

# *Our Children Remembered*



*2005 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 4, 2005 ■ 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

Michaela Trnkova, Harpist

### GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

Dave Alexander, Chapter Leader

### SONG

"I Believe"\*

Stephanie Leger, accompanied by  
Marian Buck-Lew, DMA

### THE CREDO OF THE BEREAVED PARENTS OF THE USA\*

Noel Castiglia

### SONG

"I Hope You Dance" \*

Stephanie Leger, accompanied by  
Marian Buck-Lew, DMA

### READING\* AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Paul and Claudia Balasic

### READING

"We Remember Them"\*

All friends participate.  
We will be led by Debi Wilson-Smith.

### SONG

"Ave Maria"

Michaela Trnkova, Harpist

### A GRANDPARENT READING

"Lights of Love" \*

Carol Boslet

### SONG

"Remember"\*

Stephanie Leger, accompanied by  
Marian Buck-Lew, DMA

### A SIBLING READING

"My Sibling"\*

Michael J. Sheahy

### SONG

"All I Ask of You"\*

All friends sing. We will be led by Sharie Valerio.

### A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Father Joe Breighner

Cathedral of Mary Our Queen

### READING

"Say Their Names"\*

Gerald A. Valerio

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

### OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

Slide Presentation

### SONG

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

Marian Buck-Lew, DMA, Pianist

### CLOSING REMARKS

Janice Kunkel

### SONG

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"\*

All friends sing. We will be led by Sharie Valerio.

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.

This program was created lovingly by Terre Belt in memory of her daughter Cortney and her niece Traci, and by Mary Memminger in memory of her brother Jack Matthew Memminger. Program design by Randy Cook.

## “I BELIEVE”

(Words and music by Skip Ewing and Donny Kees)

Every now and then  
Soft as breath upon my skin  
I feel you come back again  
And it's like you haven't been  
Gone a moment from my side  
Like the tears were never cried  
Like the hands of time are holding you and me  
And with all my heart I'm sure  
We're closer than we ever were  
I don't have to hear or see,  
I've got all the proof I need  
There are more than angels watching over me  
I believe, I believe

Now when you die your life goes on  
It doesn't end here when you're gone  
Every soul is filled with light  
It never ends, if I'm right  
Our love can even reach across eternity  
I believe, I believe

Forever, you're a part of me  
Forever, in the heart of me  
I will hold you even longer if I can  
The people who don't see the most  
Say that I believe in ghosts  
And if that makes me crazy, then I am  
'Cause I believe, Oh I believe  
There are more than angels watching over me  
I believe, I believe

Every now and then  
Soft as breath upon my skin  
I feel you come back again  
And I believe

## “I HOPE YOU DANCE”

(Written by Mark D. Sanders and Tia Sillers)

I hope you never lose your sense of wonder  
You get your fill to eat  
But always keep that hunger  
May you never take one single breath for granted  
God forbid love ever leave you empty-handed  
I hope you still feel small  
When you stand by the ocean  
Whenever one door closes, I hope one more opens  
Promise me you'll give fate a fighting chance

And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance

I hope you dance I hope you dance

I hope you never fear those mountains  
in the distance  
Never settle for the path of least resistance  
Living might mean taking chances  
But they're worth taking  
Lovin' might be a mistake  
But it's worth making  
Don't let some hell bent heart  
Leave you bitter  
When you come close to selling out  
Reconsider  
Give the heavens above  
More than just a passing glance

And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance  
I hope you dance  
(Time is a wheel in constant motion always) I hope  
you dance  
(Rolling us along) I hope you dance  
(Tell me who) I hope you dance  
(Wants to look back on their years and wonder)  
(Where those years have gone)

I hope you still feel small  
When you stand by the ocean  
Whenever one door closes, I hope one more opens  
Promise me you'll give faith a fighting chance

And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance  
Dance

I hope you dance I hope you  
dance  
(Time is a wheel in constant  
motion always)

I hope you dance  
(Rolling us along) I hope you  
dance

(Tell me who) (Wants to  
look back on their years  
and wonder)

I hope you dance (Where  
those years have gone)

(Tell me who)

I hope you dance  
(Wants to look back on  
their years and wonder)



## 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.*

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,  
*We remember them.*

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,  
*We remember them.*

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,  
*We remember them.*

When we are weary and in need of strength,  
*We remember them.*

When we are lost and sick at heart,  
*We remember them.*

When we have joys we yearn to share,  
*We remember them.*

So long as ye live, they, too, shall live, for they are now a part of us,  
*As we remember them.*



## LIGHTS OF LOVE

(By Jacqueline Brown)

Can you see our candles burning in the night?  
Lights of love we send you  
Rays of purest white.

Children we remember  
Though missing from our sight  
In honor and remembrance  
We light candles in the night.

All across the big blue marble  
Spinning out in space  
Can you see the candles burning  
From this human place?

Oh, angels gone before us  
Who taught us perfect love  
This night the world lights candles  
That you may see them from above.

Tonight the globe is lit by love  
Of those who know great sorrow,  
But as we remember our yesterdays  
Let's light one candle for tomorrow.

We will not forget,  
And every year in December  
On Earth we will light candles  
As...we remember.

## “REMEMBER”

(By Josh Groban)

Remember, I will still be here  
As long as you hold me, in your memory

Remember, when your dreams have ended  
Time can be transcended  
Just remember me

I am the one star that keeps burning, so brightly,  
It is the last light to fade into the rising sun

I'm with you  
Whenever you tell my story  
For I am all I've done  
Remember, I will still be here  
As long as you hold me in your memory  
Remember me

I am the one voice in the cold wind that whispers  
And if you listen, you'll hear me call across  
the sky

As long as I still can reach out, and touch you  
Then I will never die

Remember, I'll never leave you  
If you will only remember me

Remember me...

Remember, I will still be here  
As long as you hold me in your memory

Remember, when your dreams have ended  
Time can be transcended  
I live forever  
Remember me

Remember me Remember... me...

Sometimes healing needs no words, but happens one small moment at a time around the edges – like stars on a spring night, each one bringing its small gift of light and hope, enough to bear us home across the twilight. *(Lois Bressell)*

## “MY SIBLING”

(By Michael J. Sheahy)

At night, as I sleep,  
I wonder if my brother will wander  
the streets of my dreams  
And when I rise in the morning,  
All I see is rain.  
It seems so lonely now...  
There are days I feel pain  
And some nights I lie awake in sorrow  
It's just not the same, today and tomorrow  
Not being able to see your face  
My friendships are not the same  
They're not what they used to be  
It's hard to explain  
Oh! I know, it's because you're not  
standing next to me

At times, I try to talk to my sibling  
And other times I cry and pray with my family

I miss my love one  
The bond between a brother or sister  
is as strong as they come

My heart goes out today,  
To all of you who came  
It's nothing, but respectful to light a candle  
in their name

I've learned a big lesson in my life,  
It hurts to grieve...  
And, a blessing can come  
Even in the misery of a tragedy.

## ALL I ASK OF YOU

(By Gregory Norbert)

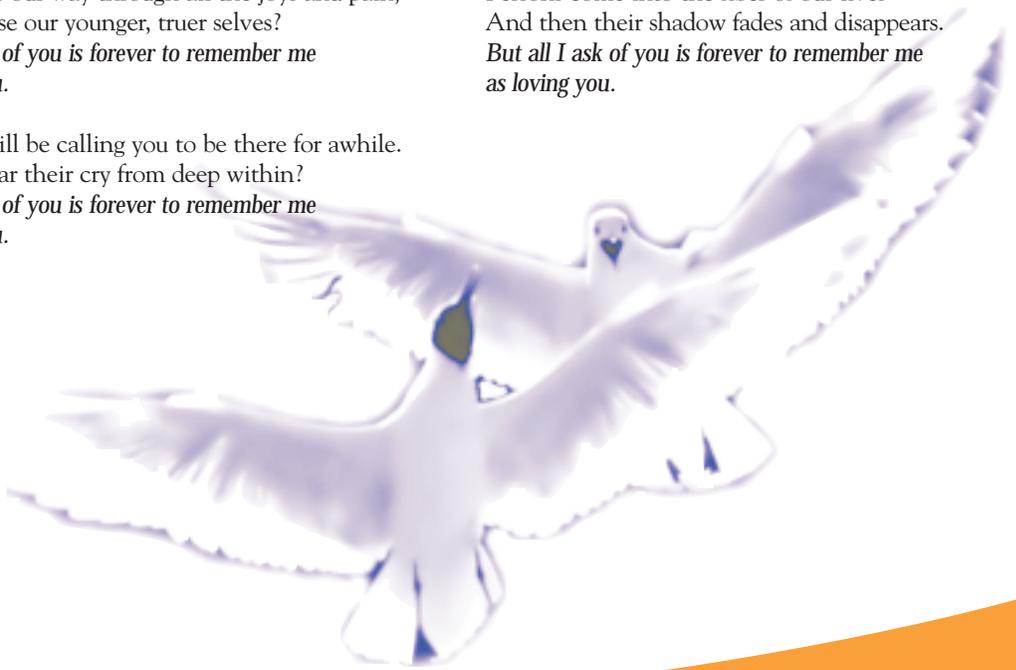
Deep the joy of being together in one heart  
And for me that's just where it is.  
*But all I ask of you is forever to remember me  
as loving you.*

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.*



Sunny days seem to hurt the most  
I wear the pain like a heavy coat  
The only thing that gives me hope  
Is I know, I'll see you again someday  
(Kenny Chesney)

# Say Their Names

(By Don Hackett)

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 past, but they are a part of our now. They are our hope for the future. You say not to remind us.

**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

Jon Russell Aikin	David Norton Cann	Phillip Wayne Gray Jr.
James William Henry	William Frederick Carter Jr.	Jeffrey Andrew Grimm
Alexander	Tria Marie Castiglia	Matthew Gordon Haines
Jordan Edward	Chrystal M. Clifford	Romana Alice Hale
Ambrozewicz	O. Steven Cooper	Brian Jeffrey Haley
Cito Arán	Brenda Leeann Costello	Devin Arthur Hall
Glorimar Arán	Kevin Machado Da Silva	McKayla Raeanne Hall
Elizabeth Sinton Archard	Joseph R. De Meo Jr.	Sidney Mark Hardesty Jr.
David Sheridan Astle	Vincent Mark DiBerardinis	Eric Paul Haynal
Merwede Baker	Michael J. Dickens Jr.	Michael Thompson Heany
Bethany Anne Balasic	Alexandra DiLego	Traci Jeanne Heincelman
Jeff Baldwin	Andrew Thomas DiLego	Charles "Chip" Marshall
Joseph Phillip Baressi IV	Michelle Marie Dyke	Hodges
Jay W. Barnett	Jason T. Easter	Sara Elizabeth Hohne
Susan Lawrence Barr	Isaac Paul Elliott	Thomas "Tommy" Michael
Cortney Michele Belt	Joseph Fredrick Errichiello Jr.	Howard
Jamie Bessling	Joe A. Esterling Jr.	Alison Marie Hylan
Richard Allen Bessling	Bill Evans	Sandrine J. Ingulia
Lisa Marie Bishop	Rebecca Lynn Faires	Ty'Lik De'Shawn Jenkins
Alex Blake	Ronald Wesley Farley	Kurt Willard Johnson
Edward Calvin Blakeney III	Barbara Jean Fennessey	Roger Wallace Johnson
Emily Ann Blazejewski	Andrea Faith Fiscus	Brian Keith Jones
Wendy Jean Bolly	Tracy Ann Fotino	Doray Delente Jones
Traci Lynn Boone	David Jonathan Frame	Jeremy Scott Jones
Nicholas Allen Bowling	Katie Fritz	Matthew James Katz
Linda Lou Boyce	Christopher Joseph Galdi	Gary Wayne Keats
Preston Leon Bromley	Craig Robert Galyon	Charles William Kelm
Paul Shane Brough	Kimberly Judith Gardner	Lilith "Lily" Sappho Kelm
Paul J. Burash	Theresa Karen Gardner	Kevin Murray Kerr
Eric Reynolds Burns	Andrew Thomas "Drew"	Chloe Victoria Kimbrell
Herbert John Buzby	Gawthrop	Troy Matthew Kotsol
David Ronnie Cain III	Christopher George	Logan Robert Kugler
Faith Campbell	Gilmour	Michael Robert Leger
Hannah Lindley Campbell	Sarah McSweeney Gray	Angela Dawn Leone

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!***

Michael Leone	Glynn Allen Owens	Misty Dawn Smith
Nicholas Paul Liberatore	Scott Thomas Palmer	Gary "Jake" David Spirt
Deneen Leigh Lins	Emily Marie Parker	Roderick "Rod" William Stallings
Alexis Michelle LoPinto	Elizabeth Anne Paschall	Luther "Scamp" Stowe II
Stephen Aaron Luck	Sydney Elaine Patronik	Christopher Lewis Strader
Timothy J. Mabe	John Christopher Poe	Russell "Rusty" J. Tarr
Ethan Matthew MacPherson	Nicholas Grant Poe	Shonto Taylor
Eric Eugene Maier	Kevin Eric Reichardt	Matthew Jason Temple
Kyle Patrick McDonough	Joseph William Remines	Heather Brooke Tepper
Christopher "Chris" Logan McFeely	Tanager Rú Ricci	Catie Lynne Thrift
Jolene Dawn McKenna	Charles "Charlie" Hubner Rice	David W. Tomaszewski
Michele Noble McKinley	Michael Louis Rixham	Marie Rose Trehey
Brian Richard Melcher	James Ryan Rohrbaugh	Marshall Maurice Tullier
Paul Brian Michael	Daniel Maurice Rothman	Brittany Nicole Tyler
Benjamin James Miller	Aaron Sebastian Royer	Timothy Allen Umbel
Calvin Russell Miller	Wendy Dawn Saunders	Darin Lacey Valerio
Graham Kendall Miller	Timothy A. Scaggs	Richard C. Watts
Kyle Brenner Millman	Anthony John Schaefer	Kevin Michael Wengert
Daniel "Dan" Michael Milord	Thomas Jeffrey Schall	Michael Shane Wheeler
Gavin Alder Moore	David Michael Schell Jr.	Daniel A. "Danny" Whitby
Julia Lyn Moore	Emily Ann Schindler	David W. Whitby
Chad William Muehlhauser	Kelly Ann Schultz	Albert W. "Wally" Whitby Jr.
Ryan John Mulloy	Karen Ann Scully	Sean Amaro Wilcox
Jennifer Margaret Neafsey	Donald "Donnie" L. Severe Jr.	Carole Anne Wilford
Kim Jonathan Nixon	Ryan Michael Sheahy	Grant Alan Williams
Michael Dwayne Nokes	Daniel R. Shockey	Samuel Mark Williams
Jonathan Michael Noon	Thomas "Tommy" Richard Short	Miriam Luby Wolfe
Michael Henry O'Malley	Rachel Beth Showacre	Eryn Noel Wright
John David "JD" Openshaw	Deonte Joseph Simms	Evyn Bryce Wygal
Adrian Bernard Andrew Ortega	Jason Edward Skarzynski	Roy James "Jay" Wyrick
	Christopher John Smith	

## 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.

### “LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth,  
The peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father,  
Brothers all are we.  
Let me walk with my brother,  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take,  
Let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment  
In peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.



**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.

***Grief is not eternal, but love is.***



