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# Listening Hearts

A Gathering of  
Bereaved Moms...

## Always

Tracy Bradshaw

You will always be the fetus  
Who grew inside my womb,  
You will always be the baby  
I held in the birthing room,

You will always be the toddler  
Who loved to cuddle and kiss,  
You will always be the child  
Who gave away your birthday wish,

You will always be the cub scout  
Who completed all good deeds,  
You will always be the friend  
Who stood up to the bullies,

You will always be the cousin  
Family loved your visits there,  
You will always be the nephew  
Aunts and uncles shoed they care,

You will always be the grandson  
Who made your grandparents proud,  
You will always be the student  
Who answered right aloud,

You will always be the teenager  
Who taught yourself to play guitar,  
You will always be the high schooler  
Who loved to drive his car,

You will always be the graduate  
Accepted to college with high scores,  
You will always be the student  
Seeking a business degree and more,

You will always be the young man  
Who applied and started work,  
You will always be my son  
Our love will remain a perk,

Now you're my guardian angel  
I can hardly believe that's true,  
I'm very safe in your care For I know  
how you felt too,

Until we're together again  
In my heart will be a tug,  
But our love is now and always  
And I long for your tight hug.

Love, Mom  
3-23-2014



## Meetings and Events

Since we cannot change that which is out of our control, we work to help ourselves and each other to process this devastating and life-altering loss by gathering together. We meet monthly at alternating locations, in Knoxville and Morristown. You can join us at both locations, or choose one that is most convenient for you.

### ***Knoxville***

Cherokee Lodge  
102 Northshore Drive  
Saturdays, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

- ♥ June 7
- ♥ August 2
- ♥ October 4
- ♥ December 6

### ***Morristown***

Walters State Community College Humanities  
Complex, Room 105, 500 S. Davy Crockett Parkway  
Saturdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

- ♥ May 3
- ♥ July 5
- ♥ September 6
- ♥ November 1

## In Remembrance

**These adored children have birthdays in MAY and JUNE.**

### ***May Dates***

- ♥ Franklin Brown (5/6)
- ♥ Byron Clay, Jr. (5/14)
- ♥ Emily Hastings (5/13)
- ♥ Stacy Hill (5/30)
- ♥ Justin Holland (5/6)
- ♥ Cavion Holloway (5/28)
- ♥ Heather Lane (5/6)
- ♥ Clint Reagan (5/15)
- ♥ Bradley Shilling (5/2)
- ♥ Heath Young (5/14)

### ***June Dates***

- ♥ Kelby Akins (6/14)
- ♥ Jim Conigilio (6/3)
- ♥ Joshua Humphreys (6/7)
- ♥ David Lewis (6/17)
- ♥ Christian Stone (6/23)

**These cherished children have anniversaries in MAY and JUNE.**

### ***May Dates***

- ♥ Franklin Brown (5/23)
- ♥ Zach Griffin (5/26)
- ♥ Austin Hatcher (5/7)
- ♥ Lana Hopkins (5/9)
- ♥ Kimlan Le (5/27)
- ♥ Ryan McGhee (5/13)
- ♥ Julian Preciado (5/12)
- ♥ Gordy Robertson (5/4)
- ♥ Heath Young (5/27)

### ***June Dates***

- ♥ Abby Boyle (6/3)
- ♥ Uniqua Brown (6/7)
- ♥ Robby Garvin (6/11)
- ♥ Tim Johnson (6/1)
- ♥ Colt Porterfield (6/20)
- ♥ Kurtis Sparovich (6/29)
- ♥ Christian Stone (6/23)
- ♥ Condridge Willis (6/21)



## Listening Sisters Have Listening Hearts

These moms offer listening ears for another mom who needs to talk or reach out during a particularly difficult time in between gatherings.

If you would like to be available to provide support and a listening heart to another mom, let us know. Different moms will be featured in each issue.

Mom	Contact Info	Child's Life Stage	Nature of Loss
Janice Short	423-748-1597	Adult	Drug Overdose
Buffy Miller	2865-256-9655	Teenager	Heart Disease
Melissa Price	865-969-7039	Adult	Cardiac Arrest
Amparo Atencio	865-310-1130	Adult	Murder
Ruby Buchanan	865-850-7677	Adult	Auto Accident

*Listening  
is often  
the only thing  
needed  
to  
help someone.*

## Save the Date – Butterfly Release and Picnic

We hope you will mark your calendar now for the 2014 Listening Hearts Picnic and Butterfly Release: **Sunday, September 21, 2014.**

More details will follow later!



*A Symbol of Hope*

*A butterfly lights  
besides us like a  
sunbeam*

*And for a brief  
moment its glory  
and beauty belong  
to our world*

*But then it flies  
again*

*And though we  
wish it could have  
stayed...*

*We feel lucky to  
have seen it.*

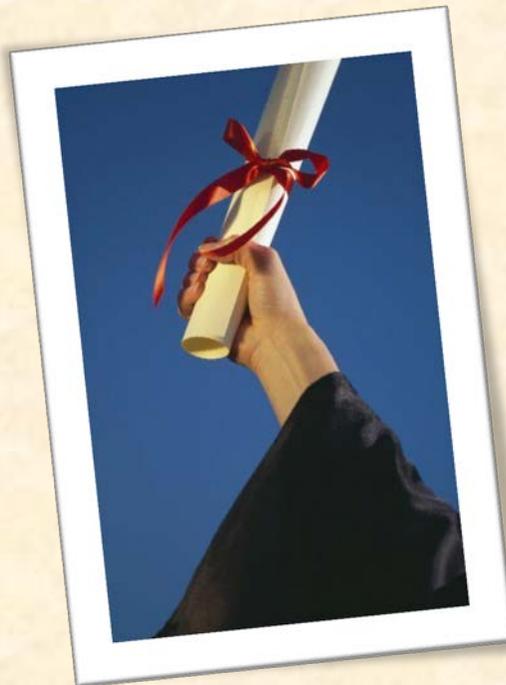
*Author Unknown*

## Graduation

We send out hugs to all those moms who did not get to see their children graduate from high school or college.

There were so many dreams and events—large and small—that we had planned for our children.

We miss them in a million ways.



## Don't Forget! Virginia Creeper Event

**Saturday, April 26,  
is the day!**

Rise early because we are expected at the bike shop by 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning to get fitted for our bikes and helmets!

Cost is \$25.00 for shuttle and bike rental or \$15.00 for shuttle only.

We will plan to eat lunch along the way.

The bike shop address is:

**JC's Outdoor Bike Shop**

**425 Douglas Drive**

**Damascus, VA 24236**

**866-475-5727**



## Why We Need Fundraisers

Our Listening Hearts group is undergoing a growth spurt! We continue to extend our outreach through social media and our gatherings in Knoxville and Morristown.

Plans are underway for a new website, print materials, including brochures and business cards, to share with organizations that will help our outreach, and the possibility of additional gatherings in new locations. Funds raised will also be applied toward our annual events, such as the summer Butterfly Release and Candlelight Ceremony in December.

Although we are sad that we have a need for a group such as ours, we are grateful to be able to reach moms who need us. Our endeavors take time and energy, and there are sometimes costs associated with these efforts. As always, we are grateful for your contributions, but the need is great!

This year, we kicked off our fundraising efforts with a wildly successful Pampered Chef event on Valentine's Day. Several more fundraisers are scheduled. Read up on our spring events below.

## Wine Tasting Event



Friends and family gathered on April 22 at Pero's On the Hill, 7706 S. Northshore Drive, in Knoxville for the wine tasting fundraiser. The rain cleared, and the group enjoyed the evening on the patio.

Sixty-two guests attended this event. A variety of wines were provided by Northshore Wine and Spirit to accompany the delicious food prepared by Pero's On the Hill. There was also a silent auction, and guests had the opportunity to bid on nine items.

Deb Prorise, Listening Hearts President, explained that all proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the mission of Listening Hearts.

## Yard Sales

Come one, come all to find hidden gems during two weekends worth of yard sales. After all, one person's trash is another's treasure. Donated items are welcome, and shopping is a must!

Deb Prorise will host the first sale on **May 2 and 3, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** on both days, at **1035 West Park Drive, in Knoxville.**

Amparo Atencio will host the following weekend, **May 9 and 10, from 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** on both days, at **118 Beverly Circle, in Oak Ridge.**



## Listening Hearts

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(865) 679-1351

ADDRESS:  
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Seymore, TN 37865

E-MAIL:  
[ListeningHeartsMoms@gmail.com](mailto:ListeningHeartsMoms@gmail.com)

### WE'RE CONNECTED!

Visit us at:  
<http://listeningheartsmoms.org>

Join the conversation on:

**facebook**

Closed group for private posts;  
email us for access.

Follow us on:  
**twitter**

Pin us at:  
**Pinterest**

### LOVE GIFTS

Your tax deductible donations make it possible to reach out to other grieving mothers through this newsletter, group sessions, and social media networks.

Love gifts can be made at all group meetings or mailed. Make checks payable to Listening Hearts.

Thank you for your generous support!

Jeanne Gorman, in memory of  
Devin

Ruby Buchanan, in memory of  
Wade

### ANONYMOUS DONATIONS

Thank you for your contributions.

## Mom's Thoughts

Katie Helms

All I have are pictures left to kiss,  
A few of your possessions left to hold,  
But the treasures true,  
They lie down deep...  
Deep within my soul....

You are my precious child,  
Your memory lives so close inside,  
I'll hold you there... I love you still,  
You'll always be my son, my friend,  
A special part of me...

I see your face and you smile at me,  
You tease to make me laugh...  
I hear your songs... And your music  
resonates among my soul...  
While your words, "I love you, Mom"  
Echo... in every thought, of you....

Deep within my heart, my son,  
We can never part...  
Though you've gone to live in Heaven,  
In the everlasting world...  
A part of you remains on earth...  
In Me...

All I have are pictures left to kiss,  
A few of your possessions left to hold,  
But the treasures true,  
They lie down deep...  
Deep within my heart and soul....  
Deep inside of me....

## About Us...

Listening Hearts is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. It is a self-help gathering of bereaved mothers from all walks of life. We wish every day that there was not a need for such a group.

It does not matter the age of the child or the cause of death. Nor does it matter the length of time since the child's death. All bereaved mothers are welcome.

No one should travel this journey alone. Join us, as we help each other find ways to carry the pain of this loss and the joy of the love for our child in the same heart.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the making of this newsletter. We are honored to share the love and memories of your precious child. Photographs and articles submitted may be used on the website, unless otherwise noted.

