

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	Scott Eric Caplan	Brandon Robert French
James William Henry Alexander	William Frederick Carter Jr.	Katie Fritz
Jalen H. Alleyne	Tria Marie Castiglia	Craig Robert Galyon
Jordan Edward Ambrozewicz	Emilia Morgan Claytor	Kimberly Judith Gardner
Cito Arán	Chrystal M. Clifford	Theresa Karen Gardner
Glorimar Arán	O. Steven Cooper	Jennifer Marie Garvey
David Sheridan Astle	Ashlea Marie Cranston	Steven Joseph Garvey
Douglas Lee Baer III	James Joseph Cranston	Andrew Thomas Gawthrop
Deneen Leigh Bagby-Lins	John Cranston	Christopher George Gilmour
Bethany Anne Balasic	Joseph Cranston	Phillip Wayne Gray Jr.
Jeff Baldwin	Robert Michael Davidson	Sarah McSweeney Gray
Joseph Phillip Baressi IV	Kevin Grady Davis	Jeffrey Andrew Grimm
Susan Lawrence Barr	Raymond Joseph Day	Matthew Gordon Haines
Cortney Michele Belt	Joseph R. De Meo Jr.	Romana Alice Hale
Jamie Bessling	Vincent Mark DiBerardinis	Brian Jeffrey Haley
Richard Allen Bessling	Michael J. Dickens Jr.	Devin Arthur Hall
Emily Ann Blazejewski	Thomas Barnard Doyle	Sidney Mark Hardesty Jr.
Alexandra Elizabeth Bolander	Brian Edward Durner	Galen Andrew Harig-Blaine
Wendy Jean Bolly	Michelle Marie Dyke	Eric Paul Haynal
Traci Lynn Boone	Jason T. Easter	Traci Jeanne Heincelman
Christopher Lewis Borngesser	Isaac Paul Elliott	Eric William Herzberg
Nicholas Allen Bowling	Joseph Fredrick Errichiello Jr.	Charles Marshall Hodges
Linda Lou Boyce	Joseph A. Esterling Jr.	Sara Elizabeth Hohne
Christine Elaine Bramhall	Rebecca Lynn Faires	Alison Marie Hylan
Paul Shane Brough	Barbara Jean Fennessey	Sandrine J. Ingulia
Paul John Burash	Andrea Faith Fiscus	Allison Carol Jimenez
Herbert John Buzby	Donald Richard Forbes III	Kurt Willard Johnson
Russell Joseph Calo Jr.	Zachary Jay Forman	Roger Wallace Johnson
Faith Campbell	Tracy Ann Fotino	Brian Keith Jones
Hannah Lindley Campbell	Melissa Ireland Frainie	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.....

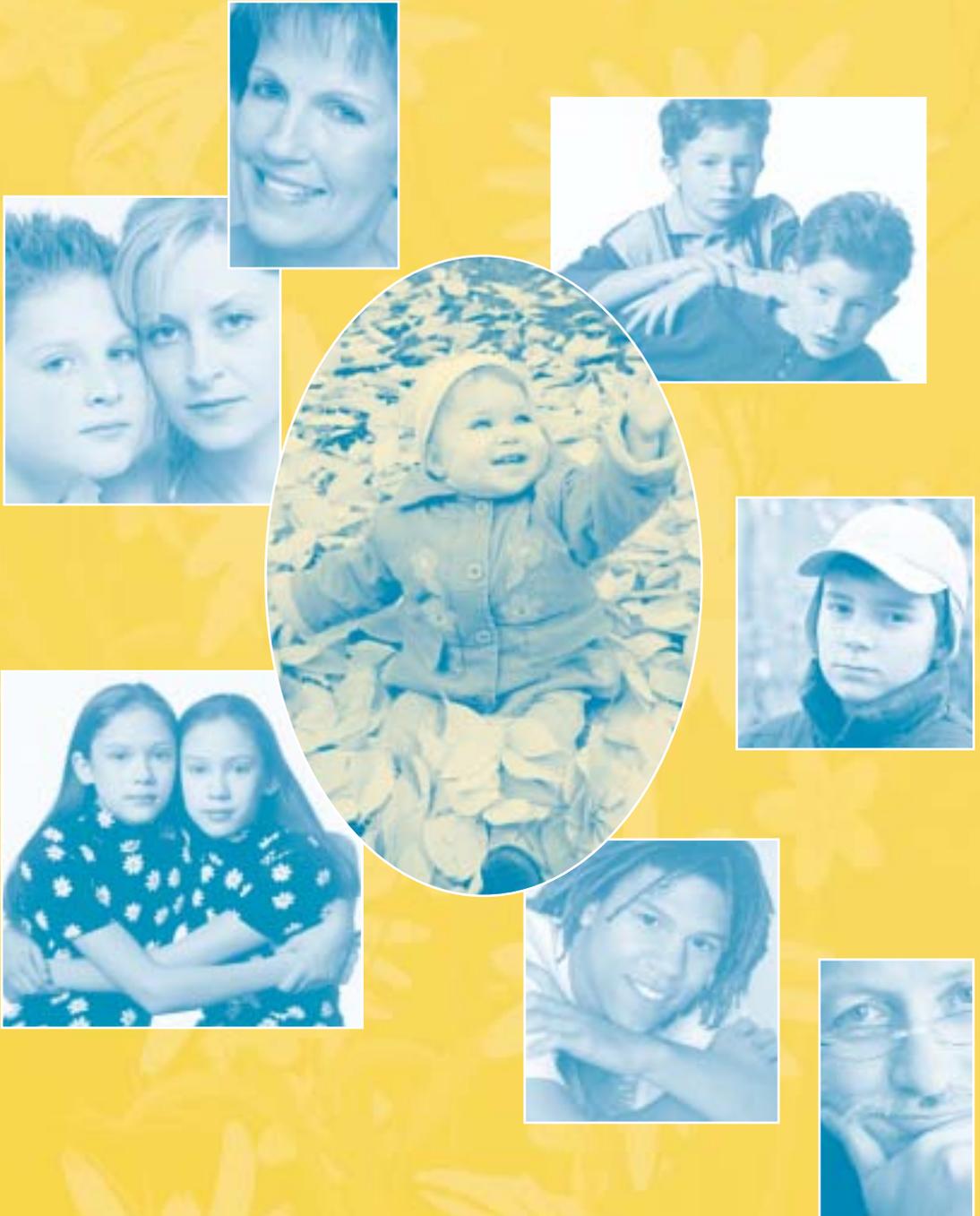
Thank you for joining us today. As you leave the sanctuary, you will receive a flower bulb wrapped in tissue paper. Plant this and let the spring bloom remind you of the beauty of your child and of our time together for this year's Service of Remembrance.

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:

BPUSA/ Anne Arundel County

P.O. Box 6280

Annapolis, MD 21401

www.aacounty-md-bereavedparents.org