October/November/December 2026
Volume 23, Number 5

Bereaved Parents OF THE USA
NORTHERN VA CHAPTER

Twenty-Three Years of Hope & Healing

Please join us in celebration of our children's lives as we enter this Holiday Season with Love, Compassion and Hope for all

Annual Service of Remembrance

Sunday, December 13, 2026

6:00 p.m.

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

14391 Minnieville Road, Dale City, VA



Program will consist of readings, music, slideshow of our children and lighting candles in their memory

RSVP at the following link by Wednesday, December 2, 2026

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948ACAE22A4F8CF8-66638502-annual

The Annual Service of Remembrance provides an opportunity for parents, grandparents, siblings, relatives and friends to remember our precious children. Please join us in celebration of our children's lives as we enter this Holiday Season with Love, Compassion and Hope for all.





We encourage people to participate in the program. *If you would like to participate in the program by doing a reading, provide music, read the names or anything else you would like to do, please let Bev know by Wednesday, December 2nd.*

Slide Presentation *~ During the program, we will be presenting a slide presentation of our children. To have your child(ren) included, please provide a photo of your child, sibling or grandchild to Jodi Norman, 539 Harrison Circle, Locust Grove, VA 22508. Photos can be mailed or e-mailed to bpusanova@gmail.com. If you are sending an original photo to be scanned, it will be returned to you. Also, provide the child's name, date of birth and date of death.* ***Deadline to submit a photo is Wednesday, December 2nd.*** *Any questions, contact Jodi at 703-656-6999.*

Fellowship and Pot Luck Dinner to follow the service. *Please bring a main dish, salad, side dish or dessert to share.* ***Beverages will be provided****.*

Please bring a framed photo of your child *(no larger than 8x10) identified with your child's name and age. A table will be set up for you to display your child's picture.*

This year we have chosen Boredom Busters as our charity to support this Holiday Season. For more information and ideas for items to bring to the Service of Remembrance see the flyer in this newsletter. If you can't attend and want to participate check out their Amazon Wish List.

Poinsettias *will be used to decorate for our Service. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia in memory of your child, we are asking for a $15 donation. You will take the poinsettia home with you at the end of the evening. Please let Bev know by Wednesday, December 2nd , if you would like to sponsor a poinsettia.*

Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with the service starting promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Any questions, please contact Bev at ***540-628-4758 (h) or 703-395-9546 (c) or email: ruane.beverly@yahoo.com***

Bereaved Parents Group

We're collecting donations for

BOREDOM BUSTERS

Small gifts make a BIG difference!



Boredom Busters provides gift bags filled with toys, treats and encouragement to children and young adults with life-threatening illnesses and cancer.

Your donation helps bring smiles, hope and joy.

Items We Can Use:

- Legos
- Playdoh
- Coloring Books
- Card Games
- Or Anything New a Child Might Like!

(crafts, puzzles, books, fidget toys, sports items, art supplies, etc.)

Amazon Wish List

Search for our wish list:

boredom-busters.org/donate

You can also shop directly on Amazon and have items shipped to us.

Thank you for helping us make a difference!

Boredom Busters

One Lego at a time

Boredom Busters · Nonprofit · www.boredom-busters.org
Instagram: @BoredomBustersInc · Email: boredombusters2004@gmail.com

Hello Friends,

This is the last newsletter for the year. As always it will be packed with important information on events and meetings for the rest of the year: places, dates, and times so please read and take note. Add the dates to your calendar whether it is digital or written (as mine is) then you will have them readily available. Also, make sure to read your email because reminders of events and meetings will be sent out via email. This is done in the newsletter and multiple emails so as not to be missed. If you are ever unsure about events or meetings coming up please contact me. My numbers and email are listed in the newsletter.

Here we are on the last quarter of 2026. This year seems to have flown by. I know as for me there have been many projects that were planned in the beginning of the year but as life has it, most were not completed or even started. I'm sure some of you can identify. Even though the projects I personally planned didn't come about, our Northern Virginia Chapter has accomplished a lot this year. We've had dinners, potlucks, a picnic, butterfly release, cake kit/luncheon, book club, support group meetings, and fundraising at Jiffy Lube Live concerts. We still have more to do with the concerts finishing up in October, potluck, and our Service of Remembrance in December; and our support group meetings. Next year we have more planned with our Retreat coming up in October 2027, along with get-togethers and meetings. 2027 is going to be another great year!

Jiffy Lube Live concert concessions are our big fundraiser. Thanks to Jodi Norman for organizing and arranging for our BP chapter to volunteer. Thank you to all that have volunteered to work over these months to raise money for our chapter. Our chapter gets to keep all the tips and a percentage of the sales. It's not difficult work and you get to meet many different people. This year we had volunteers that took the training (a must) and didn't work any concerts. There were more volunteers needed to take the training and work the concerts. Please consider helping next year. Would you like to attend the retreat in October for FREE? Raise money by volunteering at Jiffy Lube Live for possibly attending for free or at least a discount. Those that went to the retreat in 2025 know when I say: you don't want to miss it!

Our chapter's goal is not only to provide support for our current members but for those that, unfortunately, will go through the same pain as all of us have had to endure. By having various events including our support meetings, this gives many different opportunities to participate and meet others that have lost a child or sibling. As hard as the loss of my son Matthew is, I've met people that are now forever friends. Perhaps you would be able to meet that special someone that can be the support you need personally.

There is a lot of planning that goes into all of the activities that our chapter does. The more people we have working together the easier it is so everything does not fall on a few people. It's not only enjoyable to attend events and helpful to attend support groups; it's also rewarding knowing you are helping someone else. It helps in personal healing.

We will be having a planning meeting (date tbd) to discuss how to make this chapter even better. If you would like to participate, please join the zoom meeting but if you can't please send me your ideas via email or text. One of the biggest areas of help needed is Outreach. Sue Cerrone has volunteered to head the outreach program. She also runs the book club. Laura Liilicotch has volunteered to lead our zoom support meeting. There are other areas that could use help which will be discussed in another email. Thank you, Sue and Laura. Thank you to Jodi Norman who continues to do the newsletter quarterly. I'm sure she would be willing to give someone else that opportunity. She's done a great job for a long time. If you are interested please let me and/or Jodi know.

You will be receiving a survey that will include areas of volunteering and questions to improve our support group and bring those people needing it together. As far as the meetings go, in person and zoom, please consider attending. Sometimes we may get to the point we feel we don't need to go but there will always be those times that we can use the extra support. Even if you are a "veteran" and feel you don't need to attend, it helps the newly bereaved that are attending to see that it's possible to survive the death of your child or sibling.

Once again, I would like to thank those that helped with the memorial garden over the Spring and Summer. A big thank you to Charlie and Karen Turchino, Toni and John Payne, Deborah and Michael Atalla and Jodi Norman. Without their help it wouldn't be as beautiful as it is. The high heat and no rain would have dried everything up; but with consistent watering things survived and are still blooming! If you have an interest in gardening or even if you don't please consider helping. It doesn't take a green thumb to water and pull weeds. It helps, too, if you don't live too far from the garden. If there is anyone I have forgotten to mention, please accept my gratitude.

Lastly, I want to tell all of you how much I appreciate each and everyone of you. This road of grief we travel is not something any of us ever imagined we would have to do. At times we all feel weak and feel as if we will never make it. We all are truly strong and have gone this far because we have each other and others to support us and guide us. If at any time you have a need to talk to someone, I am just a phone call away as are other members of our group. I look forward to seeing and hearing from many more of you over the next few months and next year. Take care.

With love and hugs, Beverly

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 Dec due to the Holidays)

Manassas Church of the Brethren
10047 Nokesville Road, Room 207
Manassas, VA 20110
1st Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meetings

2nd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.
Zoom link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84577752523?pwd=4QeOgX9uQdXgKbwSWo5ADhE2LeBQI5.1

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

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.

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

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

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

Due to the Holidays, there will not be a meeting on Sunday, December 27th.

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

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden is going to need a lot of work come spring, it's not too early to think about next year and we are hoping to have chapter members step up to work on the garden on a regular basis – weeding, watering, planting. If you enjoy garden work and have spare time, we could really use you to help out. If this is something that you can commit to please let Bev Ruane know. Please contact Bev via text, call, email, or Facebook.

Volunteering at Jiffy Lube Live in 2027

After a very busy spring, summer and fall volunteering at Jiffy Lube Live concerts, we have worked our final concert!

Now we need to decide if we want to commit to working the 2027 concerts. If we have enough volunteers we will do it again next year, so please let me know if you would be interested in volunteering. We had a fun time and the work is not hard and we are in an air-conditioned building. I need to know how many of you are interested before making a decision on volunteering or not.

We had 15 active volunteers and we could use more so we can cover all the concerts. We can have as few as 1 and as many as 10 at each concert. I am hoping for enough volunteers so no one volunteer has to work all the concerts. Hope you would like to volunteer in 2027! Let me know at jodi.l.norman@gmail.com.

Book Club



Our Book Club meets on the last Thurs. of the month at 7 p.m. We will meet in person at Sue Cerrone's home, 15937 Cucumber Magnolia Way, Haymarket. **We will not be meeting until January due to the upcoming Holidays. Our next Book Club meeting will be on January 28, 2027.**

Please email bpusanova@gmail.com, if you would like to receive emails about the Book Club. We'd really love to have more people participate.

For more information contact Sue at suebcerrone@gmail.com or call 703-819-8604. Please RSVP if you are attending.

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

Books for 2027 will be chosen at the January meeting, so if you have any books you recommend please bring your suggestions.

Please share this post. You never know who may need it.

Do you know a parent who has lost a child?

Our Bereaved Parent Group provides a safe and welcoming place for parents to come together with others who understand the unique pain of losing a child.

Whether your loss was recent or many years ago, whether you want to talk, listen, laugh, cry, or simply be around people who get it — you are welcome.

You don't have to grieve alone. ❤️

We are hoping to reach more bereaved parents in our community and let them know that this group is here for them.

Please share this post with your friends, family and community groups. Someone you know may be carrying a grief that few people see — and this could be the connection they've been looking for.

💙 Thanks for your help in spreading the info! 💙

Fall Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026

7:00 pm

Larson Home

6900 Cole Timothy Ct

Manassas, VA 20112

RSVP:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948ACAE22A4F8CF8-66597801-fall



My name is Laura Lillicotch and I am the mother of April Lillicotch who died in 2020 at age 15. I am honored to run the monthly support meeting that Jodi started. I welcome anyone to join us discuss our lovely children and how we are processing our grief. I have found the meeting to be very helpful because it has given me a connection to other people who have also lost their child: a unique club that none of us wants to belong. In my professional life, I am a licensed professional counselor with my own practice. I am also a budding medium and have an ability to connect with deceased loved ones and spirit guides. I will offer the opportunity to connect with your child at the end of the meeting for anyone who would like to do so. For those who are not interested, you may leave at this time. I hope you will take the opportunity to join us in the upcoming months and I look forward to connecting.

Login for Zoom Meeting (link will be the same for every meeting):
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84577752523?pwd=4QeOgX9uQdXgKbwSWo5ADhE2LeBQI5.1

We Need Your Help!

We are here for you, the newly bereaved and the seasoned grievers. I know it comes a time when you don't need our support but there are others, newly bereaved, who need YOUR support.

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.

If you would like to volunteer to help our chapter, please contact Beverly at bpusanova@gmail.com or text or call her at 703-395-9546.

A lot of time and effort is put into making this chapter successful and meaningful to our bereaved parent community. Here is how you can help to make this chapter even better:

PARTICIPATE! PARTICIPATE! PARTICIPATE!

- Attend our special events. A lot of work and effort is put into these events!
- Attend meetings
- Join the Zoom Call
- Join Book Club
- Read your emails from the chapter
- Join the private Facebook Page
- Volunteer at Jiffy Lube Live
- Help at the garden, there are always weeds to pull and plants to water!
- If you RSVP please show up or at least let us know you can't make it!
- Volunteer to help in planning events
- Attend the 2027 Retreat
- Spread the word that we are here in the community



We Remember Our Children Who have Birthdays and Death Dates in October, November and December



Kirsten Adler
2/21/94 ~ **10/24/10**

CJ Angelos
5/28/85 ~ **11/18/06**

Mielen Arquines
12/01/68 ~ 6/04/08

Captain Jason Back
12/24/83 ~ 11/12/15

Pouneh Bahri
10/25/88 ~ 3/04/14

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

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

Antonino Basile
12/13/84 ~ 10/06/12

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

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

Tiffany Blackwood
12/08/84 ~ 6/09/21

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

Ashley Blue
11/23/05 ~ 10/11/19

Mateo Bowman
10/15/13

Clayton Breeding
10/23/77 ~ **12/12/01**

Dr. Lorna Breen
10/09/70 ~ 4/26/20

Alex Bridwell
1/27/89 ~ 10/31/22

Benjamin Brletic
5/17/77 ~ **12/30/21**

Brian Brumbaugh
11/09/83 ~ 5/02/07

Abigail Buckley
4/25/15 ~ **11/17/16**

Amy R. Buckley
3/13/86 ~**11/17/16**

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

Erwin F. Burock
12/17/48 ~ 5/25/13

David John Butts
10/18/80 ~ **12/16/05**

Lisa Champlin
10/16/65 ~ 9/02/88

Barbara (Dotson) Cleary
12/3/66 ~ 1/21/18

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

Autumn Coffie
4/16/88 ~ **12/29/14**

Jason Colson
3/09/84 ~ **10/01/08**

David Combs
11/22/79 ~ 11/23/01

Ryan Conde
12/02/04 ~ 02/02/17

Ryan Conty
10/15/20 ~ 10/15/20

Christina Curtis
3/01/74 ~ **12/25/07**

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

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

K.J. Edwards
12/03/85 ~ 10/31/03

Brian Elero
12/30/80 ~ 10/29/01

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

Dillon Foley
11/16/98 ~ 4/02/20

Payton Freeze
10/13/98 ~ 2/10/16

Scott Fulton
5/25/93 ~ **10/08/21**

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

Kimberley Geisler
11/29/93 ~ 11/15/12

Andrew Geracoulis
10/20/99 ~ 1/07/23

Ahmad Glenn
3/06/83 ~ **12/04/06**

Eric Gonzalez
10/03/02 ~ 10/05/02

Christian Green
11/12/91 ~ 11/01/08

Emily Greer
11/26/95 ~ 11/06/21

Adon Grey
11/05/81 ~ 1/20/18

Daniel Grimsley
3/02/88 ~ **11/17/21**

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

Michael Hammaker
12/02/98 ~ 5/21/21

Kimberley Hellandbrand
11/03/69 ~ 4/27/19

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

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

Philip Hottle
2/16/85 ~ **12/03/08**

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

Adrienne Ingram
6/25/79 ~ **12/02/07**

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

Leslie Kramer
4/20/71 ~ **12/17/06**

Adriana Ladino
10/31/02 ~ 3/23/19

Jayden Lee
10/23/10

David Lesser
11/20/56 ~ 11/07/18

Tiffany Lewis
1/26/80 ~ **10/11/96**

Marc Lopretto
11/11/76 ~ 11/26/20

Erika (Brummett) Lott
4/06/77 ~ 11/05/13

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

Brian Mature
11/23/83 ~ 11/23/12

Annie McCann
1/05/92 ~ 11/02/08

Darren McKeever
12/07/80 ~ 11/19/98

Artemis McRae
10/01/20 ~ 11/01/22

Roseann Meale
10/04/69 ~ 1/19/97

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

Jonathan Nadal
10/18/99 ~10/08/21

Jeremy Nottingham
1/25/91 ~ **11/22/21**

Michael O'Berry
9/13/94 ~ **12/15/97**

Brian Ogden
7/04/87 ~ **12/24/17**

Angela Oliver
11/07/67 ~ 1/06/11

Michael Page
4/20/90 ~ **12/06/21**

Christina Panzo-Bowers
1/08/94 ~ **11/01/14**

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

Jaid'n Payne
3/14/00 ~ **11/19/21**

Michael Pennefather
12/09/95 ~ 2/04/08

Louisa Pettenati
11/16/23 ~ 11/19/23

William Peterson
3/27/92 ~ **11/01/23**

LaTonya Phillips
11/16/76 ~ 11/01/01

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

Carie Ann Polizzi
11/23/78 ~ 11/11/18

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

Tanja Quinn
10/21/84 **~ 11/17/18**

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

Stephen P. Ramos
4/24/87 ~ **11/11/19**

Kira Rippy
10/23/82 ~ 3/22/18

Marcus Robinson
12/29/07 ~ 10/04/17

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

Courtney Shelby
11/23/93 ~ 5/14/01

Joshua Daniel Shirt
1/17/91 ~ **10/13/19**

Brandon Simms
10/10/80 ~ 7/11/95

Jacqueline Simoes
11/05/66 ~ 3/15/06

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

Mark Slough
6/26/96 ~ **10/08/15**

Adelacia Smalley
8/06/94 ~ **10/19/02**

Ben Smith
12/22/70 ~ 1/26/03

Colby Smith
5/25/04 ~ **10/11/15**

Karl Smith
11/20/83 ~ 4/25/04

Ananth Sridhar
11/12/94 ~ 3/20/18

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

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

Shawn Terrill
2/23/82 ~ **12/03/06**

Hazel Thomas
5/07/21 ~ 10/24/21

Brian Trotter
11/24/94 ~ 10/17/20

Andrew Vogel
6/25/69 ~ **11/13/13**

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

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

Andre' Waters
5/31/97 ~ **12/23/07**

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

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

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

Brenden Wilson
1/10/98 ~ **11/10/14**

Stephen Wright
6/06/89 ~ **11/21/13**

Ahmet Yilmaz
12/18/97 ~ 4/02/24

Keith William Zank
10/09/82 ~ 5/21/22



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 November or December, please provide us with your child's information so they can be included correctly in future newsletters.

Bereaved Parents of the USA Welcome

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.

Upcoming Events
Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday, November 4 - Fall Potluck Dinner at Larson Home

Sunday, December 13th – Service of Remembrance Candle Lighting Service

October 15-17, 2027 – Chapter Retreat, Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond, VA

***Dates and Events are subject to change**

Chapter Contact Information

Beverly Ruane, Leader
P.O. Box 7675
Woodbridge, VA 22195
Phone: 703-395-9546 (c)

Chapter Website:
https://www.bpusanova.com

Chapter Leadership

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

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.