



Bereaved Parents of the USA

Anne Arundel County Chapter

June 2010

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CHAPTER NEWS

There's no escaping the daily news about the state of the economy – revenue is down, expenses are up, and the whole world seems a little out of kilter. Unfortunately, that same financial reality has hit our bereaved parents' Chapter. As you may know, our Chapter depends on donations from bereaved parents and the community the Chapter supports to deliver the monthly meetings, the monthly newsletter, the Memory Walk, the Service of Remembrance, and community outreach. All contributions are devoted 100 percent to pay for the expenses associated with the Chapter's programs and activities.

The good news about the Chapter's financial reality is that the Core Group, which is the "governing body" for the Chapter, is managing the situation so that we can keep our doors open and continue to serve those individuals and families grieving the loss of a child. When the Core Group met recently, every line of the Chapter's budget was reviewed and discussed in an effort to reduce costs and increase revenue, while maintaining the basic services the Chapter provides.

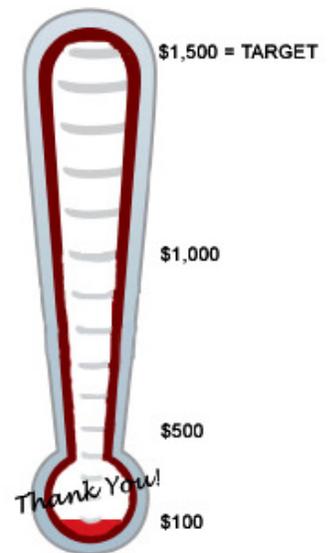
One of the outcomes of the Core Group meeting was to communicate more broadly with Chapter members about the opportunities to support the Chapter financially:

- *Newsletter sponsorship – each month, there is an opportunity to sponsor the printing and mailing of the newsletter in memory of your child; you may provide a picture of your child and up to 50 words of text about your child; the cost of sponsorship is \$75, and up to two families can sponsor each issue. (Sign up at the monthly meeting, or email me at tbelt@nahbrc.com.)*
- *Website sponsorship – each month, there is an opportunity to sponsor the website in memory of your child; the sponsorship is noted on the front page of the site and the cost of website sponsorship is \$25. (Sign up at the monthly meeting, or email me at tbelt@nahbrc.com.)*
- ***Amazon.com** – if you make purchases of any kind through **Amazon.com**, please consider going first to the Chapter's website (www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org) and then clicking on the Amazon icon on the home page. The Chapter receives 5 percent of each purchase made this way – and it does not increase the cost to you.*
- *General donations are always welcome. (Mail to the Chapter's PO Box—see page 2— or bring to the monthly meetings.)*

In addition to focusing on the Chapter's finances, the Core Group has also been focused on the fact that our Chapter -- the Anne Arundel County Chapter of the Bereaved Parents of the USA --celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year. Because that's such a notable milestone and one of which we are very proud, the Core Group has decided to celebrate the milestone during the Chapter's annual Memory Walk at Quiet Waters Park on October 2, 2010. As a part of the celebration, the Chapter will be purchasing a teak "memory" bench with a special engraved plaque that will be placed in a garden at the Park – and we will be burying a time capsule with messages to our children under the bench. Because of the Chapter's budgetary issues discussed above, we've decided to try and raise funds to offset the purchase of the bench. We are going to track our fundraising progress in this newsletter until we reach our goal of \$1,500 – and, we're already on our way. Please consider contributing to this effort – you can send donations to the Chapter's mailing address, or bring them to the monthly meeting.

Thank you to the Core Group for managing our Chapter – and thank you for anything you can do to help us through these financially trying times.

Terre Belt, Chapter Leader



The printing and mailing of this newsletter has been donated by

Judy and Jim Krouse in memory of their son
Bryan Adam Krouse
March 11, 1965 - June, 29 2007





Doors open at 7:15 p.m.
Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

When a Child Dies by Suicide – Sarah Montgomery, a Life Center grief counselor specializing in loss and transition, will share her insights, experiences and life lessons in dealing with parents and families that have lost a child by suicide. Come and learn about the special challenges faced by those grieving such a loss.

Calvary United Methodist Church
301 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, MD 21401

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month and are open to anyone grieving the death of a child. Come around to the back of the church—there is parking and an entrance directly into our meeting room.

We are a self-help support organization dedicated to assisting parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child. We provide information and education to extended family and friends. Our greatest strength as bereaved families is the unity we find in shared experiences which can lead us out of isolation, give us a place to “belong,” and offer us hope that together – we can make it.



WHAT TO EXPECT AT OUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Our Chapter gathers one evening a month to address topics and offer support to those who are mourning the death of a child. Our meetings last for approximately 2 hours. Sometimes we schedule a 30-minute presentation at the beginning of our meeting. When the speaker or panel has concluded the presentation, we introduce ourselves and say our child's name. We then take a short break before dividing into sharing groups.

Sharing groups are facilitated by fellow Chapter members and are completely confidential. During this time, the issues that are discussed—particularly for the newly bereaved—focus on the issues facing participants today.

Chapter Leader:	Terre Belt 410.721.1359 tbelt@nahbrc.com
Newsletter Team:	Clare Harig-Blaine Kathy Ireland Eryn Lowe
Correspondence:	Barbara Bessling
Treasurer:	Fran Palmer
Hospitality:	Carol Tomaszewski
Librarian:	Bob and Sandi Burash
Programs:	Paul Balasic



Bereaved Parents of the USA 2010 National Gathering

Little Rock, AR
July 9 – 11, 2010

To register for the Gathering or for more information, go to

www.bereavedparentsusa.org/Gathering.html



2010 TCF National Conference

Arlington, VA
July 2 – 4, 2010

To register for the Gathering or for more information, go to

www.compassionatefriends.org



Submissions for the July newsletter
due to the Newsletter Team by June 1
newsletter@aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org

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BPUSA/AA County Chapter
P.O. Box 6280
Annapolis, MD 21401-0280



The Only Way Out Is Through!

How do we fathers deal with the death of a child? We've been good fathers, doing our best to provide for our families both materially and spiritually. We have taken our responsibilities as family men very seriously. Heck, we haven't even cheated on our income taxes! Why do we have to suffer? Why were we given this burden? What wrong have we committed to deserve this pain? And most important, how can we find the strength to endure?

Hundreds of doubts assailed me as I struggled to adjust to the reality of my situation and to make some sense of Blake's death. It was difficult for me to accept that in a world governed by a loving and all-powerful Creator, innocent people suffer and die. Therefore, I decided I must have been guilty of some transgression. Worst of all, I could not imagine ever feeling happy again. I didn't think I would ever enjoy my life. I missed my son terribly, and I was consumed with worry about my wife and surviving children. That question, "Why?" continued to plague me. I guess I was asking for knowledge and insight which no mortal can have. It was like a midnight search in a dark room for a black cat that wasn't there.

We do not know the reason, but we live in a world in which innocent people suffer. We need not add guilt to the pain we experience. Grief is a natural and important part of the healing process after the loss of a child. Guilt is not. The kind of despair that often accompanies guilt must be dealt with and overcome.

When we lose faith in the possibility of ever regaining happiness, we don't allow ourselves to believe that we can hope again. In truth, believing that we will get better is healing. We must reach down inside ourselves and find something to push us in a hopeful direction. The first step is to make the choice to believe we can overcome our suffering. Despite the fact that we have no guarantees for the future, we have to accept hope. The alternative is to allow ourselves to be convinced that we will never be healed. How can we progress from there? Hope can return if we allow it to. Doubt and despair will impede the process. Only when we allow ourselves to take the leap of faith and believe in the chance for our renewed happiness can we begin to enjoy life once more.

So, how do we begin our healing? Well, like it or not, the only way out is through. How do you get started? Start where you are. Start with your grief, your despair, your guilt. Start with your confusion and questions. Start with the fact that you ARE. Try to find some sense of gratitude about your own life. Don't try to figure out the why...you never will.

This Father's Day, try to trust in the goodness of life and to want that goodness again. Dedicate your talents and abilities to healing yourself and those around you. You'll know you're getting better when you can spend Father's Day celebrating the joy of your child's life, rather than the pain of his death.

— Jeff Dyson, TCF
Beaumont, TX

Sorrow makes us all children again - destroys all differences of intellect. The wisest know nothing.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

On Butterfly Wings

Gently whispering through the air
Soft precious wings take flight
Gone too soon, gone too far from reach.
Quietly, peacefully she left that dark night.
In the morning, the brilliant, warm sunlight reflects her light.
Take me, please take me when my time has come.
Carry me on those precious butterfly wings
To the kingdom that now knows her grace.

— Author Unknown



There is no relationship like that of parent and child. It is unique and special...The bond between parent and child is so powerful that its strength endures time, distance, and strife. No loss is as significant as the loss of a child.

— *Author Unknown*

Always and Forever

You are always on my mind
And forever in my heart.
Your love is always with me
Even though we are apart.
I treasure all our memories
They comfort me each day.
And I know that when I need you
You are just a thought away.
Until we meet again
I'll know you're watching from above.
And precious memories of you surround me
With your everlasting love.



— *Author Unknown*

Moving On

It's what everyone
wants me to do.
They all think that I should,
but no one tells me how.

Moving on

Is it some kind of a trip?
Does it require a destination?
I hardly have energy
to be where I am.
Where would I find more?

Moving on

Away from who I am now?
Away from all I have known?
Away from my pain?
Away from your death?
But where could I go
that all of this
would not go with me?
Nowhere, I think.

Now, if only they'd leave me alone.
When I am ready,
I will find my own way
to move on,
While taking you along.

— *Grief Digest, Centering Corp.*



Graduation Time

It's June and graduation time again. Your child would have been among those wearing the cap and gown, walking down the aisle to the ever stirring "Pomp and Circumstance." Now there will be a vacant spot in the line. Should you attend? Can you stand the pain? Will people think you're strange?

As always, you must follow your heart. So, go if you'd like to, and don't hide your tears. It's quite all right to miss your own child while celebrating the achievements of others.

Just remember that your own instincts are the most important ones; that no one else can make this decision for you, and that it doesn't really matter what other people think of you.

It was your child who died. This is your pain, and you have the right to feel it and deal with it in your own way – and may a bit more healing take place in the doing.

— *Peggy Gibson, TCF
Nashville, TN*



SIBLING PAGE



ETERNITY

Eternity. Seems like forever. Maybe it is forever. At least that's how long it seems since my brother, Sean, died. Eternity also has another meaning for me. Eternity is the cologne that Sean used to wear. Every time I even catch a scent of it, I turn around looking for Sean.

For the first two years after Sean died, every time I smelled Eternity I began to cry. Then I realized that cologne smells differently on each person. After those first two years, I would smell it and not recognize it. I would like the cologne that someone would have on and I would ask them what it was. For a while it seemed as though everyone I asked wore Eternity. After several times of asking and being upset by the answer, I just stopped asking. My husband and I have been married for 4 ½ years and he is still not permitted to wear Eternity.

I was at work one day about a year ago and I smelled a delicious smell. I followed it all around the building. I never did find the source of the smell. I comforted myself by thinking that Sean was there telling me he was alright. I had been having a hard time and missing him terribly. About a week later, the smell returned and it was right outside my office door! I quickly turned the corner and there was a salesman that worked with me. I asked him the old question, "What cologne are you wearing?" His answer, "Eternity." The smell was identical to how it smelled on Sean. I have never obsessed about something, but I guess I have about Sean's cologne.

I began to think about how strange it was that someone who would only live for nineteen years would wear a cologne called "Eternity." Then I had a wonderful thought. What if by wearing Eternity, Sean was telling us that's how long he would love us and how long he would be with us? Maybe my husband will get a bottle of Eternity for Christmas this year.

— Traci Morlock, BP/USA
St. Louis, MO

Don't Take My Grief Away

After my brother's funeral, someone told me that I was handling my grief well. "No," I responded, "I am not doing well at all. If I were, I would crumple up on the floor and let my grief flood this room. As it is, I am stoically holding it all in because there is no one here who could be comfortable if I let it out."

— Doug Manning, TCF
Concord, MA

Everything is a First

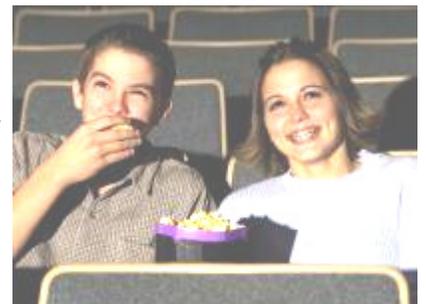
Everything is a first. Many moments must be faced. There are the first holidays, the first anniversary, the first birthday. Thoughts about my brother, Dave, will always be with us. It's never more than a sentence away from me – NEVER! The ordinary cannot be ordinary. A certain phrase, a look, or an article of clothing can trigger thoughts and emotions.

The joy of my senior year in college was interrupted by sad reality. FORGET? How is this possible? The days and months following my brother's death were filled with grief. Flowers and food were everywhere. Love and concern were translated into strength that kept me moving one step at a time.

People don't know what to say. Nothing is NORMAL. Tragedy has brought a seriousness to my life and the unimportance of a lot of things I have previously found important are circulating in my mind. I think about my own funeral now. When will it be? Tomorrow, next week, next year, before or after my parents? There are good days and bad days. I am learning to deal with all of this.

People ask me, How are you? Here is my answer. I am mad Dave died at the age of 17. I am angry that my parents have to go through all of this. I am confused about my role in the family. I am sad. I am fearful about the future. I am hopeful things will get better. I am courageous. I think about my brother every day. I will be strong.

— Lisa Ann Jones
Avoca, PA



An Ocean of Grief

I cautiously watch the water as it moves along the shore creeping closer to the sand around my feet.
Beyond the crashing waves, where the water is deepest green, the ocean mirrors the depths of my grief.

My grief is like the ocean, sorrow coming in like waves, sometimes gentle like a ripple on the sea.
Other times it just engulfs me with crushing waves of sadness and undertows of despair pull down on me.

Some days I wade out in it, splashing memories with my feet, recalling days of sunshine on my face.
Stepping through the foamy edges never venturing out so far that larger waves can threaten their embrace.

Then when I least expect it, this freak of nature soaks me in reality so painful that I fall.
The sorrow and the anger that I've fought with day to day surge through me in a tidal free-for-all.

One day when I'm much stronger and my grief is not so new, I'll swim just like I used to do before.
I'll take pleasure in the memories, and tread water in those places that we can't share together anymore.

— Ferna Lary Mills

Improved Communications?

After you lose your child you may (or may not) experience the following:

- ✦ Increased closeness with family
- ✦ Healed relationships
- ✦ Awareness of your personal needs and required care for yourself
- ✦ Finding meaning in your life
- ✦ New expressions of love
- ✦ Remembering that goodbyes are always important
- ✦ Including children in the process of grief that is appropriate to their age and understanding
- ✦ A better ability to appreciate and accept gifts, stories, photos, and paintings
- ✦ The ability to write or draw or create that comes from your heart and reflects your inner self

Freely expressing your feelings, including sadness and pain for yourself and others

View the death of everyone as a natural step in birth and life, however brief this may be.

— Clare Harig-Blaine, BP/USA, Anne Arundel County
With help from Hospice of Queen Anne's County

An Angel's Kiss

We go through life so often
not stopping to enjoy the day,
and we take each other for granted
as we travel on our way.

We never stop to measure
anything we just might miss,
but if the wind should blow by softly
you'll feel ~~ An Angel's Kiss.

A kiss that is sent from heaven,
a kiss from up above,
a kiss that is very special
from someone that you love.

For in your pain and sorrow,
an Angel's Kiss will help you through.
The kiss is very private
and it's meant for only you.

So when your hearts are heavy
and filled with tears and pain
and no one can console you,
remember once again—
about the ones you grieve for
because you sadly miss,
and the gentle breeze
you took for granted
was just ~~ An Angel's Kiss

— Peggy Bouse



Father's Day



...not a big holiday like Christmas, Hanukkah, or Thanksgiving, but one that holds a lot of meaning for those to whom it applies. For first-time fathers, that Sunday in June brings a feeling of joy and pride. For a long-time Dad, it's a reminder of the fulfillment that children may have brought to his life.

For those men who have lost a child, it can be a painful time. For those who must endure their pain in secret and in silence, either through their own desire for that approach, or through society's expectations that they must be strong and controlled, it can become a horror.

But we in bereaved parents' groups wish to acknowledge the day, because the death of a child does not negate the parenthood of the dad who loved him or her. Love for one's offspring does not die when the body dies, and death does not succeed in robbing us of our parental identity.

In the midst of the grief and loss, may you experience a taste of good memories and remembered love for your child.

— *Author Unknown*

Adieu

I imagined this spring year they
 Graduated from college
 You were all such good friends
 From early grammar school.
 I pictured there must have been
 Wonderful parties with lots of potato salad,
 Gowns to press and caps to block.
 I imagined their desire to get that "extra ticket"
 For grandma and one for a special friend.
 I visualized driving past their homes
 Hoping for a glimpse of movement
 Behind their open window.
 I tortured myself with guess-timates as to
 What kind of degree they received.
 I hoped that one would call and share
 With me their happiness and pride.
 I walked the narrow path today,
 Sat on the cold marble bench
 Near your grave and finally bid them...all,
 Adieu.

— *Esther Rosensweig, TCF
 Manhasset, NY*



Certain thoughts are prayers. There are certain moments when, whatever the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees.

— *Victor Hugo*

The Plight of Bereaved Parents

A boy was flying his kite. He kept adding more spools of string to make it go higher. A woman walked by and said, "You have that kite flying high," and the boy agreed. The woman left and went about her business. On the way back, she looked up toward the kite and said, "I do not see your kite." The boy agreed. She said, "Then, why don't you let go of it?" The boy answered, "I can't, I can still feel it tugging."

This is the plight of bereaved parents.

— *TCF
 Wayne County, PA*



Little Baby

Little Baby who was not to be,
 You were a person – at least to me.
 Would your eyes be blue?
 Or hazel and dark?
 Would you caw like a crow?
 Or sing like a lark?



Would you have ten little fingers
 And ten tiny toes?
 A rosebud mouth?
 A turned up nose?

Would you be laughing and happy,
 Or somber and quiet?
 Would you run and jump
 Or rather be still?
 Would you like to read,
 Or prefer to play?

None of my questions will have an answer
 Your chance to live will never be.
 The only thing I truly know –
 Little Baby,
 We would have loved you so!

— Joan D. Schmidt, TCF
 Spotswood, NJ

Vacations



Vacation time is upon us again. You may be having trouble with that very thought. My only advice is to go where it is most comfortable for you. Large places with many people may not be the answer this year. The family-oriented spots may make it more obvious that one of your blessings is missing. It may be that you are locked into plans that were made before the tragedy of your child's death. You may hesitate to change these plans if they involve other people. I personally could only be with people who understood my feelings in the beginning. If the other people involved are not sensitive and understanding, you may want to reconsider your plans. Good, warm, caring friends who will allow you to be wherever it is that you are can be a great comfort. Keeping it simple with a back door through which you can escape if necessary, can be the best answer. Going away and coming home can be a problem in the beginning. Know that this is normal.

Whatever it is that you do and wherever it is that you go, I hope you will keep in mind that it won't always be this painful. Be patient. If you can find any peace and enjoyment, do it. You deserve it and it doesn't mean that you don't care.

— Mary Cleckley, BP/USA
 Lawrenceville, GA

A Death Has Occurred

A death has occurred, and everything is changed by this event. We are painfully aware that life can never be the same again, that yesterday is over, that relationships once rich have ended. But there is another way to look upon this truth. If life went on the same without the presence of the one who died, we could only conclude that the life meant nothing. The fact that this person left behind a place that cannot be filled is a high tribute to this individual. Life can be the same after a trinket has been lost, but never after the loss of a treasure.

— Paul Irion, TCF
 Savannah, GA

~ Deep experience is never peaceful. ~

— Henry James

~ The one who wants a rose must respect a thorn. ~

— Persian proverb

Our Children Remembered

James William Aikin
Son of Earle Cleek
Grandson of Elizabeth and Barry Aikin
June 5, 1982 - March 18, 2008

William P. Anthony Jr.
Son of Bill and Linda Anthony
June 1, 1965 - January 2, 1999

Veronica "Ronnie" Anne Arata
Daughter of Rick Arata
June 12, 1968 - May 25, 2000

Deneen Leigh Bagby-Lins
Daughter of Jack and Audrey Bagby
June 21, 1957 - August 6, 1987

Jessie "Jay" W. Barnett IV
Son of Virginia Barnett
March 13, 1988 - June 15, 2005

Travis Brandon Beyerle
Son of Maren O. Sheidy
April 17, 1981 - June 23, 1995

Steven Allan Brown
Brother of Nancy McCamish
June 24, 1961 - June 17, 2007

Adam Nathaniel Buck
Son of Mitzie Levandoski
June 5, 1985 - March 5, 2009

Maranda Machele Callender
Daughter of Dean and Christina Callender
November 11, 1988 - June 2, 2006

Owen F. Carr IV
Son of Peggy Carr
June 29, 1978 - February 18, 2003

Joseph William Cranston
Son of Thomas and Mary Cranston
June 11, 1971 - June 11, 1971

Vincent Mark DiBerardinis
Son of Laura and Mark DiBerardinis
October 16, 1996 - June 14, 2002

Jack Turner Dumont
Son of Jill and Dave Dumont
June 26, 2003 - June 26, 2003

Dayden Alexander Dunn
Son of Ryan Dunn and Amanda Guinn
Grandson of Beverley and Wayne Dunn
Grandnephew of Mary and Ron Miscavich
September 12, 2006 - June 1, 2008

Joseph A. Esterling Jr.
Son of Joe and Michelle Esterling
June 7, 1967 - April 27, 1990

Ronald Wesley Farley
Son of Dorothy and Donald Farley
September 15, 1955 - June 28, 2000

Christina Ann Fisher
Daughter of Rick and Carol Wilson
December 17, 1985 - June 30, 2001

Daniel Paul "Danny" Freeburger
Son of Melanie Freeburger
June 4, 1959 - October 20, 2007

Eric William Herzberg
Son of Gina Barnhurst
June 7, 1986 - October 21, 2006

Sara Elizabeth Hohne
Daughter of Donald and Karen Hohne
January 2, 1980 - June 13, 2003

Colin David Humphrey
Son of Robert and Julie Humphrey
August 23, 1998 - June 16, 2001

Allison Carol Jimenez
Daughter of Carol and Russell Fritz
June 29, 1973 - August 2, 2005

Scott Andrew Katsikas
Son of Linda Snead
June 9, 1980 - August 13, 2004

Darin Michael Kilton
Son of Gil and Twanda Kilton
March 21, 1974 - June 5, 1985

Mark Charles Knepper
Son of Pat and Joe Knepper
June 28, 1968 - October 17, 1988

Adalbert Peter Kopec III
Son of Sue and Dal Kopec
Brother of Kelly Kramer
July 10, 1968 - June 21, 2008

Bryan Adam Krouse
Son of James and Judy Krouse
March 11, 1965 - June 29, 2007

Nicholas Paul Liberatore
Son of Larry and Pat Liberatore
September 27, 1980 - June 9, 1997

Michelle Anna Markey
Daughter of Shirley and Rick Markey
Sister of Robert Markey
June 19, 1992 - June 9, 2004

Christopher "Chris" Logan McFeely
Son of Samantha and Darell Sistik
Brother of Taylor Sistik
June 27, 1987 - January 15, 2005

Brian Richard Melcher
Son of Norma and Donald Melcher
Brother of Cheryl Lewis
August 30, 1960 - June 14, 2002

Kenneth Lee Merson
Son of Dottie Merson
September 1, 1960 - June 5, 2007

Our Children Remembered

Benjamin James Miller
Son of Laura and Curtis Miller
June 2, 2003 - June 6, 2003

Joshua Taggart Miller
Son of Sherry and Ed Miller
December 13, 1972 - June 16, 2005

Michael Wesley Miller Jr.
Son of Michael Miller Sr.
November 11, 1981 - June 19, 1985

Kyle Brenner Millman
Son of Susan Millman
October 27, 1976 - June 10, 1989

Julia Lyn Moore
Daughter of Dorothy Becker
August 22, 1973 - June 19, 2002

Gavin Alder Moore
Son of Karen Fedor and Jerry Moore
June 11, 2004 - June 11, 2004

Robert Antonio Morgan Jr.
Son of Paul and Kathy Waters
April 23, 1984 - June 21, 2003

Sarah Elizabeth Patterson
Daughter of Cindy Patterson
June 28, 1987 - September 19, 2006

Connor S. "Jag" Persons
Son of Deirdre Persons
June 19, 1990 - October 16, 2002

Rebekah Anna Raftovich
Daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Raftovich
December 24, 2002 - June 25, 2009

Daniel Keith Rogers
Son of Thomas and Lauri Rogers
June 16, 1981 - March 18, 2000

David C. Schmier
Son of Gordon and Virginia Schmier
June 26, 1964 - February 10, 1992

Karen Ann Scully
Daughter of Ann Boteler
June 30, 1970 - November 14, 2004

Scott Christopher Shaffer
Son of Barbara Shaffer
March 17, 1967 - June 5, 2004

Jeffrey Steven Simpson
Son of Stephen and Linda Maszgay
June 3, 1972 - June 21, 2002

Christopher John Smith
Son of Debi Wilson-Smith
March 27, 1981 - June 30, 2000

Laura Ann Smith
Daughter of Lois and Joel Smith
July 30, 1985 - June 7, 2003

Christopher Lewis Strader
Son of Lewis and Peggy Strader
May 27, 1979 - June 21, 1997

Erin Leigh Sullivan
Daughter of Shani and Edward Sullivan
March 31, 2006 - June 25, 2009

Deon J. Summers
Son of John E. Summers
June 5, 1989 - September 2, 2003

Heather Brooke Tepper
Daughter of Michelle Tepper
Granddaughter of LaVern Gipprich
June 11, 1986 - April 3, 2005

Michael Shane Wheeler
Son of Lita L. Ciaccio
June 22, 1976 - January 11, 1997

Albert Wallace "Wally" Whitby Jr.
Son of Rita and Albert Whitby Sr.
April 25, 1951 - June 2, 1981

Sean Amaro Wilcox
Son of Anne and DeWitt Wilcox
June 25, 2003 - June 24, 2003

Wayne Wilson Jr.
Son of Needra Gorman
November 22, 1968 - June 24, 2003

Note: If your child's name appears in the printed version of our newsletter but does not appear in this online version, it is because we have not received explicit permission from you to list it online. If you would like your child's name to also appear in future online editions of the newsletter, please send an email to dralex@sdaalex.com

Donations may be made to offset the costs of our local Chapter's events and communications. We gratefully acknowledge the following donations made in the last month:

Linda East in memory of her son Zachary Laurence Luceti

Charlotte and Donald Scott in memory of their daughter Michelle Inez Scott

Ken Smith in memory of his niece Tracy Ann Fotino

Ann and Don Waltman in memory of their granddaughter Taylor Amanda Waltman

It's time to update our Chapter's mailing lists. Please help us!!!

We would like to make sure that each person on our mailing list is receiving from the Chapter exactly what they want to receive...and nothing more. We want to provide all available information to anyone who wishes to receive it, but as you might imagine, printing and postage for the monthly newsletter and invitations to Chapter activities consume much of the Chapter's financial resources each year.

So, if you are receiving the newsletter or other mailings from the Chapter that you would prefer NOT to receive – please let us know by filling out the form below. Or, if you're interested in switching to receiving the newsletter online, you can let us know that, too.

We would like to hear from everyone -- even if you have no changes -- to make sure our database information is current. If we don't hear from you by June 30th, we will drop you from our mailing lists. Thanks for your help!

— Terre Belt, Chapter Leader

Provide the information below by checking the appropriate boxes. Then mail this form in an envelope **by June 30, 2010** to:

BP/USA AA County
PO Box 6280
Annapolis, MD 21401

- Remove** me from all of the Chapter's mailing lists
- Keep** me on all of the Chapter's mailing lists
- Keep** me on your newsletter mailing list
- Remove** me from your newsletter mailing list

I would like to receive the newsletter via email and a link to the Chapter's website.

My Email Address: _____

Keep me on the mailing list for the following events:

- Annual Conference
- Annual Service of Remembrance
- Annual Memory Walk
- Chapter Picnic

Comments: _____

Bereaved Parents of the USA Anne Arundel County Chapter

P.O. Box 6280

Annapolis, MD 21401-0280

www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NEXT MEETING June 3, 2010



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

The Grief Cycle

Thursday, June 3, 2010

Sarah Montgomery, a Life Center grief counselor specializing in loss and transition, will share her insights, experiences and life lessons in dealing with parents and families that have lost a child by suicide. Come and learn about the special challenges faced by those grieving such a loss.

Program TBD

Thursday, July 1, 2010

The program topic will be included in the July issue of the newsletter.

RESOURCES

Bereaved Parents of the USA

www.bereavedparentsusa.org or 708-748-7866

Hospice of the Chesapeake

www.hospicechesapeake.org or 410-987-2003

Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center

www.mdcrimevictims.org or 410-234-9885

Suicide Support Group

410-647-2550; meets the first Tuesday of each month in Severna Park, MD

MIS Support Group (miscarriage, infant death or stillbirth)

443-481-6114; meets the first Monday of each month in Edgewater, MD

Grief Recovery After a Substance Passing (GRASP)

www.grasphelp.com or 843-705-2217

We appreciate feedback on our Chapter meetings. If you have suggestions for future topics of discussion, please contact our Program coordinator: Paul Balasic at pjbspmd@gmail.com or 443.566.0193.