to comfort our sorrow, to comfort each other, and to change our lives.

The lighting of the third candle is in our child's memory – the times we laughed, the times we cried, the times we were angry with each other, the silly things they did and the caring and joy they gave us.

The lighting of the fourth candle is the light of love.

We light this candle that their light will always shine.

As we share this day of remembrance with our families and friends, we cherish the special place in our hearts that will always be reserved for our children.

We thank you for the gift your living brought to each of us. We love you.

WE REMEMBER THEM

(From Gates of Prayer, Reform Jewish Prayerbook)

In the rising of the sun and its going down,

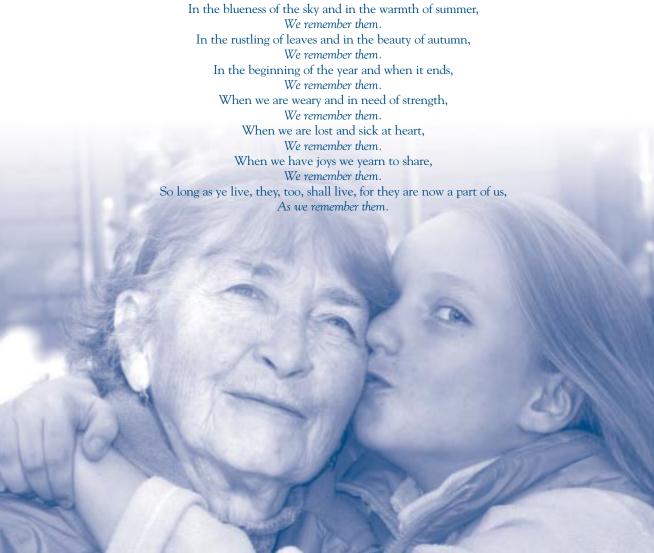
We remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

We remember them.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,

We remember them.



"WHAT IS LOVE?" (By Helen Steiner Rice)

No words can define it. It's something so great Only God could design it. It grows through the years In sunshine and rain In gladness and sadness In pleasure and pain. It's ever enduring And patient and kind. It judges all things With the heart not the mind. And love can transform The most common place Into beauty and splendor And sweetness and grace. Yes, love is beyond What man can define. For love is immortal And God's gift is divine.

"DON'T GIVE UP"

(By Rick Muchow)

Don't give up, someone really loves you Don't give up, someone really cares Don't give up, someone really loves you And that someone is God.

Don't give up, someone really loves you Don't give up, someone really cares Don't give up, someone really loves you And that someone is God.

Keep the faith, someone really loves you Keep the faith, someone really cares Keep the faith, someone really loves you And that someone is God.

May the spirit of the child who lives so deep within your heart help you through this month and through every moment of re-establishing your life.

"YOU DID NOT DIE" (By Shari Swirsky)

You live in the beautiful wind that blows.
You live in the sound of birds that crow.
You live in the sun that shines so bright.
You live in the peaceful dark at night.
You live in a star I see in the sky.
You live in the ocean waves that come in with the tide.
You live in the smell of flowers and grass.
You live in the summer that goes so fast.
You live in my heart that hurts so much.
You did not die, we only lost touch.

ALL I ASK OF YOU

(By Gregory Norbert)

Deep the joy of being together in one heart And for me that's just where it is. But all I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

As we make our way through all the joys and pain, Can we sense our younger, truer selves? But all I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

Someone will be calling you to be there for awhile. Can you hear their cry from deep within? But all I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

Laughter, joy and presence: the only gifts you are! Have you time? I'd like to be with you. But all I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

Persons come into the fiber of our lives And then their shadow fades and disappears. But all I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

They are not gone who live in the hearts they left behind.

Say Their Names

(By Don Hackett)

The time for concern is over. No longer are we asked how we are doing. Never are the names of our children mentioned to us. A curtain descends. The moment has passed. Lives slip from frequent recall. There are exceptions: close and compassionate friends, sensitive and loving family. For most, the drama is over. The spotlight is off. Applause is silent. But for us, the play will never end. The effect on us is timeless. Say their names to us. On the stage of our lives they have been both lead and supporting actors and actresses. Do not tiptoe around one of the greatest events of our lives. Love does not die. Their names are written on our lives. The sounds of their voices replay within our minds. You feel they are dead. We feel they are of the dead and still live. They ghostwalk our soul, beckoning in future welcome. You say they were our children. We say they are. Say their names to us and say their names again. It hurts to bury their memory in silence. What they were in flesh is no longer with us. What they are in spirits stirs within us always. They are of the

Jon Russell Aikin James W.H. Alexander **Jordan Edward Ambrozewicz** Cito Arán Glorimar Arán Deneen Leigh Bagby-Lins **Bethany Anne Balasic** Jeff Baldwin Joseph Phillip Baressi IV Susan Lawrence Barr Cortney Michele Belt David Elliott Bench Jr. **Jamie Bessling** Richard Allen Bessling Travis Brandon Beyerle Alex Blake Emily Ann Blazejewski George Alfred Bold IV Wendy Jean Bolly Traci Lynn Boone Nicholas Allen Bowling Linda Lou Boyce Paul Shane Brough James Allan Bryant Paul John Burash Herbert John Buzby Maranda Machelle Callender Faith Campbell Hannah Lindley Campbell **David Norton Cann** Scott Eric Caplan William Frederick Carter Jr. Tria Marie Castiglia

Chrystal M. Clifford O. Steven Cooper Ashlea Marie Cranston **James William Cranston** John Joseph Cranston Joseph William Cranston Kevin Michael Crine Robert Michael Davidson Ray Day Michael J. Dickens Jr. Gary Lee Downey Jr. Kenny E. Duncan III Brian Edward Durner Michelle Marie Dyke Jason T. Easter **Timothy David Easton** Isaac Paul Elliott Joseph Fredrick Errichiello Jr. Michael Espach Joseph A. Esterling Jr. Rebecca Lynn Faires Ronald Wesley Farley Barbara Jean Fennessey **Donald Richard Forbes III** Zachary Jay Forman Tracy Ann Fotino David Ionathan Frame Corey Michael Frank Katie Fritz Craig Robert Galyon Kimberly Judith Gardner Theresa Karen Gardner

Jennifer Marie Garvey

Steven Joseph Garvey **Andrew Thomas Gawthrop** Christopher George Gilmour Phillip Wayne Gray Jr. Jeffrey Andrew Grimm Matthew Gordon Haines Romana Alice Hale **Brian Jeffrey Haley** Kevin Hall Jennifer Lynn Hamilton Sidney Mark Hardesty Jr. Eric Paul Haynal Michael Thompson Heany Traci Jeanne Heincelman Todd Stafford Henschen **Charles Marshall Hodges** Sara Elizabeth Hohne Keenan Russell Holt Alison Marie Hylan Jeffrey Cecil Jaecklein Allison Carol Jimenez Kurt Willard Johnson Roger Wallace Johnson **Brian Keith Iones** Jeremy Scott Jones Traykia Melisa Jones Matthew James Katz **Kevin Murray Kerr** Stephen William Kilian Darin Michael Kilton Chloe Victoria Kimbrell Dawn Felicia Kittrell David Mark Kohl

past, but they are a part of our now. They are our hope for the future. You say not to remind us. How little you understand we cannot forget. We would not if we could. We understand you, but feel pain in being forced to do so. We forgive you, because you cannot know. And, we would forgive you anyway. We accept how you see us, but understand that you see us not at all. We strive not to judge you, for yesterday we were like you. We love you, will make no exceptions toward you. But we wish you could understand that we dwell both in flesh and in spirit. The mystery is that you do, too, but know it not. We do not ask you to walk this road. The ascent is steep and the burden heavy. We walk it not by choice. We would rather walk with them in flesh, looking not to spirit roads beyond. We are what we have to be. What we have lost, you cannot feel. What we have gained, you cannot see. And, we would not have you. Say their names, for they are alive in us. They and we will meet again, though in many ways we've never parted. They and their lives play light songs on our minds, sunrises and sunsets on our dreams. They are real and in shadow, were and are. So, say their names to us and say their names again. They are our children, and we love them as we always did. Say Their Names!

John Christopher Poe

Logan Robert Kugler Scotty Wyatt Lauzier Michael Robert Leger Nicholas Paul Liberatore Zachary Laurence Luceti Stephen Aaron Luck Timothy J. Mabe Eric Eugene Maier Walter H. Maynard IV Daniel Robert McAllister Iolene Dawn McKenna Brian Richard Melcher lack Matthew Memminger Paul Brian Michael Benjamin James Miller Calvin Russell Miller Jordan Daniel Miller Joshua Taggart Miller Daniel Michael Milord Susan Blair Minor Chad William Muehlhauser Ryan John Mulloy **Fric Richard Munz** Craig Steven Nelson Michael Dwayne Nokes Adrian Bernard Andrew Ortega Scott Thomas Palmer **Emily Marie Parker** Sydney Elaine Patronik Sarah Elizabeth Patterson Michael Alfred Persetic **Arthur Gordon Phillips**

Nicholas Grant Poe Jayla Monet Powell Steven Craig Rasmussen Alvin F. Rehn III Kevin Eric Reichardt Joseph William Remines Robert William Rey II Tanager Rú Ricci Michael Louis Rixham Daniel Burwell Robinson James Ryan Rohrbaugh Justin Michael Romberger Daniel Maurice Rothman Aaron Sebastian Royer Philip Francisco Saff Wendy Dawn Saunders Anthony John Schaefer Thomas Jeffrey Schall Emily Ann Schindler Kelly Ann Schultz Michelle Inez Scott Donald L. Severe Jr. Ryan Michael Sheahy Daniel R. Shockey Thomas Richard Short Rachel Beth Showacre Jeffrey Steven Simpson Jason Edward Skarzynski Abigail Helen Skuletich Brighton Joseph Slaight Mark Edward Smeltzer Christopher John Smith

Gary David Spirt Roderick William Stallings **Derrick Antonio Stevens** William Henry Stevens **Albert Frances Stinnett lamie Stinnett** Mark Stinnett Rodney William Stinnett III Christopher Lewis Strader Russell J. Tarr Matthew Jason Temple **Heather Brooke Tepper** Reece Nelson Tolbert David William Tomaszewski **Brittany Nicole Tyler** Timothy Allen Umbel John Kirkpatrick Wallace Justin James Watts Richard C. Watts Michael Shane Wheeler Daniel A.S. Whitby David William Whitby Albert Wallace Whitby Jr. Leslie Donn Whitman Carole Anne Wilford Grant Alan Williams Samuel Mark Williams Wayne Wilson Jr. Miriam Luby Wolfe Samuel Kingsley Wood

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND SAYING OF OUR CHILDREN'S NAMES

When we reach the point in our program that calls for the saying of our children's names, please follow the direction of the ushers. Ushers will escort us, row by row, to the front of the church to light a candle and to say our child's name...for those of us who choose to participate. Parents, family, and friends are invited to come forward at that time and light a candle in memory of their beloved child.

"TOUCH MY HEART"

(Written by Beth Nielsen Chapman and Matt Rollings)

There are songs I love that catch my breath
When the first chord starts to play
Effortless and true, it's funny but I knew
You would always touch my heart that way

And it hurts so much to let you go
And there are no words to say
But the corner of your smile says all I need to know
You could always touch my heart that way

Sail on my love, life is only a blink in time Go on and show all those stars what it means to shine

Like a fire that spins inside a spark
As the ashes cool to grey
Kicked up by the wind, dancing through the dark
You will always touch my heart that way

Sail on my sweet love, this world is a blink in time Go on and show all those stars what it means to shine

And I know your love is here with me
I can feel you every day

Even if the beauty of your face I cannot see
Only you could touch my heart that way
You can always touch my heart that way



"FIND REST, OH MY SOUL"

(Words and music by Lisa and Paul Fenstermacher)

When the weight of the world is on my shoulders
And shadows fall around me way into the night
Though my outward man is wastin'
My inner man grows stronger with each promise that is mine.

So, find rest, oh my soul in God alone My hope comes from Him For He alone is my rock And my salvation.

Though the mountains start to crumble While this old world keeps spinnin' round I'm secure in the love that God gives me Now I know I must be heaven bound

So, find rest, oh my soul in God alone My hope comes from Him For He alone is my rock And my salvation.

And my salvation.

www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org

MAY THE MEMORIES OF THIS SEASON COME ON GENTLE WINGS TO BRING YOU LOVE AND PEACE

AFTER THE ANNUAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

As you leave the sanctuary this afternoon, you will receive an indoor Narcissi bulb, wrapped in tissue paper and accented with a butterfly. Plant this bulb and when the flower blooms, remember your child, and our time together for this year's Service of Remembrance.

Please join us for refreshments immediately following the service, down the hall from the sanctuary. A special thanks to those whose generous contribution and hard work made possible this opportunity for us to feast, to chat with friends and family, and to remember.

The moon will rise The sun will set We won't forget Not now...not ever.



For more information, write to:

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www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org