



BASIS is
a ministry to
bereaved parents
and their families.

Spring 2018

Renew

"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength." Isaiah 40:31

When I was a teenager we lived next to a cemetery and my brother and I had the job to mow the cemetery and trim around all the tombstones (no weed eaters for us back then). Sometimes I would stop and read the tombstones. I would see the names and when they were born and when they died, but that was all I knew about them.

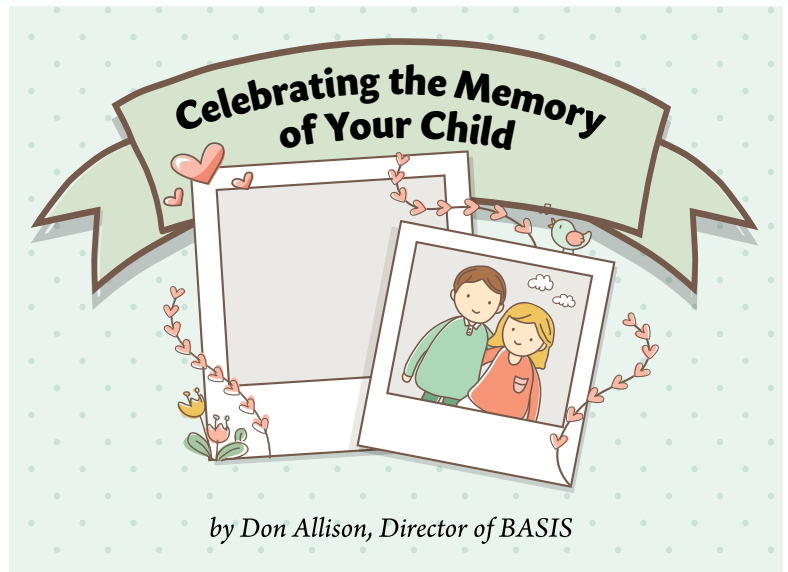
Sometimes, like Mother's Day or perhaps the birthdate or death date of the deceased, someone would bring flowers to put by the tombstone. That told me that *the person in the grave was being remembered* by someone. Often the person bringing the flowers would stand there awhile at the grave.

As a teenager I probably thought that they were most likely thinking about the person in the grave, and I *probably assumed that the deceased was a mother or father or a grandparent*. However, by reading the dates on the tombstones you could tell how old the person was. *In some cases the person was young which meant it was someone's child.*

I now realize that some of those whose dates revealed that they were adults, were also someone's child. Our daughter, Crystal was thirty-six when she died. Yes, she was an adult, but she was and is still is our child. The death of a child no matter what age seems so wrong and unnatural.

We considered the funeral for our daughter a **"celebration."** We did not celebrate her death, of course. We celebrated her life. That was more than twelve years ago, but *we continue to celebrate her memory. Parents find different ways to celebrate the memory of their deceased child.*

At our recent annual BASIS Breakfast the speakers, Rev. Charles and Judy Gates, brought a book they had put together depicting their daughter, Heather, who died from leukemia at age 24. It was a book of pictures spanning the life of Heather. It was well done and very meaningful, but I noticed that it was done several years after Heather died. So, ways of celebrating memory doesn't have to be created right after the time of death.



by Don Allison, Director of BASIS

Celebrating the memory of our children should be an ongoing thing, for no bereaved parent wants to forget their child or have their child be forgotten by others.

One of the ways my wife and I celebrate the memory of Crystal is to plant a tree each year on her birthday. We will plant the thirteenth tree this year. Every time I look at one of the trees we planted and marked with a heart shaped stone, I remember our daughter. Those growing trees help us celebrate her memory. My wife has made picture albums, and we have written a book, *Until It's All Crystal Clear*. I have also written some poems.

God remembers us and He remembers our sorrows in the loss of our children. "You have seen me tossing and turning in the night. You have collected all my tears and preserved them in your bottle. You have recorded every one in your book." Psalm 56:8. Surely, He also remembers and celebrates with us as we celebrate the memory of our children, knowing that one day we can celebrate together in heaven forever, not as a memory, but in person!

I would be interested in hearing how some of you who read this celebrate the memory of your child. You can email me at, dallison@hvmi.org.

Memorial Gifts

October–December 2017

**BASIS would like to gratefully acknowledge
memorial gifts from the following:**

Given By

In Memory of

Don & Iris Allison	Crystal Allison Kline
Christine Axe	Kurt Axe
Doug & Ann Bennett	Patty Bennett
Brenda Berky	Dawn Jean Wagner
Lois & John Cameron	Jonathan Winfield Cameron
Carol Checkley	Lauren Antonelli
Matt & Cynthia Brown	Joshua Brown
Jean Davis	Emilee J Davis
Mike & Cathy Evans	Bill Steiner
Howard & Beatrice Flichman	All BASIS Children
Beth Frederick	All BASIS Children
Robert & Claudette Garber	Christine Garber
Dave & Barb Gingrich	Matthew & Christopher Gingrich
James & Jerri Golis	Cory Golis
James & Lillian Harshaw	All BASIS Children
Clyde & Melva Herr	Jason Herr
Martha Jean Hershey	Amanda Halteman
Robert & Helen Hipple	Jeff Hipple
Norma Hull	Robin Hull
Charles & Joye Jones	Stephen Jones
Jean Lenker	Marlin Carl
Brian & Pat Lock	Brandon Lock
John & Erma McDaniel	Joey Hansell
Clifford & Kim Meyer	All BASIS Children
Ralph & Connie Owens	Kyler & Jessica Owens
Linda Patterson	Adrienne Squier
Gabe Pilotti	Joe Pilotti
Lois Rondinella	Seth Rondinella
Dave & Jan Smoyer	Michael Smoyer
Anna Sullivan	Edith Sullivan
Laura & Peter Vels	Landon & Anneka Vels
Glen & Kathy Vosgerichian	All BASIS Children
Ted & Helen Walborn	Kristi Walborn
David & Carolyn Wells	Michelle Patch
Joanna Williams	Jimmie Williams
Leroy & Shirley Wolfe	Tim Wolfe

H*VMI Events 2018

- March 22** **H*VMI New Jersey Banquet**, 6:00–8:30 PM
3000 Main Street, Vorhees Township, NJ 08043
- April 28** **Annual BASIS Breakfast**, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM
Aldan Union Church, Aldan PA
(See enclosed invitation for details)
- May 28** **Handi*Camp program begins**
- August 11** **Annual BASIS Picnic**, Save the date.
Details to follow later.

Please visit hvmi.org or call 717.859.4777 for details.

BASIS Support Groups

*for Bereaved parents and their families —
Join us at one of these locations.*

- Akron, PA3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM (Sept-May)
- Aldan, PA3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM
- Lavelle, PA3rd Sunday, 1:00 PM (Sept-May)
- Lebanon, PA1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Sept-May)
- Williamstown, NJ2nd Friday, 7:00 PM (Sept-May)
- Harrington, DE1st Thursday, 7:30 PM
- Lakeland, FLTBD

**Call us at 717.859.4777
for additional information.**

How You Can Support BASIS?

- ~ By your prayers
- ~ By referring other bereaved parents to our ministry
- ~ By participating in BASIS sponsored events as you are able
- ~ By placing your child on the “Wall of Remembrance”
- ~ By using resources provided by BASIS
- ~ By your financial donations

By supporting BASIS you will help others.

Save the date!

BASIS Breakfast 2018

April 28, 2018

10:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Aldan Union Church, 7 East Providence Road, Aldan, PA 19018



*Support * Fellowship * Inspiration * Hope * Laughter * Food * Music*

There is no cost to attend. An offering will be received to help keep BASIS operating and growing.

Parents Share



Marilyn Heavilyn and her husband, Glen, experienced the death of three children on three separate occasions. The following is from her book, *Grief is a Family Affair*:

“Often when I am speaking to bereaved parents they ask a familiar question. ‘Why do people say such hurtful and dumb things?’ Usually that question elicits a groan from the audience as their heads bob up and down in agreement. (Just as some of you reading this are doing now.)

“One of the first statements that bereaved parents find so hurtful and perplexing is, ‘It’s time for you to get back to normal.’ For a while, I thought there was something wrong with me because I wasn’t ‘back to normal’ then, as I pondered that thought I realized, *there is nothing I would rather do than get back to normal, but I don’t have a normal to get back to!* You see, normal for the Heavilin family died on February 10, 1983. Our normal included having three very vivacious and active young people in our family. Our normal was to hurry home from work so that we could scurry off to one of Nathan’s school events, or so that we could chow down dinner together where we would discuss the activities of the week.

“Our ‘normal’ changed in a split second. Now the phone is silent. No one was hungry so it didn’t matter that I didn’t cook. We sat in silence in the evenings because we had no reason to scurry off to the school activities. Leftovers were piled high in our refrigerator and milk

constantly turned sour until I realized Nathan was no longer there to eat the leftovers and Nathan was the only one in our family who drank milk. My motherly habits told me I should buy milk every time I went to the store because that’s what I had been doing for the past 20 plus years, but now Nathan wasn’t there to drink it. We had lost ‘normal’ and it took us years to be willing to work with the ‘new normal’ that was thrust on us without even giving us a ‘change of normal’ notice.

“I have heard people tell bereaved families, ‘*You need to get over this and get on with your life.*’ That sounds really good, doesn’t it? The problem is, no one has written the manual for ‘getting over’ the death of a loved one. I believe the goal of wanting to ‘get over’ someone is ridiculous and totally unrealistic. Why should we want to get over someone who brought so much joy and laughter into our lives? I believe the goal should be that eventually we will learn how to remember the happy times before we remember the sadness of our loved one’s parting. The goal should be for us to learn from these devastating experiences and use our knowledge to bring hope to other hurting people. These are good and healthy goals, but they don’t happen overnight. We must be willing to walk through the pain our loved one’s absence caused us before we can attain these lofty goals.”



Dates to Remember

A Prayer Plan

The plan is very simple. Use the dates below as your guide. Keep *Renew* in a handy place and pray for the parents of the children remembered on each day. You will be blessed and so will the ones for whom you pray.

MARCH

- 1: Daniel Hayes-*date of birth and death*
- 1: Kathleen Odessa-*birthday*
- 2: Kyler Owens-*date of birth and death*
- 2: Bailey O'Neill-*birthday*
- 3: Bailey O'Neill, David Parrillo-*died*
- 6: Jonathan Teets-*died*
- 7: Mark Lueder-*birthday*
- 7: Scott Hickman-*died*
- 8: Glenn Auld-*died*
- 9: Michelle Huber, Stephen Wildasin-*birthday*
- 10: Haleigh Kappre-*birthday*
- 10: Patrick Hastings, Colleen Heron, Joe Pilotti-*died*
- 11: Barbara Peifer, Victoria Peifer-*birthday*
- 14: Hershel Scriven-*died*
- 14: Chuckie Magee-*birthday*
- 15: Hershel Scriven-*birthday*
- 15: Jay Delp, Shawn Walsh-*died*
- 17: Barbara Lang, Collin Peters-*birthday*
- 18: Joseph Tucker-*birthday*
- 18: Michelle (Wells) Patch, Joel Shrum, Sara Yorty-*died*
- 19: Susan Alexander, Tyler Hamvas, Rose Rogers-*died*
- 20: Doug Palouian, Maurice Williams-*died*
- 21: Nathanael Beiler, Haleigh Kappre-*died*
- 22: Tommy Burke-*birthday*
- 23: Gerard Dooley-*died*
- 23: Peter Hallinan, Mark Meher-*birthday*
- 24: Rudy Skirvin-*birthday*
- 25: Logan McKinney-*died*
- 26: Kathleen Odessa-*died*
- 28: Alanna O'Brien-*birthday*
- 29: Darin Findley, Joel Haines-*birthday*

APRIL

- 1: Robin Hull-*birthday*
- 3: Nathan Peters-*birthday*
- 5: Brandon Lock-*birthday*
- 6: Jason Dempsey-*died*
- 7: Edith Sullivan, Terri Ann Wilson-*birthday*
- 7: Stephen Jones, Justin Mayer-*died*
- 8: Scott Bartholomew-*birthday*
- 8: George Radcliffe-*died*
- 9: Kevin Barto-*birthday*
- 9: Robert Reedy, Ninel Zaharia-*died*
- 9: Grace Peruski-*date of birth and death*
- 10: Hannah Cohen-*birthday*
- 11: Joseph Hansell, Dolores Jewell, Joel Shrum, Marcus Smith-*birthday*
- 11: Steven Butts-*died*
- 12: David Benster, Jeffrey Rhinehart-*birthday*
- 12: Mirela Zaharia-*died*
- 13: Michael Smoyer-*died*
- 14: Mark Lefever, Ashley Meyers-*birthday*
- 15: Peggy Ann Floyd-*birthday*
- 16: Jonathan Teets-*birthday*
- 17: Dusty Auld, Peter Toebe-*birthday*
- 18: Chelsea Denham, Laura Reyburn, Richard Singmaster-*died*
- 19: Craig Austin, Ashley Sankus-*birthday*
- 19: Paul Stranix, Brittany Wrigley-*died*
- 20: Victoria Peifer-*died*
- 21: Scott McTyier-*birthday*
- 22: Sam Cook, David Steiner-*died*
- 25: Stephen Jones, Richard McAfee, Jason Thomas-*birthday*
- 26: Alexandru-Valentin Zaharia-*birthday*
- 27: Jessica Baransky, Stacey Gutz-*died*
- 27: Landon Vels-*birthday*
- 28: Rachel King-*birthday*

MAY

- 1: Lydia Cameron-*died*
- 2: Annie Marie Craven-*birthday*
- 3: Corinne Harris-*birthday*
- 4: Dusty Auld, Emily Porter, Lucas Thompson, Philip Wilkins-*died*
- 5: Amanda Vonderhorst, Daniel Weaver-*birthday*
- 7: Jessica Baransky, Jimmy Nowasielski-*birthday*
- 8: Brittany Wrigley-*birthday*
- 10: Kathleen Fullam-*died*
- 11: Tyler Hamvas-*birthday*
- 11: Tina Genovese-*died*
- 12: Gala Hershey-*birthday*
- 14: Tina Genovese-*birthday*
- 14: Terri Wilson-*died*
- 15: Anthony Lepera-*died*
- 16: Ashley Sankus, Edith Sullivan, Sakina Wilson-*died*
- 18: Timothy Flocco-*died*
- 18: Robert Ranck-*date of birth and death*
- 19: Scott Wolff-*birthday*
- 20: Ryleigh Canham, Chuckie Magee, Abie Schneck-*died*
- 21: Robbie Gillis-*birthday*
- 21: Presley Robinson-*died*
- 22: Sarah Ann Cole-*died*
- 22: Glenn Auld, Gioanni Cole-*birthday*
- 23: Gioanni Cole, Jason Herr-*died*
- 25: Aaron Wilbur-*birthday*
- 26: Amy Parker-*birthday*
- 26: Sheila Hollinger-*died*
- 27: Nathan Swymer, John Witcraft-*birthday*
- 27: Jerry Legg, Tim Wolfe-*died*
- 28: Susan Alexander-*birthday*
- 28: Thomas Lavin-*died*
- 29: Jessica Simrell-*birthday*
- 29: Anna Diffenderfer-*died*

NOTE: If you received *Renew* and your child's name is not shown in their birth and death month, please notify us immediately so we can make those corrections. Thank you for your understanding.



BASIS Director
Don Allison

BASIS

is a ministry to
bereaved parents
and their families.

*A ministry
under the leadership of*



**Handi*Vangelism
Ministries International™**

hvmi.org

Renew is
produced quarterly
by BASIS

**For information,
please contact us at:**

BASIS

PO Box 122
Akron, PA 17501-0122

Phone:
717-859-4777

Email:
info@HVMi.org

**Check out our blog on the
H*VMI website. Go to:
hvmi.org > blogs > grief**



Enhancing Trust