July/August/September 2026
Volume 23, Issue 4

Bereaved Parents OF THE USA

Twenty-Three Years of Hope & Healing



On Sunday, September 20, 2026, join us at our Annual Picnic and Lotus Flower Lantern Release to remember all the children who died too soon but are still in the hearts of family and friends. As we release lotus flowers on the pond we are reminded of the beauty that our children brought into our lives.

Please bring a dish to share for our Pot-Luck Picnic. Chicken, Hot Dogs and Drinks will be provided by the chapter.

Each person will receive one lantern unless you request additional lanterns.

RSVP at the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948ACAE22A4F8CF8-64713377-annual

For more information contact us at: bpusanova@gmail.com or call Beverly at 540-628-4758 (h) or 703-395-9546 (c)

Note from your chapter leader:

Hello, Everyone!

The past few months have gone by so quickly! Where has the time gone? It's been a busy summer for some of us; although, too hot and stormy at times to do much. I hope everyone had a safe and good 250th birthday of our nation. I know some festivities had to be canceled due to the weather but it didn't dampen (no pun intended) the spirits of the people. Wishing all the best as we begin another year of independence.

I hope everyone has been able to keep up with events through the newsletter and emails. The is the first quarterly newsletter. Jodi is doing a great job as always but if anyone has a desire to help our chapter, and this would be something you are interested in, I'm sure Jodi would pass it on. Please let Jodi or me know. Also, please let me know if there are other things you are interested in helping with even if they haven't been mentioned.

Some have been busy with the Jiffy Lube concerts. If you have received the training and have not yet worked, please check the concert schedule in the email that is sent out. It's hard for the same people to repeatedly do them. We had no one sign up for July 15. I know we get busy and things come up but please check your schedules. Thank you to all that have volunteered so far. The season goes into October this year!

I want to let you know that as your new leader since February, I'm still organizing myself, learning and incorporating things from Jodi to do my best as the chapter leader. Jodi is a hard act to follow and she continues to help me as needed. Please be patient with me and I'll get there! As I said before, it's an honor to be your representative. Please feel free to contact me regarding any matters or concerns.

Just a reminder to please check your email at least 1-2 times a week for information on our chapter. The newsletter, information, and updates; along with sign up genius for events will be in your email. If you could respond with a "got it" or some quick acknowledgment, it would be greatly appreciated. If we don't hear anything then it's assumed that you received the emails. I just want to make sure that no one is left out.

Thank you for being a part of this important support group that no one wants to be a part of. Together we can hold each other up so we can continue on without our loved ones being here physically with us.

Love and hugs, Beverly, Chapter Leader

Butterfly Release Rescheduled



Due to the butterflies being delayed in shipping for the original date in July, we have rescheduled the butterfly release to Sunday, August 9, 2026.

If you RSVP'd for the July date and will be attending on August 9th, you do not need to do anything. We'll see you in August!

If you RSVP'd and now cannot attend, please send an email to bpusanova@gmail.com so we can edit your RSVP.

If you would like to attend and did not RSVP for July, please go to the link below and RSVP:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948ACAE22A4F8CF8-64005037-2026

Hope to see you at the Butterfly Release!

There is a meeting for everyone! Join us at one of these meetings!

Caring & Sharing Meetings

In-Person Meetings

First United Presbyterian Church
14391 Minnieville Road
Dale City, VA
4th Sunday @ 3:00 p.m.
(No Meeting in July)

Manassas Meeting
Manassas Church of the Brethren,
10047 Nokesville Road, Manassas, VA
1st Thursday @ 7:00 pm
(No meetings until October)

Zoom Meetings

2nd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89879420694?pwd=qmxZm5EKvH4CNE6sbyXvfscLQkLnde.1

For more information contact:
Beverly Ruane, Chapter Leader
540-628-4758 (h) or 703-395-9546 (c)
ruane.beverly@yahoo.com

Sibling Support Group

The Virtual Support Group is making changes to the virtual meetings and they will now be held on the 3rd Tuesday 7:30-9:00 pm.

If you are a bereaved sibling, over the age of 18, and are interested in participating in this Virtual Support Group, please contact Amanda Hughes, Sibling Coordinator at 202-596-7573 or siblings@bereavedparentsusa.org

AMORe

(All Murdered Offspring Remembered)

2nd Sunday @ 3:00 p.m.
3182 Golansky Blvd, Suite 101
Woodbridge, VA

A support group meeting for parents whose children have been murdered.

For more info contact:
Beverly Ruane
540-628-4758 (h) or 703-395-9546 (c)
ruane.beverly@yahoo.com

Ruckersville Support Group Meeting

3rd Sunday @ 2:00 pm

Four Seasons Clubhouse
Card Room
444 Four Seasons Drive
Ruckersville, VA 22968

For more information contact:
Linda Harkness 703-405-7379
harknesslm@gmail.com

"Love Lives On"
2027 Chapter Retreat
October 15-17, 2027
Roslyn Retreat Center
Richmond, VA

Refreshments at Meetings

If you would like to remember your child's birthday or the anniversary of his or her death, please bring your child's favorite cake or cookies to the meeting that month. Please let Beverly know that you will be bringing refreshments.

Garden News

Hello everyone,

It seems that the growing season just got started! I know I've missed planting things I had intended to because I thought I had more time. Time has passed me by in some things! Oh well, maybe next year. I'll just have to enjoy the things I have planted already.

Fortunately, the Memorial Garden didn't get passed over. In the Spring, weeds were pulled, flowers planted, and mulch spread. Summer came and we are still pulling weeds and planting flowers. The garden has been watered regularly by members in our chapter. During the extreme heat the garden needed to be watered daily. Fortunately, with watering and care the garden is thriving and beautiful. I want to thank Toni and John Payne, Deborah and Michael Atalla, Karen and Charlie Turchiano, and Jodi Norman for all their help in watering and caring for the garden. If there is someone I left out please accept my apologies and know that I greatly appreciate you, too. Without participation the Memorial Garden wouldn't be what it is today: a beautiful peaceful place to go to remember our children and siblings. This garden is a continual labor of love.

Our Butterfly Release is Sunday, July 12 at 5:30. I look forward to see everyone there. Please bring a chair because we are on the lawn next to the garden. Snacks and water will be provided. If it rains, make sure to check your email to see if it has been postponed. The butterflies will not fly in the rain. If it has to be postponed it would be held on Monday because the butterflies will not last past that day. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and we will continue as planned.

Once the Butterfly Release is over the garden care is not. We will need to continue watering and pulling weeds to maintain its beauty throughout the growing season. Anytime you go please pull a weed or weeds. It may not seem to help to pull a handful of weeds but it does. It's a few less weeds for someone else to pull. If you have time and can water that's appreciated, too. If you aren't sure about where the water is or what to do, we will be happy to show you. Always remember that the Bereaved Parents Memorial Garden is not just for a few children but for ALL our children. I believe they know and appreciate the care we give it in honor of them.

Love and hugs,
Beverly





There are dozens of tasks that go into running our chapter and our special events. If you feel you are now in a place in your grief journey where you can help and give back to the chapter in any little way, we would love your help. Most of us find that when we reach a point of giving back to those who come after us, we gain far more then we give.

Let Beverly Ruane know how you would like to help the chapter. Please feel free to contact her by home phone (540-628-4758), cell phone (703-385-9546) and/or email (ruane.beverly@yahoo.com).

Rock-It Creations

If you would like to have a rock in the Memorial Garden in memory of your child, sibling or grandchild, we highly recommend that you order through "Rock-It Creations." The rocks are river rocks and will last a life-time! Your rock can be personalized and customized. Please order the large size rocks, either the custom or standard rocks, for our Memorial Garden. There is no shipping charges or taxes on the rocks.

Go to Rock-It Creations' website to order a rock in memory of your loved one,
https://www.rockitcreations.com/



If you have any questions, contact Jodi Norman at 703-656-6999.

Tell Us Your Story



Interested in sharing your child's story for a book designed to give other Bereaved Parents hope?
We are looking for parents who would be willing to be interviewed and have their story written (with your approval) OR write your own story for submission.

Contact Sue Cerrone for more info at 703-819-8604 or Suebcerrone@gmail.com.

Picture Buttons

Anyone interested in a picture button of your child/children/sibling/grandchild, please let me know and I will make as many buttons as you would like to have.

Please email a picture, that you would like used to make a button, to bpusanova@gmail.com. If I already have a picture, just let me know how many buttons you would like and I will use the picture I have.

Please do not crop the pictures as the more space around the child the better!

Chapter Book Club



Our Book Club meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. We meet in person at Sue Cerrone's home, 15937 Cucumber Magnolia Way, Haymarket.

Next Meeting on October 29th

For more information contact Sue at suebcerrone@gmail.com or call 703-819-8604.

The next book is **Out of Order: When Parents Journey Through Child Loss** written by Brigitte Brown Jackson. The book is available on Amazon.

Please Check E-mails & Facebook

Almost all of our Chapter Communication is done via email. Please check your emails at least once a week. Everything from the newsletter to Chapter Announcements are sent through email. It would also be helpful to respond to all emails sent regarding the Chapter. That lets me know that you did see the email and that I have a correct email address – a simple "got it" would be better than no response at all!

It would also be helpful if you would join our private Facebook page. Please check this page on a regular basis. A Facebook page has been set up for our chapter. Members can join our group at Bereaved Parents of the USA/Northern VA Chapter. This is a closed group for privacy purposes, so nothing posted here will go into your regular News Feed for your regular FB friends to see. Request to join the group and approval will be sent to you.

Check Out Our Website
http://www.bpusanova.com

I need everyone's help in updating our website. If you have not already done so, please write a bio of your child and include a photo or a collage of pictures to include in "Our Children Remembered" Section. We would like to have all the children of our chapter included on this page. Please send submissions to Jodi at bpusanova@gmail.com.

Attention:
If you do not wish to continue to receive this newsletter or be on our mailing list, please let us know by contacting bpusanova@gmail.com.

Thank you!



Join us on **Saturday, October 3, 2026** to put together birthday cake kits for Mercy House Food Pantry. We will be meeting at **Manassas Church of the Brethren,** 10047 Nokesville Road, Manassas. We will put the cake kits together starting at 10:00 a.m. with a pot-luck luncheon to follow.

RSVP: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948ACAE22A4F8CF8-64713408-birthday

Celebrating birthdays is a big deal, especially for young children! Their excitement about turning another year older, enjoying a delicious cake, and being showered with attention is contagious. But for some families, celebrating a child's birthday with all the trimmings can be a challenge financially and can not provide what is needed. That's where we can step in to help by creating **birthday cake kits** for our **local food pantry in memory of our precious children who can no longer celebrate.**

Items needed for the kits:

- **a box of cake mix (any flavor)**
- **frosting (Dollar Tree Frosting is the perfect size)**
- **1 can of any flavor soda (store brand will work)**
- **birthday candles**
- **sprinkles or cake decorations**
- **Birthday Card**
- **Ribbon to tie the kit together**

In Memory of Matthew Ruane



Hello. Everyone enjoys talking about their children so I would like to share about my son, Matthew Allan Ruane. Matthew was born on September 7, 1983 at Fairfax Hospital. He was the third child and the only boy in our family, now a family of five. He had two sisters aged three and two, Erin and Monica, respectively. We lived in a townhouse in Dale City, Virginia where all our children would grow up.

As a baby he was the easiest of the three. He would take long naps, sleep later than most in the morning, and go to bed early. When he became a teenager the sleeping part would be a problem which I'll mention a little later. He was an easy-going child and enjoyed playing outside with his sisters and the neighborhood kids. Kickball and riding bikes were the games of choice for all the children. When Matthew played inside, he loved to play with his Ninja Turtles and He-Man. He collected comic books and baseball cards. Matthew got along with everybody and nobody was a stranger. He was well liked as a young boy and continued to be well liked as he grew older.

When he started kindergarten, he was in the afternoon class. In those days kindergarten was half days and I was so grateful that he was in the afternoon. Morning kindergarten would have been a disaster for him because, as I mentioned, he was a good sleeper. Matthew did very well at Dale City Elementary where all the children would attend. He was very intelligent and was in the gifted program, and scoring high on the SOLs. In the fifth grade the students were offered the chance to a learn a string instrument. He wanted to be different from his sisters so he chose Violin. They had chosen Viola. He enjoyed reading; especially, sports books for young readers written by Matt Christopher. He played baseball for a year but decided not to after that. He was very active in Boy Scouts from Tiger Cubs, in which I was the leader, into middle school when his troop folded and we couldn't find one that he enjoyed attending. Matthew was also very active in Woodbridge Christian Church youth group where we attended, and where he was baptized. When he was seven his youngest sister, Rachel, was born. He was so upset to start with because he wanted a baby brother but the more he thought about it he was happy his youngest sibling was a girl. He didn't have to share his bedroom!

Godwin Middle School was more of a challenge. It's always such a transition from elementary to middle school, not only for the child but for the parents. Matthew would be moody, as is the age, and started not to do as well in school. He would be distracted and say it was boring. When he was in elementary school I suspected he was ADD, no hyperactivity. I tried to get the school and doctor to test him but they wouldn't because they disagreed with me. He didn't have the hyperactivity so they didn't think he had ADD. School was a battle but despite the normal middle school personality he was a very easy-going child that loved his siblings, and stood up to anyone that picked on his baby sister. Gradually, with a lot of guidance and hard work from Matthew and me, he did well through the rest of middle school. During middle school he continued to play the Violin until high school when he decided that he was done. One of my fondest memories of Matthew playing the Violin was during the Christmas concert when the orchestra was playing Christmas Canon. While he was playing, he dropped his bow. Of course, I gasped. He just looked down at it, smiled, picked it up, and continued on. To this day I can't hear that song at Christmastime without getting tearful and thinking of that night. After issues with middle school education, Matthew progressed to Garfield High School. Things seemed to start out good in the ninth grade but after a little while the same issues with the grades of this bright child raised their ugly heads. Again, he was distracted and bored, and at times a little depressed. I know he was as frustrated as we were. Nothing would keep his attention but video games which he loved playing. After going around and around with teachers, doctors, and the school he finally received the medicine for ADD that he needed and it made a world of difference in him. Unfortunately, it was too late for him to pass the ninth grade. He restarted the ninth grade the next year but began having problems because of sleep (remember the sleep issue from young childhood?). After trying to work with the principal, I made the decision to take him out and homeschool Matthew. He would wake up usually around 10:00 am, eat breakfast and do his schoolwork. Straight A's. Unfortunately, he was never able to graduate. Since Matthew was now home, he was able to get a part-time job. At the Christmas and Easter seasons he would help out with the photoshoots at Potomac Mills Mall with Santa and the Easter Bunny. He also tried to work at making pretzels at a place in the Mall but that wasn't for long. He had an even shorter job at Target. The day after they hired him he came down with the flu. He was so sick and out for a week. They let him go. Then he got a job at Toys R Us working nights stocking. That was perfect for him because he was not a morning person. He worked there for awhile then the store cut staff for the nights. A few months later they asked him back for day shift. I was concerned about that being days but he assured me he would be fine. We never found out because he died the night before he was to begin working.

As a teenager there were the typical and sometimes not teenager issues which sometimes caused difficulties but things would always be worked out. Matthew was a kind, generous, thoughtful child that could make you smile and whom you couldn't stay upset with. All he had to do was look at me with his quirky smile and that dispelled any anger. I know it's a cliche but he would give you the shirt off his back. One time, I assumed he was at a friend's house but he hadn't told me where he was going. When he got home, I was upset with him because he hadn't told me. I found out he was down the street from our house babysitting for someone he knew. She had two children at home and pregnant with a third. She needed to go to the grocery store and was planning to take the kids so he volunteered to watch them while she went to the store. That's just one of the stories I've found out over the years. Matthew and I would sometimes butt heads but he would talk to me about some things (kids rarely tell you everything) that he didn't talk to others about. We would sometimes have late night conversations when we couldn't sleep (remember Matthew was a night owl). One of the activities Matthew enjoyed was playing darts. David, his dad, played darts and was on a dart team. David would take Matthew to youth shoots, dart nights, and teach him the ins and outs. Matthew joined the team and he and David were partners. He was good at darts and competition for others. Matthew wanted to join another 2-man league in addition to the leagues they were on already. They had planned to during the week he died.

I could go on and on about Matthew. I have so many more stories I could tell about his short life of 18 years. I so wish that I could have had many more years with him and more stories to tell. Unfortunately, someone decided for us that it wouldn't be. I know if any of you had ever been able to meet Matthew and get to know him you would have had a forever friend. I love and miss you my baby boy. By Beverly Ruane, Matthew's Mom



We Remember Our Children Who have Birthdays and Death Dates in July, August and September

Lisa Abaunza
9/17/96 ~ 7/07/12

Simi Abrol
9/12/84 ~ 4/01/18

Michael Alcantara II
8/04/05 ~ 5/15/24

Jason Alexander
7/02/74 ~ 7/24/13

Zachary Arnold
9/23/84 ~ 5/11/14

Samuel Aylesworth, Jr.
9/22/63 ~ 3/07/22

Chad Michael Bailey
9/14/77 ~ 3/25/20

Liam Bailey-Edmondson
9/22/15 ~ 9/22/15

Cora Bardwell
8/24/98 ~ 7/10/20

Stephanie Webber Bartley
9/29/87 ~ 12/20/16

Scott R. Barley
12/07/81 ~ **9/29/11**

Jimmy Barnette
7/11/98 ~ 6/03/06

Suzanne Baughan
9/18/73 ~ 2/18/20

Jayden Lee Beale
9/29/08 ~ 9/29/08

Jennifer Becker
12/30/67 ~ **7/26/70**

Brandon Berenson
11/24/92 ~ **8/30/21**

Trevor Blake
10/30/01 ~ **8/11/13**

Michael Booker
6/06/99 ~ **9/03/20**

Parker Boyd
9/15/98 ~ 6/04/08

Baron "Deuce" Braswell
9/29/89 ~ 1/20/06

Kenny Brooks Jr
8/13/82 ~ 1/14/06

Jason Brunsman
8/21/04 ~ 2/14/24

Claire Buckley
7/27/11 ~ 11/17/16

Brandon Bundy
5/19/84 ~ **8/24/08**

Jaiden Carter
3/26/03 ~ **9/04/22**

Hailey Cavin
6/11/95 ~ **8/17/23**

Pamela Sue Chaiken
1/17/64 ~ **9/29/95**

Lisa Marie Champlin
10/16 ~ 9/02

Christopher Chapman
8/01/88 ~ 1/13/07

Eddy Chavez
2/07/06 ~ **9/20/10**

Jason A. Clover
7/30/84 ~ 9/28/03

David Cobb
7/02/98 ~ 10/23/15

Todd Coder
7/23/84 ~ **9/24/10**

Sarah Cole
8/06/80 ~ 4/23/11

Michael Costanzo
7/07/98 ~ 12/22/20

Rosanna Crist
4/10/86 ~ **7/30/23**

Ryan Cross
7/12/97 ~ 7/26/17

Anthony Cruz-Santos
7/06/04 ~7/12/21

Terry Cunningham, Jr
9/02/94 ~ 9/30/17

Gregory Dennis
8/26/98 ~7/26/17

Corey Dill
7/25/90 ~ 5/03/07

Forrest Dotson
8/25/79 ~ 4/19/17

Michael A. Doyle
9/17/81 ~ 3/12/18

David Drumheller
8/30/89 ~ 6/20/16

Bryan Eastes
8/18/80 ~ 4/18/17

James "Scott" Edwards
10/16/83 ~ **9/02/20**

Matthew Eng
9/16/92 ~ 6/24/23

Val Ensor, Jr.
8/2/94 ~ 1/21/16

Elizabeth Erickson
7/23/89 ~ 9/14/89

Robert Finch
7/27/70 ~ 1/02/01

Omisha Flagg-McDowell
8/28/80 ~ 7/08/21

Rhonda Flannery
7/31/63 ~ 11/10/01

Ryan Fox
4/10/84 ~ **7/29/24**

Bruce Foxworthy
8/29/75 ~ 2/11/12

Clay Haga
12/09/88 ~ **8/26/19**

Charlotte Gaston
7/21/98 ~ 6/23/21

Erin Gaston
9/27/80 ~ 10/31/08

John Gregory
9/21/73 ~ 6/03/13

Gray Mason Hall
2/22/01 ~ **9/01/24**

Aliyah Henderson
5/20/03 ~ **8/23/22**

Nathan Hamilton
7/19/99 ~ 9/04/18

Ashley Hoefling
8/22/85 ~ 2/08/17

Victoria Holman
12/27/98**- 07/23/22**

William Clayton Holt
9/10/84 ~ 12/23/17

Daniel Houston
8/10/68 ~ 6/13/16

Olivia Howard
12/31/91 ~ **9/03/09**

Nicholas Hoy
5/16/95 ~ **9/10/23**

Ethan Humphrey
6/23/16 ~ **7/22/16**

Kyle Irwin
7/27/92 ~ 4/21/20

Devonte Lee Ivy
6/16/00 ~ **9/16/19**

Jason Jackson
8/20/92 ~ 9/12/15

Ryan James
2/17/99 ~ **7/06/19**

Rasheem Jenkins
5/04/82 ~ **9/09/09**

Cody Johnson
9/11/02 ~ 3/06/09

John Kennedy
1/16/94 ~ **8/11/18**

Ryan Khazmo
7/10/02 ~ 10/16/21

Matthew King
5/16/79 ~ **9/08/21**

Kwadwo Kusi
3/20/06 ~ **7/26/08**

Thomas Langston
4/05/92 ~ **8/04/18**

April Lillicotch
7/27/04 ~ 2/24/20

Robert Loiseau
8/22/72 ~ 5/27/93

Sara Lott
11/01/95 ~ **7/23/08**

Kyle Ludeman
4/12/93 ~ **8/27/13**

Brienna Lux
8/09/90 ~ 8/17/20

Robert Maples
6/07/76 ~ **7/05/18**

Kevin McGuin
2/08/88 ~ **8/26/08**

"Tabor" McMullen
1/26/84 ~ **8/31/12**

Derek Meffert
4/21/95 ~ **8/15/10**

Annie Mirabal
8/02/84 ~ 10/27/16

Michael Moore
7/13/71 ~ 1/09/09

Christina Morgan
7/30/80 ~ 3/13/02

Johnny Mullins
7/11/61 ~ 1/22/02

Elijah Nealey
9/08/10 ~ 8/22/12

Nicholas Nelson
7/16/90 ~ 4/19/18

Karl Nicolai
5/08/70 ~ **8/05/24**

Brian Ogden
7/4/87 ~ 12/24/17

Steven O'Neill
9/04/75 ~ 9/06/75

Kim Ouren
9/19/57 ~ 7/22/18

Thomas Parker
8/26/92 ~ 4/15/19

Jamie Edward Parr, III
10/03/78 ~ **09/10/24**

Evan Peugh
8/03/90 - 4/26/14

Catzby Pitzvada
8/07/88 ~12/17/19

Zane Pitzvada
8/22/92 ~ 9/14/11

Linda Plewes
7/16/51 ~ 3/21/02

Kylene Privett
12/14/83 ~ **8/13/07**

Khalif Privott
7/21/94 – 7/13/16

Ronald Ralph, Jr
7/27/66 ~ 11/04/02

Clarke "Dani" Reese
8/31/93 ~ 2/25/07

Tim Roman
11/20/63 ~ **9/05/09**

Matthew Ruane
9/07/83 ~ 4/29/02

Carl Runion
7/27/94 ~ 5/14/21

Vernon Santmyer, Jr.
8/24/79 ~ 5/17/11

Matthew Scott
8/07/78 ~ 7/19/20

Gene "Tony" Sergent
8/10/87 ~ 9/14/07

Leiliana Shwartz
7/11/09 ~ 6/02/24

Klee Simmons
3/27/89 ~ **8/09/15**

Sean P. Simmons
8/05/80 ~ 3/17/26

Brandon Simms
10/10/80 ~ **7/14/95**

Cody Slayton
12/11/12 ~ **8/09/21**

Liam Slayton
8/17/16 ~ 8/09/21

Adelacia Smalley
8/6/94 ~ 10/19/02

Benjamin Smith, III
6/07/91 ~ **9/25/11**

Kevin Smith
8/24/79 ~ 3/28/16

Tyler Smith
9/20/92 ~ 8/01/06

Daniel "Cody" Starr
4/13/88 ~ **7/30/20**

Robert Starling
8/02/93 ~ 2/04/18

Michael "Ryan" Stevens
7/07/87 ~ 5/30/07

Graham Stevenson
3/30/85 ~ **9/22/07**

Grace Stone
8/20/99 ~ 11/01/18

Margaret Suliga
4/23/87 ~ **9/02/19**

Jerry Taybron
11/21/75 ~ **8/18/07**

Bill Thompson
9/14/51 ~ 4/19/17

Dana Thrall
8/02/75 ~ 1/02/01

Austin Trenum
3/26/93 ~ **9/27/10**

Anthony Turchiano
8/04/79 ~ 4/29/17

Ruben Urbina
4/22/02 ~ **9/15/17**

Chris Vogel
9/22/69 ~ 10/14/10

Mindy Weakley
12/20/83 ~ **9/02/09**

Josh Weaver
6/17/82 ~ **9/09/09**

Keith Alan West
9/22/66 ~ 11/25/10

PFC Robert White
1/31/82 ~ **07/29/02**

Jessica Dove Williams
9/18/89 ~ 12/05/19

Kisha Woods
8/06/17 ~ 8/06/17

Kevin Woods
12/08/93 ~ **8/06/14**

Jakari D. Wright
3/31/97 ~ **8/18/18**

We apologize if there are any mistakes in the "We Remember Our Children" section. If we spelled any names incorrectly, have any dates incorrect or your child's name is not listed and has a birthday or death date during the months of July, August, and September please provide us with your child's information so they can be included correctly in future newsletters.

Bereaved Parents of the USA Credo

We are the parents whose children have died. We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters no longer walk with us through life. We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren.

We come together as Bereaved Parents of the USA to provide a safe space where grieving families can connect, share our stories, and learn to rebuild our lives.

We attend meetings whenever we can and for as long as we find helpful. We share our fears, confusion, anger, guilt, frustrations, emptiness, and feelings of hopelessness, knowing these emotions will be met with compassion and understanding. As we support, comfort and encourage one another, we offer hope and healing. As we confront the deaths of our loved ones, our shared grief brings us to a common ground that transcends differences, building mutual understanding across the boundaries of culture, race, faith, values, abilities, and lifestyle.

Together we celebrate the lives of our children, siblings, and grandchildren, sharing the joys and the heartbreaks as well as the love that will never fade. Together, strengthened by the bonds we create, we offer what we have learned from one another to every bereaved family, no matter how recent or long ago the death.

We are the Bereaved Parents of the USA.
We welcome you.

Chapter Newsletters

I would like to add a new feature to our newsletters. I would like to spotlight our children with their photo and to introduce them, who they were, what they did, what were their favorite things, what were their dreams. Basicly, tell me about your child!

If you like to write and would like to contribute to our chapter newsletters, I would love to include your writings about your grief journey in our newsletters. Our Newsletter is published 4 times a year. Email submissions to bpusanova@gmail.com.

Chapter Contact Information

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Bereaved Parents of the USA
www.bereavedparentsusa.org

Chapter Leadership

Chapter Leader: Beverly Ruane
Co-Leaders: Debbie & Tim Shirt
Manassas Meeting Leaders: Sue Cerrone, Melody Ridgeway
Book Club Leader: Sue Cerrone
Ruckersville Leader: Linda Harkness
Web Site, Facebook and Newsletter Editor: Jodi Norman

2026 Events
Mark Your Calendar and Save the Dates

July 24-26 – National Gathering, Pittsburgh, PA

Sunday, July 26 – No Meeting

Sunday, September 20 – Annual Picnic & Lotus Flower Release, Locust Shade Park

Saturday, October 3 – Birthday Cake Kit Luncheon

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 – Pot Luck Dinner at Larson Home

Sunday, December 13 – Annual Service of Remembrance

*Dates and Events are subject to change