



June 2012 - July 2012

A Journey Together: Hinsdale Chapter - Bereaved Parents of the USA www.bpusahinsdale.org

Bereaved Parents of the USA Mission:

We, as bereaved parents, help grieving parents and families rebuild their lives following the death of a child.

Meetings are generally held the first Friday of every month. Doors open at 7:00 PM for greeting and fellowship.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 139 East First Street, Hinsdale, Illinois

(One block east of Garfield Street & one block south of the railroad tracks)

Ruth Juergensen, Chapter Leader (815) 325-4132

A New Normal

by Daryl Hutson, Greg's Dad, Crawfordsville, IN

I wanted my life to return to normal. Then I realized what I wanted was for my life to return to what it once was.

A year ago I found hope one night when I heard my wife and my youngest son laughing in our bedroom.

I thought my life was returning to normal. I played cards with our youngest son after supper, with much fun and laughter. After a few cartoons, he and my wife were off to bed. It was then that I realized that my life was not returning to the normal that it was when Greg was alive, but changing to a new normal.

I cannot expect to return to what I once was, because there are parts no longer there. I have the choice, consciously and subconsciously to carry on with my life, thus creating a new normal. Hope lies in accepting what you now have, looking with joy, not sorrow, looking ahead with optimism not pessimism. 🙏

Ladies' Night Out

Our next ladies' night out is scheduled for July 18th. Given our hectic summer schedules this will be the last scheduled ladies' night until fall. If anyone is interested in taking over the planning for ladies' night please inform a steering committee member.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Friday, June 1 - Monthly Chapter Meeting: 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM **Mother's Day/Father's Day Balloon Release**
Also decorate a butterfly in memory of your child to be taken to the Gathering. Remember to bring a copy of your child's picture (optional).

Wednesday, June 13 - Men's Night Out: - Meet at Kappy's in Villa Park at 6:30 PM. Contact Jerry Schulman 630-205-4552.

Friday, June 29 through Sunday, July 1: National Gathering in Tampa, FL

Sunday, July 15 - Butterfly Release & Family Picnic:

At Noon in Katherine Legge Park, Hinsdale
PLEASE RSVP - See information in this newsletter
(We will not have a regular Friday meeting in July. Please come join us for the butterfly release and picnic on Sunday, July 15.)

Wednesday, July 18 - Ladies' Night Out: Meet at J. Alexander's, 1410 16th St., Oak Brook at 6:30 PM

Friday, August 3 - Monthly Chapter Meeting: 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM - **Stress & Grief**





Butterfly Release & Family Picnic

Sunday July 15, 2012 at 12:00 PM (Noon)
Katherine Legge Memorial Park – South Pavilion
60th and County Line Road, Hinsdale

Donations \$10.00 per person or \$20.00 per family
1 butterfly included with donation
Extra butterflies \$10.00/butterfly

Chicken, Beverages and Utensils will be provided by BP/USA

Please bring a dish to share:
A-H Bring a side dish or salad (serving 12)
I-Z Bring a dessert (serving 12)

Please RSVP with donation by July 1, 2012:

BP/USA Hinsdale Chapter
PO Box 703
Hinsdale, IL 60521

BP/USA Hinsdale Chapter – Butterfly Release & Family Picnic RSVP

Name: _____

Number of People: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Our Children, Loved, Missed and Remembered - Anniversaries and birthdays are difficult for bereaved parents and families. In the days ahead, may we lovingly remember these children and send our prayers, love and support to their parents and families

Anthony Legittino - 23

Jun 16, 1987 - May 10, 2011
Hit by Truck
Robin Legittino

Anthony Neri - 21

Jul 03, 1973 - Jun 24, 1995
Accidental Drug Overdose
Diane Neri

Athena Marie Myers - 11 Months

Jun 03, 2001 - May 27, 2002
Car Accident
Polly Myers

Branden Martinez - 6 Weeks

Jun 26, 2011 - Aug 08, 2011
Infection
Kyle Martinez & Missy Babyar

Carole "Suzie" Pavett - 56

Jun 03, 1953 - Aug 20, 2009
Heart Attack
Audrey Stolf

Challing Eugene Albert LeBlanc - 4

Apr 11, 1997 - Jun 02, 2001
Boating Accident
Liz & Stephen LeBlanc

Cole Exner - 22

Jun 09, 1983 - May 21, 2006
Automobile Accident
Scott & Janie Exner

Daniel Stoothoff - 34

Jun 03, 1970 - Dec 07, 2004
Car Crash
Sally Stoothoff

Elizabeth Anne Barrett - 15 1/2

Dec 29, 1976 - Jun 29, 1992
Hit by Van
Kay & Phil Barrett

Eric Fitzpatrick Bucholz - 19

Jun 26, 1974 - Dec 24, 1993
Electrocution
Sue Bucholz

Eric J. Munzenmay - 12

May 07, 1969 - Jun 28, 1981
Pneumonia
Eric & Lillian Munzenmay

Jason Matthew Bill - 13

Aug 17, 1981 - Jun 14, 1995
Water Sport Accident
Nancy Stein

Jill Kathleen Ebert - 6

Jun 24, 1984 - Sep 03, 1990
Brain Tumor
Michael P Ebert

Jimmy Lekas - 18

Sep 10, 1969 - Jun 14, 1988
Cancer
Stephanie Lekas

Joseph Ross - 23

Jun 09, 1985 - Feb 05, 2009
Asthma
Pat Ross

Lt Adam Philip Kass - 25

May 29, 1977 - Jun 25, 2002
Motorcycle Accident on Military Duty
Cindy & Dave Kass

Mark Susong - 21

Jun 05, 1990 - Feb 10, 2012
Jill Susong

Matthew Davis - 33

Dec 28, 1976 - Jun 10, 2010
Unknown
Gloria Smolek

Nicholas Martino-Krueger - 10

Jun 23, 1995 - Apr 15, 2006
Hit by Train
Jim Krueger & Rose Martino-Krueger

Noah James Farley -

Jun 07, 2006 - Jun 08, 2006
Prenatal Decision Due to Severe Fetal
Anomalies
Kelly Farley

Noah Michael Cichorski - 2 1/2

Jun 24, 2001 - Dec 16, 2003
Head Injury (Cause Unknown)
Jeannine Cichorski

Paul Anthony Schneider - 17

Jun 18, 1965 - Apr 11, 1983
Paul & Dolly Schneider

Paul Moore - 10

Nov 04, 1982 - Jun 08, 1994
Drunk Driver
Don & Julie Moore

Robbie Funston - 18

May 30, 1990 - Jun 22, 2008
Accidental Drowning
Ric Funston

Our Children continued on the next page

Our Children, Loved, Missed and Remembered (continued) - Anniversaries and birthdays are difficult for bereaved parents and families. In the days ahead, may we lovingly remember these children and send our prayers, love and support to their parents and families

Russel Witek - 14

Jun 16, 1994 - Mar 29, 2009
Leukemia/Brain Tumor
Dan & Helen Dennett

Ryan A. Minor - 30

May 04, 1980 - Jun 19, 2010
Overdose
Betsy Minor

William E. Barth - 20 1/2

Sep 23, 1965 - Jun 05, 1986
Suicide
Karen Barth

Adam Schar - 33

Nov 23, 1976 - Jul 18, 2010
Accidental Death
Janet Schar

Aidan Samuel Wood - 4

Jul 17, 2003 - Nov 30, 2007
House Fire
Michelle & Ian Wood

Amy Elizabeth Gales - 19

Jul 18, 1975 - Mar 08, 1995
Auto Accident
Ron & Sandy Gales

**Brendon Anderson - 22**

Jul 18, 1976 - Mar 16, 1998
Murdered
Rob Anderson

Bryce Stack - 30

Jan 26, 1979 - Jul 24, 2009
Accidental Overdose
Trish DeBauche

Carl Alan Vuillaume - 16

Mar 14, 1989 - Jul 21, 2005
Accidental Drowning
Rob & Char Vuillaume

Elizabeth Nelson - 23

Jul 27, 1980 - May 31, 2004
Car Accident
Tom & Kathy Nelson

James G. Frale - 13

Jul 11, 1967 - Sep 13, 1981
Electrocution
John & JoAnn Frale

Jamie Lee Hoebble - 21

Jul 26, 1983 - Sep 23, 2004
Karen & John Pech

Jennifer Erin Morris - 16

Jul 15, 1982 - Aug 10, 1998
Auto Accident
Wendy & Dan Morris

Katie Satkamp - 7

Jul 12, 1974 - May 12, 1982
School Bus Accident
Ronda & Steve Satkamp

Maria Elena Nudell - 14

Apr 17, 1981 - Jul 07, 1995
Horseback Riding Accident
Marilyn Cocogliato

Mariana Tunstall - 8

Dec 29, 1999 - Jul 16, 2008
E-Coli
Keith & Kristena Tunstall

Matthew Corrigan - 14

Jul 04, 1977 - Aug 12, 1991
Auto Accident
Donna & Mike Corrigan

Nicholas Carl Pica - 21

Dec 12, 1984 - Jul 13, 2006
Sudden Cardiac Death
Jane & Jerry Pica

Nicholas Palumbo - 21

Jul 10, 1981 - Mar 05, 2003
Snowmobile Accident
Debbie Palumbo

Rob Funston - 25

Aug 22, 1955 - Jul 30, 1981
Pneumonia
Bob & Fran Funston

Ryan Paul - 15 1/2

Jul 06, 1988 - Mar 09, 2004
Hit by Car
Roy & Melody Paul

Sara Jane Melton - 27

Mar 19, 1969 - Jul 09, 1996
Anaplastic Thyroid Carcinoma
Jack & Jane Larson

Sarah Marie Fink - 3 1/2 Mths

Jul 11, 1977 - Nov 02, 1977
SIDS
Sue & Garry Fink

Our Children, Loved, Missed and Remembered (continued) - Anniversaries and birthdays are difficult for bereaved parents and families. In the days ahead, may we lovingly remember these children and send our prayers, love and support to their parents and families

Scott Saville - 42
Mar 29, 1969 - Jul 30, 2011
Brain Aneurysm
Mary Saville

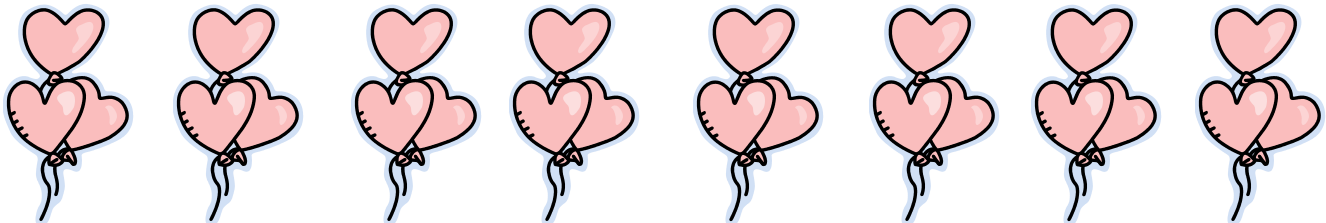
Tamaron "Tami" Racky - 21
Jul 08, 1975 - Sep 12, 1996
Accidental Drug Overdose
John & Debbie Racky

Thomas A Walsh Jr - 32
Oct 16, 1970 - Jul 20, 2003
Unknown
Karen Richards

Trudy Boskey - 47
Jul 06, 1953 - Aug 03, 2000
Cancer
Rose Conway

William Kavanaugh - 3
May 24, 1992 - Jul 04, 1995
Hit by a Van
Maribeth Kavanaugh

Zachary "Zach" Pfingston - 13
Sep 20, 1996 - Jul 31, 2009
Seizure
Manjula & Jack Pfingston



Bring Copies of Photos to June Meeting

At the June 1st meeting we will be decorating cutout butterflies for the *Voyage to Strength on Sunny Shores* Gathering display. Bring copies of your child's photo, stickers, and/or special artifacts that you would like to paste on this construction paper butterfly in memory of your child.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to thank Donna Corrigan for the many years of support she has given to the Hinsdale Chapter of Bereaved Parents. Anyone who may be interested in joining us in expressing our thanks and gratitude please contact Carol Zimmerman at bczimmerman@comcast.net or 630-985-3949 before the July 15th picnic.

CREDO

We are the parents whose children have died. We are the grandparents who have buried grandchildren. We are the siblings whose brothers and sisters no longer walk with us through life. We come together as Bereaved Parents of the USA to provide a haven where all bereaved families can meet and share our long and arduous grief journeys. We attend monthly gatherings whenever we can and for as long as we believe necessary. We share our fears, confusion, anger, guilt, frustrations, emptiness and feelings of hopelessness so that hope can be found anew. As we accept, support, comfort and encourage each other, we demonstrate to each other that survival is possible. Together we celebrate the lives of our children, share the joys and triumphs as well as the love that will never fade. Together we learn how little it matters where we live, what our color or our affluence is or what faith we uphold as we confront the tragedies of our children's deaths. Together, strengthened by the bonds we forge at our gatherings, we offer what we have learned to each other and to every more recently bereaved family. We are the Bereaved Parents of the USA. We welcome you.

To My Little Girl on Father's Day

*By Phil Gensler - Lindsay's Dad
BPUSA/St. Louis March-April 1997*

We were basking in the joy of new parenthood when your doctor stepped into our room and softly told us you were having problems. Our pride was suddenly replaced with fear.

As we stood over you in NICU I wanted to apologize to you; to explain why all these machines and needles were necessary. I felt so helpless! I am your Daddy, but there was nothing I could do to help you. It was obvious that you were going to die.

Later, you slept in my arms as I marveled at your perfect beauty. We listened to the soft little sighs you made with each exhale, 'knowing' these were the only sounds we would ever hear from you.

As my tears fell on your cheeks, I kissed you good-bye, hugging your little lifeless body close to mine, and promised you would never be forgotten. For a short time, we babied you, then we handed you through a magic window, back into the arms of God.

After you died there were two sides to our grief. First, we mourned for the life that would never be - our little girl who lived the nine months of pregnancy.

Then there were the hopes and dreams. All the fantasies we had for our future together - your first words, the holidays and birthdays, your wedding day, bringing us your babies, your hugs and kisses. For nine months our perfect dreams were filled with you, but now, these too, died and were buried with you.

One of the most important things I have learned from you is that by sharing my grief with your Mom, I've become a stronger

man. I've found it takes more courage to share my pain than keep it hidden. Neither one of us are feeling brave right now, and I think your Mom needs to see my tears more than me trying to pretend your death didn't hurt more than anything in my life.

Every day I think of you. Especially today, Father's Day, while your sisters cuddle up close to me and say, "Happy Father's Day, Daddy. We love you."

I never heard you say those sweet words, but you will always be my precious little angel-child. I will hold you again in heaven, and I will hold you forever in my heart. We will love you and miss you always! 🌿

For Lindsay

One small life,
still casting its graceful light
into this world of large shadows.

One small life,
bright as a candle at dusking -
shared, in remembrance,
with sisters and brothers born still.

One small life,
giving to your heart and mine
a courage for finding the morning.

One small life -
Today and tomorrow, a promise of tenderness
deeper than grief,
of hopefulness stronger than death.

Still casting its graceful light
into this world of large shadows,
one small life.

*Dedicated to Lindsay Nicole Gensler and her sisters
and brothers, born too soon, children of Dana and Phil
Gensler.*

*Reprinted from:
WINTERSUN by sascha
(L.A.R.G.O. Inc. 1996)*

Bereaved Parents of the USA

2012 National Gathering

Wyndham Tampa Westshore Hotel

Tampa, FL

June 29-July 1, 2012



Thursday Evening
“Kick-Off Program”
Concert by Inspirational
Singer/Song-writer &
Bereaved Parent
Alan Pedersen

Featured Speakers

Keynote by Bruce Murakami

Inspirational story captured in the Hallmark Presentation of
CROSSROADS A Story of Forgiveness.

Darcie Sims, Alice Wisler, Jan Howard, Becky Russell, and Donna
Corrigan

Gathering Highlights

Wonderful Workshops & Sharing Sessions

Discounted 7- Meal Plan \$125.00 (after April 30th it's \$145.00)

Bereaved Sibling Program ages 9 to Adult, Special Candle Light
Ceremony with a slide show presentation of our beautiful children,
Fantastic Butterfly Boutique, Silent Auction & Raffle Items, Angel of
Hope Memorial Garden, Tampa Bay Visit

For more information visit the National BP/USA Website

www.bereavedparentsusa.org

or

Call 813-661-0680 or 813-495-7539

There's a New Man in Town

by Dave Simone

Ben's dad, Valrico, FL

My son is dead. The moment I was told my son died in an auto accident, there was a new man in town. The old man would find a way to fix "it" or at least make "it" better. The new man couldn't fix a thing. Oh, he could make arrangements, settle accounts, acknowledge condolences as though he were really there but the new man was far off, living in a protective shell hardened by disbelief and shock. Yes, he did things, but he didn't feel in the old ways, he was far off being reborn.

My wife's grief would bring the new man back, at least for a while. There was no fixing her, just acknowledgement of the hurt and pain and helplessness we both felt. I was there for her as she was there for me and we bonded in our grief at depths we did not know existed. My son did not die to make our marriage better or worse and his death did not change what it fundamentally was and is. There is however a new level where we meet to hurt and heal together.

When a baby is born there are pain and tears followed by profound joy. If that baby dies before his parents, there is pain and tears and a longing for peace. No man can anticipate the number of tears that will flow following his rebirth. The half hour drive to work each morning was a time of nothing but tears and pain and guardian angels to provide safety for myself and those around me. The new man was every bit the good driver the old man was, but he wasn't there, he was far off being reborn in the unstoppable tears. Peace was nowhere to be found.

I am not going into detail into the many ways I think I have changed. Believe me, I have changed and so have you fellow bereaved father. I cannot believe my son died to make me a better man. I do believe that my son's death shocked me into holding dear all that was always precious to me with the knowledge that "it" can all end in an instant, and

neither the old man nor the new man can ever fix "it." The protective shell is fading away and real peace is finding its way into my heart and soul. But the shell will never be completely gone and the peace will never blend into complacency. We are new men with new priorities and new things to do. This does not mean we abandon all that was of the old man, the newness is in our attitudes and understanding and acceptance of vulnerability.

Because he called me Dad

By Rob Anderson, Brendon's dad

As I sit and write and think of you
and all the good times that we had,
the greatest moments are those times
when I heard you call me Dad.

"Gosh Dad, what's two times two,
I don't think my answers right?"

"Hey Dad, please tuck me in,
I need a kiss goodnight."

"Let's play catch Dad, ride our bikes
and wrestle on the floor.

Gee Dad, how come you're so tired,
let's play a little more."

"Oh Dad, can I have ten bucks,
I'm headed to the mall.

Yes Dad, I will take care
and when I leave I'll call."

"Hi Dad, I've got a problem,
do you have a minute or two?
Dad, sometimes my life is hard,
it feels good to talk with you."

As the echoes of those words
bring smiles to my heart,
the joy of you fills my soul
and we don't feel so far apart.

I thank you son for all you are
and the good times that we had.
But most of all I thank you child
for calling me your dad.

Memories That Matter

By Mark Mayfield - Mark was on the staff of USA Today when this was written. His brother, Larry, was killed in a car accident in November 1984

I REMEMBER him when we were kids, dreaming we were riding on Santa's sleigh instead of sitting on a piece of cardboard in the hallway of our house.

I REMEMBER climbing the hedges with him, & more than once tumbling to the ground when he gave me a push.

I REMEMBER the trip out West when he renamed our Ford Custom 500 the Stanley Steamer, because it kept overheating and blowing its top on our way up the Rocky Mountains.

I REMEMBER the security and comfort it gave me knowing he was standing beside me at the front of the sanctuary when we joined a new church.

I REMEMBER him playing a tape of rock music at Papa's house, and Papa saying he liked it. Papa was just being agreeable. I'm sure.

I REMEMBER how sad I was when he went off to college—and how happy I was when I joined him there a couple of years later.

I REMEMBER going with him to a restaurant to examine the fine craftsmanship of the remodeling job he had done on the place.

I REMEMBER how excited I was when he visited me in Washington. We were like kids again; he wanted to see the dinosaur bones in the Smithsonian. We were both amazed at the sight.

There are more than memories. There were times in our lives when the world seemed right. Larry died November 11. Suddenly, the world didn't seem so right anymore.

I've searched for him since then—in the cemetery, in his old room at our parents' house, in photographs, in letters he left behind, in quiet hours at my house.

I've cried, I've prayed, I've laughed. I've gotten angry at the unfairness of it all.

It's true that life does go on. And it's just as true that part of you dies with a loved one; certainly part of my life stopped in time with Larry on November 11. Yet even in death, Larry has taught me a few things about life.

It's incredible how insignificant things like ambition, career, and possessions can be at times like these. It's just as stunning how important other things become—faith, love and family. They go hand in hand.

As life goes marching on, I can see Larry in the two-year old daughter he left behind and loved so much. If I listen closely enough, I can still hear him talking to her, babying her.

Larry Mayfield was my brother. I loved him here on earth. And I'll keep looking for him, until I see him again someday.

Reprinted from Sharing The Journey, newsletter of the Bereaved Parents of Springfield Bereaved Parents of Jacksonville, April 2012

BP/USA Hinsdale Chapter

Bereaved Parents of the USA is a self-help support group which is run entirely by volunteers who are also bereaved parents. The volunteers are a little further down the road in their grief and can give back to the chapter by helping with the many jobs it takes to keep the chapter running. This makes it possible for new bereaved parents to see survival and hope when they walk through the door of their first meeting.

The steering committee meets periodically during the year to discuss future meeting programs, fund raising, member involvement, our library and other pertinent issues. Contact a member below if you would like to get involved

HINSDALE BP/USA STEERING COMMITTEE		
Chapter Leader	Ruth Juergensen	(815) 325-4132
Program Coordinator	Eleanor Byrne	(708) 485-6160
Database Administrator	Angelo Tomasello	(630) 420-1649
Hospitality	Sally Yarberry	(708) 560-0393
Treasurer	Ruth Juergensen	(815) 325-4132
Newsletter Editor	Celeste Hardy	(630) 963-0096
Members at Large	Donna Corrigan	(630) 279-6148
	Rose Martino-Krueger	(847) 208-5620
	Jerry Schulman	(630) 205-4552
	Linda Tomasello	(630) 420-1649

“A Journey Together: Hinsdale Chapter BP/USA”

The Hinsdale Chapter newsletter is compiled, stamped and mailed by volunteers, in loving memory of our children. There is no charge to receive it. Please send **address changes** to Angelo Tomasello at angelotomasello@comcast.net.

The newsletter is published on the Hinsdale Chapter website at:

<http://www.bpusahinsdale.org/>

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From your editor....

How do I remember you?

Twizzlers & Swedish Fish! - That's how I remember you. These chewy, red candies were your favorites. I remember Santa put them in your last Christmas stocking

Baseball! - When I watch any game I always look for #19 and am reminded of your love for the game.

Camaros! - When I see one on the street it reminds me of how you and Sarah's brother would spend hours working on your Camaros and enjoying every minute.

Seeing young couples laughing and having fun! - I remember fondly how Sarah & you enjoyed life and friends and each other.

Lists! - You were a list-maker and a do-er. You always had a to-do list going and you were always working on getting those things done.

Church! - I am reminded of your days as an altar server and I always feel close to you there.

So let me eat another Twizzler and make another list so I can keep your memory close to my heart.
Love you B!

Celeste



Chapter Library

We maintain a large lending library of books and tapes of interest to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents. These resources are available to check out at each meeting to be returned at the following meeting, if possible. If you come across a book at home that belongs to our library, please **mail it** to us at the reduced **“media rate”** to: **PO Box 703, Hinsdale IL 60522-0703.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

June 1	Monthly Meeting: 7:30 PM - Mother's/Father's Day Balloon Release & Decorate a butterfly in memory of your child
June 13	Men's Night Out: 6:30 PM - Meet at Kappy's in Villa Park Contact Jerry Schulman 630-205-4552.

July

July 15	Butterfly Release & Family Picnic: At Noon in Katherine Legge Park, Hinsdale <i>(We will not have a regular Friday meeting in July. Please come join us for the butterfly release and picnic on Sunday, July 15.)</i>
July 18	Ladies' Night Out: Meet at J. Alexander's, 1410 16th St., Oak Brook at 6:30 PM

August

August 3	Monthly Meeting: 7:30 PM - Stress & Grief
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BP/USA Hinsdale on the Web:

<http://www.bpusahinsdale.org/>



*by Daryl Hutson, father of
Gregory M. Hutson*

I did something today that no man
should have to do.
I weeded around your grave.
The sun was starting to set.
I could hear the crickets in the trees.
I could feel the coolness of the
autumn on the evening breeze.
The same coolness I can feel creeping
Into my heart.
As I bent to kiss your stone good-bye.
It was warm.
Once again, you have told me your
love still lives.
Just in a different place.

*Reprinted from A Journey Together, National Newsletter of the
Bereaved Parents of the USA, Summer 2009*

Bereaved Parents of the USA
Hinsdale Chapter
P.O. Box 703
Hinsdale, IL 60522-0703



June 2012 – July 2012