

# *Our Children Remembered...*



W. Eugene Smith  
The Walk to Paradise Garden  
1946

## *2007 Annual Service of Remembrance*

Anne Arundel County Chapter  
**BEREAVED PARENTS OF THE USA**

# THE CREDO OF THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE BEREAVED PARENTS OF THE USA

We are not alone.

We are the parents whose children have died.  
We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren.  
We are the aunts and uncles whose cherished nieces and  
nephews are gone.

We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters  
no longer walk with us through life.

We are here to support and care for each other.  
We are united by the love we share for our children.

We have learned that children die at any age  
and from many causes.

Just as our children died at all ages, we too are all ages.  
We share our pain, our lost dreams and our hopes for the future.

We are a diverse family.

We realize death does not discriminate  
against race, creed, color, income or social standing.

We are at many stages of recovery,  
and sometimes fluctuate among them.

Some of us have a deep religious faith,  
some of us have lost our faith, while some of us are still adrift.

The emotions we share are anger, guilt  
and a deep abiding sadness.

But regardless of the emotions we bring to our meetings,  
it is the sharing of grief and love for our children  
that helps us to be better today than we were yesterday.  
We reach for that inner peace as we touch each other's lives  
and place our hand print on each other's hearts.

Our hope for today is to survive the day;  
Our dream for tomorrow is gentle memories  
and perhaps to smile.

We are not alone  
We walk together with hope in our hearts!

# *Annual Service of Remembrance*

## **Anne Arundel County Chapter BEREAVED PARENTS OF THE USA**

Sunday, December 2, 2007 ■ 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\***

“Precious Child”

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by  
Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

#### **CHAPTER CREDO\***

Paul Balasic

#### **SONG\***

“If You Want Me To”

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by  
Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

#### **READING AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

Janet and Danny Tyler

#### **SONG\***

“Remember Me”

Sam Lohff

#### **RESPONSIVE READING\***

“We Remember Them”

Led by Debi Wilson-Smith

#### **A MOTHER’S READING\***

“Heaven Sent”

Claudia Balasic

#### **SONG\***

“Don’t Give Up”

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by  
Carl Standifer

#### **SIBLING READING**

“I Wish I Could Wish Forever”

Carla Castiglia

#### **A FAMILY TRIBUTE**

“If Tomorrow Starts Without Me”

Patrick Denault

Luke Denault

Jim Denault

#### **SONG\***

“All I Ask Of You”

All sing, led by Paula Muelhauser

#### **MESSAGE OF HOPE**

Pastor Dave Lohff

College Parkway Baptist Church

#### **READING**

“Say Their Names”

Gerard A. Valerio

#### **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\***

“With Hope”

Lisa Fenstermacher, accompanied by  
Paul Fenstermacher and Carl Standifer

Our thanks to St. Martin’s-in-the-Field for hosting this Service of Remembrance.  
We are also grateful to the talented musicians for their healing gift of music,  
and to all who contribute so generously to make this day possible.

This program was created lovingly by Suzanne Mulloy in memory of her son, Ryan,  
and by Mary Memminger in memory of her brother Jack Matthew Memminger.  
Program design by Randy Cook.



## PRECIOUS CHILD

*Words and Music by Karen Taylor-Good*

In my dreams, you are  
alive and well  
Precious child,  
precious child  
In my mind, I see you  
clear as a bell  
Precious child,  
precious child

In my plans, I was the first to leave  
Precious child, precious child  
But in this world, I was left here to grieve  
Precious child, my precious child  
In my soul, there is a hole  
That can never be filled  
But in my heart there is hope  
And you are with me still

In my soul, there is a hole  
That can never be filled  
But in my heart, there is hope  
'Cause you are with me still

In my heart you live on  
Always there, never gone  
Precious child, you left too soon,  
Tho' it may be true that we're apart  
You will live forever... in my heart

In my heart, you live on  
Always there never gone  
Precious child, you left too soon  
Tho' it may be true that we're apart  
You will live forever... in my heart

God knows I want to hold you,  
See you, touch you



## IF YOU WANT ME TO

*Words and Music by Ginny Owens*

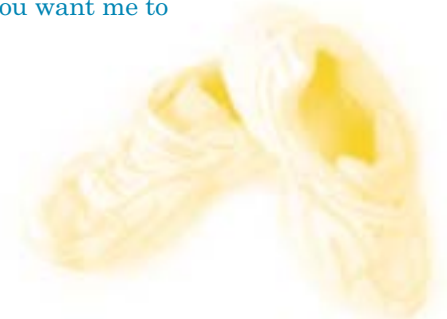
The pathway is broken  
And the signs are unclear  
And I don't know the reason  
why you brought me here  
But just because you love me  
the way that you do  
I'm gonna walk through the valley  
If you want me to

### **Chorus:**

Cause I'm not who I was  
When I took my first step  
And I'm clinging to the promise you're  
not through with me yet  
So if all of these trials bring me  
closer to you  
Then I will go through the fire  
If you want me to

It may not be the way I would have chosen  
When you lead me through a world that's  
not my home  
But you never said it would be easy  
You only said I'd never go alone

So when the whole world turns against me  
And I'm all by myself  
And I can't hear you answer  
my cries for help  
I'll remember the suffering your love  
put you through  
And I will go through the valley  
If you want me to



## 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.

## REMEMBER ME

*Words and Music by Mark Schultz*

Remember me  
In a Bible cracked and faded by the years  
Remember me  
In a sanctuary filled with silent prayers

### CHORUS:

And age to age  
And heart to heart  
Bound by grace and peace  
Child of wonder, child of God  
I'll remember you  
Remember me

Remember me  
When the color of the sunset fills the sky  
Remember me  
When you pray and the tears of joy  
fall from your eyes

### CHORUS

Remember me  
When the children leave  
their Sunday school with smiles  
Remember me  
When they're old enough to teach  
Old enough to preach  
Old enough to leave

### CHORUS

Age to age and heart to heart  
Child of wonder child of God

Remember me

Age to age and heart to heart  
Child of wonder child of God

## 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.*



## HEAVEN SENT

*By Peggy Walls - December 1998*

We are here to honor our children, share the sweetness of moments  
God given, Heaven sent. Of all people, we know Heaven's worth,  
for we have held angels in our arms when they walked this earth.

We kissed their little cheeks and held their dimpled hands,  
carefully guiding them as they passed through this land.  
In turn, they blessed us, as they left us earthbound.

Oh, who could love more than those whose lives by angels were touched,  
or feel such great sorrow as parents who have lost so much,  
who share together a bond of healing care and empathetic feeling.

In sharing that great love and the deep sorrow as well, the aching heart can heal.  
In pausing, we can remember  
the joy of their lives and cherish them still.

We remember our children now in the lighting of the flame.  
We remember their uniqueness as we call each name. In sweet remembrance  
We honor our children, Heaven sent.



## “DON'T GIVE UP”

*(Words and Music 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.

## I WISH I COULD WISH FOREVER

*Written by Jane Wallace*

I wish I could turn back the clock, just make time altogether stop  
I wish that you were here again  
I wish to see you smile  
I wish to hold you close  
I wish you were not dead  
I wish for all that was back then  
I wish that you could see the rainbow  
I wish that you could watch the children grow  
I wish you could come back to us  
I wish that grief would go  
Some may say I'm just wishing my life away, which isn't very clever  
But if wishing makes you at all alive— then I wish I could wish forever.

## IF TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

If tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you care for me, and how much I care for you,  
and each time that you think of me I know you'll miss me too;

But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand,  
that an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand,  
and said my place was ready in heaven far above,  
and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye,  
for all life, I'd always thought I didn't want to die.  
I had so much to live for and so much yet to do.  
It seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.  
I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun we had.  
If I could relive yesterday, I thought, just for a while,  
I'd say goodbye and hug you and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realized that this could never be,  
for emptiness and memories would take the place of me.  
And when I thought of worldly things that I'd miss come tomorrow,  
I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow.

But when I walked through Heaven's gates, I felt so much at home.  
When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne,  
He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you,  
Today your life on earth is past but here it's starts anew.  
I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last.  
and since each day's the same, there's no longing for the past.

But you have been so faithful, so trusting, so true.  
Though there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't do.  
And you have been forgiven and now at last you're free.  
So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?"

So if tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,  
for every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.

Author Unknown

## 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.*

# Say Their Names

(from "Say Olin to Say Good-bye", by Don Hackett)

THE TIME OF 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 they 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 spirit stirs within us always. They are of our past, but they are part of our now. They are our

Jon Russell Aikin

James William Henry  
Alexander

Jalen H. Alleyne

Jordan Edward Ambrozewicz

Cito Arán

Glorimar Arán

David Sheridan Astle

Douglas Lee Baer III

Deneen Leigh Bagby-Lins

Bethany Anne Balasic

Jeff Baldwin

Joseph Phillip Baressi IV

Susan Lawrence Barr

Cortney Michele Belt

Jamie Bessling

Richard Allen Bessling

Emily Ann Blazejewski

Alexandra Elizabeth Bolander

Wendy Jean Bolly

Traci Lynn Boone

Christopher Lewis Borngesser

Nicholas Allen Bowling

Linda Lou Boyce

Christine Elaine Bramhall

Paul Shane Brough

Paul John Burash

Herbert John Buzby

Russell Joseph Calo Jr.

Faith Campbell

Hannah Lindley Campbell

Scott Eric Caplan

William Frederick Carter Jr.

Tria Marie Castiglia

Emilia Morgan Claytor

Chrystal M. Clifford

O. Steven Cooper

Ashlea Marie Cranston

James Joseph Cranston

John Cranston

Joseph Cranston

Robert Michael Davidson

Kevin Grady Davis

Raymond Joseph Day

Joseph R. De Meo Jr.

Vincent Mark DiBerardinis

Michael J. Dickens Jr.

Thomas Barnard Doyle

Brian Edward Durner

Michelle Marie Dyke

Jason T. Easter

Isaac Paul Elliott

Joseph Fredrick Errichiello Jr.

Joseph A. Esterling Jr.

Rebecca Lynn Faires

Barbara Jean Fennessey

Andrea Faith Fiscus

Donald Richard Forbes III

Zachary Jay Forman

Tracy Ann Fotino

Melissa Ireland Frainie

Brandon Robert French

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.

Sarah McSweeney Gray

Jeffrey Andrew Grimm

Matthew Gordon Haines

Romana Alice Hale

Brian Jeffrey Haley

Devin Arthur Hall

Sidney Mark Hardesty Jr.

Galen Andrew Harig-Blaine

Eric Paul Haynal

Traci Jeanne Heincelman

Eric William Herzberg

Charles Marshall Hodges

Sara Elizabeth Hohne

Alison Marie Hylan

Sandrine J. Ingulia

Allison Carol Jimenez

Kurt Willard Johnson

Roger Wallace Johnson

Brian Keith Jones

Doray Delente Jones



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 expectations 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 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.

|                              |                           |                                |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jeremy Scott Jones           | Scott Thomas Palmer       | Heather M. Spindler            |
| Scott Andrew Katsikas        | Brian James Para          | Gary David Spirt               |
| Matthew James Katz           | Sydney Elaine Patronik    | Roderick William Stallings     |
| Kevin Murray Kerr            | Michael Patrick Patterson | William Henry Stevens          |
| Stephen William Kilian       | Patrick Michael Patterson | Christopher Lewis Strader      |
| Chloe Victoria Kimbrell      | Sarah Elizabeth Patterson | Russell Joseph Tarr            |
| Aaron Corban Lawson          | Michael Alfred Persetic   | Heather Brooke Tepper          |
| Michael Robert Legér         | John Christopher Poe      | Michelle Marie Tewey           |
| Nicholas Paul Liberatore     | Nicholas Grant Poe        | Reece Nelson Tolbert           |
| Zachary Laurence Luceti      | Jayla Monet Powell        | David William Tomaszewski      |
| Stephen Aaron Luck           | Joseph William Remines    | Brittany Nicole Tyler          |
| Timothy J. Mabe              | Tanager Rú Ricci          | Timothy Allen Umbel            |
| Eric Eugene Maier            | Zachary Daniel Robertson  | Darin Lacey Valerio            |
| Walter H. Maynard IV         | Dennis Richard Rohrback   | Anthony Gerald Villella        |
| Jolene Dawn McKenna          | James Ryan Rohrbaugh      | John Kirkpatrick Wallace       |
| Brian Richard Melcher        | Justin Michael Romberger  | Renetra Lotrice Wallace-Connor |
| Paul Brian Michael           | David John Rose           | Richard C. Watts               |
| Benjamin James Miller        | Daniel Maurice Rothman    | Kevin Michael Wengert          |
| Calvin Russell Miller        | Aaron Sebastian Royer     | Michael Shane Wheeler          |
| Graham Kendall Miller        | Philip Francisco Saff     | Albert Wallace Whitby Jr.      |
| Michael Wesley Miller Jr.    | Wendy Dawn Saunders       | Daniel A.S. Whitby             |
| Daniel Michael Milord        | Thomas Jeffrey Schall     | David William Whitby           |
| Edwin Brandon Molina Jr.     | Emily Ann Schindler       | Carole Anne Wilford            |
| Gavin Alder Moore            | Kelly Ann Schultz         | Grant Alan Williams            |
| Kevin Michael Morris         | Scott Christopher Shaffer | Samuel Mark Williams           |
| Chad William Muehlhauser     | Ryan Michael Sheahy       | Miriam Luby Wolfe              |
| Ryan John Mulloy             | Victoria Shimonkevitz     | Samuel Kingsley Wood           |
| Michael Dwayne Nokes         | Daniel R. Shockey         | Evyn Bryce Wygal               |
| John David Openshaw          | Jason Edward Skarzynski   |                                |
| Adrian Bernard Andrew Ortega | Christopher John Smith    |                                |



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

Ushers will escort those who choose to participate, row by row, to the front of the church to light a candle and to say their child's name. Parents, family and friends are invited to come forward at that time.

### TOUCH MY HEART

*Words and Music 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

### WITH HOPE

*Words and Music by Steven Curtis Chapman*

This is not at all how  
We thought it was supposed to be  
We had so many plans for you  
We had so many dreams

And now you've gone away  
And left us with the memories of your smile  
And nothing we can say  
And nothing we can do  
Can take away the pain  
The pain of losing you, but ...

We can cry with hope  
We can say goodbye with hope  
'Cause we know our goodbye is not the end,  
oh no  
And we can grieve with hope  
'Cause we believe with hope  
There's a place by God's grace  
There's a place where we'll see  
your face again  
We'll see your face again

And never have I known  
Anything so hard to understand  
And never have I questioned more  
The wisdom of God's plan

But through the cloud of tears  
I see the Father's smile and say well done  
And I imagine you  
Where you wanted most to be  
Seeing all your dreams come true  
'Cause now you're home  
And now you're free, and ...

We have this hope as an anchor  
'Cause we believe that everything  
God promised us is true, so ...

We wait with hope  
And we ache with hope  
We hold on with hope  
We let go with hope



## TIME

Time called, and it was your day to go,  
time to look ahead instead of looking back;  
a time for those who are bidden to know  
what is wishful thinking, and what is fact.  
I believe our loved ones come to meet us  
with open arms to take our hands;  
and walk with us on our journey home  
where all pain is gone, and beauty stands.  
Where age and grief and sickness have no meaning,  
and grace and love and brightness all abound;  
where peace and forgiveness reign over all,  
and love and eternal peace is finally found.  
Go, and find your land of eternal rest,  
where all who chose to love are blessed.

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### **After the Annual Service of Remembrance.....**

Thank you for joining us today. As you leave the sanctuary, you will receive a flower bulb wrapped in tissue paper. Plant this and let the spring bloom remind you of the beauty of your child and of 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. Special thanks to those whose generous contributions and labor of love made possible this celebration of our children's lives.



*May our hearts ever gaze on our loved ones,  
may their face ever live in our memory;  
may they live in our hearts forever  
'til we meet them again for eternity.*

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*For more information, write to:*

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**Annapolis, MD 21401**

**[www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org](http://www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org)**