

Volume 21 #1

Spring 2021



6 Poquonock Avenue

Windsor, CT 06095

860-688-9621

[www.marysplacect.org](http://www.marysplacect.org)

MARY'S PLACE  
6 Poquonock Avenue  
Windsor, CT 06095-2507

## From the Director

Dear Friends,

Each spring at our annual family picnic and butterfly release, we gather in a circle to read a special poem about remembrance; a poignant yet fitting poem as we release butterflies in memory of our loved ones who have died. I am reminded of this poem as I think of the millions of people who have lost their lives during this pandemic; fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, children and friends (2.59 million due to COVID-19 alone as I write this.) I think of how deeply special and important they are. They are on our minds and in our hearts, those we know and those we don't. Regardless of what makes us different, we are one collective human family grieving our own losses and grieving for one another. Our hearts go out to each and every one of you who have suffered the loss of a loved one during these times, and we remember them.

### **“We Remember Them**

**In the rising of the sun and in its going down,  
we remember them.**

**In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,  
we remember them.**

**In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,  
we remember them.**

**In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,  
we remember them.**

**In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,  
we remember them.**

**In the beginning of the year and when it ends,  
we remember them.**

**When we are weary and in need of strength,  
we remember them.**

**When we are lost and sick at heart,  
we remember them.**

**When we have joys we yearn to share,  
we remember them.**

**So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,  
as we remember them.”**

*By Sylvan Kamens & Jack Riemer*

Thanks to your support we are able to continue providing our services at this incredibly pivotal time, offering hope, healing, connection and comfort to all who come to us. On behalf of myself, our volunteers, staff and Board of Directors, we send our love and deepest appreciation to you all.

Warmly,  
Brittany Sheehan

### Donations received in honor of:

Biedrzycki Family  
Liz Bucceri  
Eric Brito  
Community Funeral Homes  
John & Linda Carmon  
Nan Carmon  
Taryn Carmon  
Peter & Irene Fortier  
Charles Gilliam  
John Hogue

Mary Keane  
The Keen Boyz  
Patty Mace  
Elda Marcelynas  
Deb Roncari & Paul Murdock  
Mary's Place Volunteers  
Roger Nolte  
Ric Pinard  
Roncari Family  
Kristin Salvatoriello

Many donors participated in our Move for Memories campaign as well as sending an additional donation. These donor names are only listed in the Move for Memories section located on pages 5 & 6.

**We are deeply thankful to all of our supporters  
who make continuing our work possible.  
A special thank you to...**

PeoplesBank..... \$5,000

The Owenoke Foundation..... \$5,000

Kenneth & Paula Munson Charitable Lead Annuity Trust..... \$4,000

Crew Family Foundation..... \$5,000

The Denise D'Ascenzo Foundation..... \$5,000

### **Donation Acknowledgements**

- ♥ If you make a donation in memory or in honor of a loved one, please share this with us! We would like to list their name in the newsletter as well.
- ♥ If you would like us to send an acknowledgment to someone notifying them of your donation, please share that person's contact information with us; name and email or mailing address.
- ♥ When you are making a donation on behalf of someone else, please make sure to share that person's name and we will list them as the donor.
- ♥ If you make a donation through a workplace giving platform, please let us know and share your contact information when registering. Some companies will not share your information without permission.

*Giving platforms take time to process donations (especially matched gifts) and we may not receive it for several weeks or months due to the processing and disbursement process.*

**Mary's Place is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.**

**Any donations made are deductible according to IRS regulations.**

**If your name has been omitted or if there is an error, we apologize and ask that you notify us as 860-688-9621 or email: [info@marysplacect.org](mailto:info@marysplacect.org).**

**No fees are charged to participating families and Mary's Place depends upon individual and community support.**

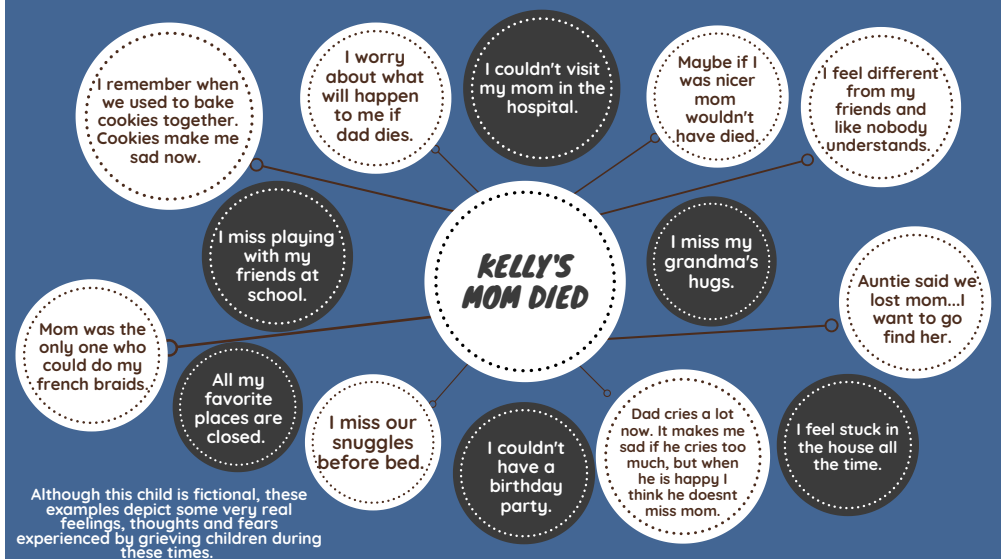


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 Alice Weibel  
 David Williams  
 Susan & Eliot Williams  
 Steven Wilson  
 Windsor Garden Club  
 Abigail Woodhouse  
 Bob Yeich  
 Ewa Zych

## GRIEVING DURING A PANDEMIC

These have been challenging times for us all. For children grieving the death of a loved one, disruptions in daily life and routine are all the more significant. Although each child will experience loss in their own unique way, they will grieve not just the death, but the changes the death brings into their lives. During these times, a variety of feelings are being experienced due to both the death and the pandemic. The depth and complexity of feelings that occur while grieving are profound and run deeper than one could fathom. At Mary's Place we provide connection, support and an outlet to navigate through these many feelings.



“Thank you for all that you do. As someone who lost a parent at a young age,  
 I’ve been deeply thinking of you all and the incredible work you do,  
 especially during these unprecedented times.”  
 -loyal Mary’s Place supporter

**We continue to need your support, now more than ever.**  
**There are many ways to help ...**

### ♥ MAKE A PERSONAL DONATION

**In honor of someone special or in memory of someone who has died; a loved one, neighbor, co-worker or friend.**

### ♥ HOST AN OUTSIDE FUNDRAISER TO RAISE FUNDS

**Tag sale, dress down day, birthday or holiday; Get creative and have fun!**

### ♥ ASK YOUR EMPLOYER TO MATCH YOUR DONATION

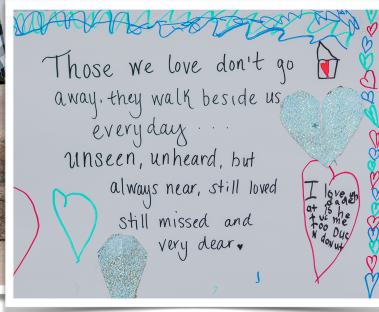
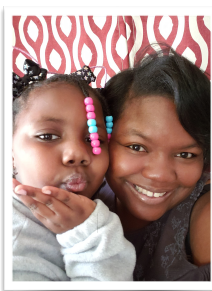
**They just may! Many companies have established employee giving programs.**

### ♥ HELP SPREAD THE WORD

**Like and Share our Facebook page so more people find out about our services.**

## Mary's Place Hit's Home

We were honored to visit some of our families at their homes for a distant outdoor interview and photo. We appreciate them allowing us to share their stories.



Kesha attended our young widow and widower group after the passing of her husband Anthony in 2018. Her daughter Aerial, just 4 years old at the time, began attending our little kids group for children ages 3-7. Aerial especially enjoys expressing herself through the artwork and crafts we do in group.



Lilly, Kaitlin and Nora started attending our program in 2020. They suffered the loss of their grandmother, who they lovingly refer to as Mom-Mom, in 2016. Although some time had passed since Mom-Mom's death, their mother Erin could see that their grief, just like their love for her, was still very much present. The girls shared that they enjoy their time at Mary's Place where they get to connect with other kids and share about fond memories of times spent with Mom-Mom.

*Gifts are often given to Mary's Place in memory of a beloved family member or friend; also, to honor birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.*

*We are grateful for each gift and thank you sincerely for your support.*

**July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020**

### Gifts in memory of:

Michael Albrizio, Tommy John Alferi, Elaine Ambrosino, Peter Arsenault, Lauren E. Avezzie, Denise Barile, Jimmy Barile, David M. Barry, Sr., Stephanie Barry, Majorie Bixler, Roy Bixler, Cpl. Stephen Bixler, Mary Ellen Bogart, Norma Bowen, Leon Brazalovich, Michael Brundage, Scott Bryson, Doris Burke, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Canalajo, Hunter Cantrell, Emma Carlone, Kenneth Chase, Monique Colletti, Dorothy Connor, Bill Cooper, The Corso Family, Denise D'Ascenzo, Cono D'Elia, James W. Davis, The Devito Family, David Dealba, Bill Donegan, Dustin Doyon, Meredith L. Ewick, MaryAnne Farinelli, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Karen Schock Fortier, Ernie Fournier, David Fowler, Melissa C. Galka, Bryan Nash Gill, Elliot Ginsberg, Daniel Granfield, Richard L. Graves, Justin Grigely, Jack Hamre, Jaimee Hayduski, Fayenette Demery Hashim, Victor E. Harris, Jr., Andrea Hinde, Nancy Jalbert, Henry Jopeak, John Kalinowski, Jackie Jensen Keen, Marjorie King, Spencer King, Jonathan Kronick, Shawn Kruse, Edward Latham, Edward Latham, Frank Lowry, Eileen Martell, John Marvin, Jim Mason, Aldona Mazel, Frank Moreno, Sue Nolte, Matthew Peck, Lawrence Ridel, Sr., Lawrence Ridel, Jr., Shirley Rosenthal, Barbara Ross, George Ross, Jack Rozanski, Rosalie Rozanski, Rita Rutter, Dennis Rybick, Barbara Siegel, Bernadette Setian, Karagin Setian, Ed Stockton, Richard Towers, Jean Tryon, Lawrence Tryon, Anna Marie Vincent, Gus Walek, Janice Wasserman, Arlene Wessel, Frederick (Bud) Wessel, Craig Winter

### Donors:

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Glastonbury Rotary Club  
Bill Gombert  
Nick Gordon  
Michael Gothers



Our Deepest Sympathy to...

Board Member Nancy Griffin and her family on the passing of Nancy's Mother, Jean Nadeau.

Former Board Member Barbara Capuano and her daughter Danielle on the passing of Barbara's brother, Salvatore Cappuccio.

Executive Director Brittany Sheehan and her family on the passing of Brittany's grandmother, Bernadette Setian.

### Thank you to our Volunteer Facilitators!

Pat Auten  
Adele Clark  
Judy Devin  
Bridgett Diene  
Nicole Henry

Barbara Karas  
Patty Mace  
Bruce McCormick  
Mary Pakulski  
Patricia Porteous

Molly Sexton Read  
Cathy Stahr  
Marie Walker  
Suzanne Willette

### We appreciate your dedication to Mary's Place and to our children and families!

A special thank you to those of you who have been so instrumental in our virtual groups.  
Your creativity and flexibility during these times is greatly appreciated!

A special thank you to long time Volunteer Facilitator Glen Pelligrinelli for his 20+ years of service to Mary's Place.

In reflecting back to Glen's application from 1999, he told us...  
"I want to help these children heal... to make a difference in these children's lives."

Glen, as you retire from your role, please do so knowing that you have in fact made such an impact on so many lives. We have been blessed to have you as part of the Mary's Place family!



Get the latest news and updates by following us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/MarysPlaceCT>

By "liking" and "sharing" Mary's Place, you can help to spread the word about our programs and services so we can reach those in need.



In 2019 Carl and his 4 children experienced the death of their loving wife and mother, Jessica. A few weeks after Jessica's passing, Carl reached out to us looking for a safe and positive outlet for his children to work through their grief. It was at that time Peyton, Quinn, Clay and Hudson began attending our groups. Carl shared with us that he is thankful to Mary's Place for being such a great support for his family.

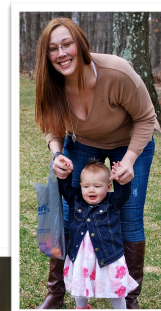


We look forward to transitioning back to in person groups and to seeing all of our families in person when safely possible. We appreciate you allowing us to be a part of your lives.

### Katie's Christmas Spirit

Katie's Christmas Spirit, an initiative created by Katie's Foundation, honors the life of Katrina M. "Katie" Kupec and her love of Christmas. Each year around the holidays Katie's family puts together bins filled with fun activities and items to spread joy and to help families connect with one another. Books, games, crafts, decor, baking supplies and more are included in the bins.

Thanks to Katie's love of Christmas and the generosity and hard work of The Kupec family, Mary's Place families have been fortunate to benefit from this program for many years. It was especially needed and appreciated this year and we are so grateful!



# MOVE FOR MEMORIES

We are grateful for the amount of support shown by all who participated in this campaign.

We are pleased to share that, thanks to the help and generosity of our amazing donors and friends, we have raised over \$25,000!

These funds will help to support Mary's Place at this critical time.

THANK YOU!

Nadine & Sebastiano Alderucci, Antonacci Family Foundation, David Baram, Lindsay Bednarz, Matt Bednarz, Ryan Bednarz, Ashley Bergeron, Joseph Bergeron, Sarah Boller, Sharon Boucher, Judith Brown, Joan Brundage, Susan Busnik, John C. Conant, Frank Camerota & Sons, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, Frank & Taryn Carmon, John & Linda Carmon, Joe Cavazos, Richard Clark, Commercial Flooring Concepts, Inc., Connecticut Funeral Directors Association, Costco, Paula Cournoyer, Melissa Crowell, Linda Currie, D'Agata Granite & Bronze, LLC, Day Hill Dental, Kurtis Dennison, Carolyn DiLeo, Linda Duckstein, Elm-Cap Industries, Inc., James Evans, Martha Fahey, Steven Farley, D.D.S., Lisa Favale, Miranda Fitzpatrick, Peter & Irene Fortier, Richard Freitas, Geissler's Supermarket, Tamara Gray, Allan & Nancy Griffin, Eileen Hargreaves, Sandra Hastillo, Sandra Hill, Tember Hopkins, Bernard Horovitz, Eileen Hosey, Julia Hotek, Juli Jensen Derrig, Teresa Knox, Erin Kozelka, Margaret Lagan, Rosemary Lang, Jeffrey LeDuc, Ledet Stevens Funeral Home, George Lesko, Charlene Li, Lori Liberti, Leah Litin, Jackie Loney, Nancy Lowry, Erik Lyesiuk, Richard Maffiolini, Chris Malitsky, Richard Manikas, Doug Marsh, Susan Marsh, Nicholas Masi, Thomas Masi, Theresa & Victor Masi, Jessica Mason Rioux, Rich Masotti, Blaire Meck, Dale Meck, Christopher Mele, Sharon Mitchell, John & Susan Normile, Morgan Papanestor, Ray & Cathy Paulding, Michael & Lisa Peluso, David Porteous, Jennifer Pyrro, Caroline Ransom, Lauren Ransom, Robin Ransom, Guy Reale, Linda Reale, Katharine Richardson, Sharon Rispoli, Karen Rodriguez, Roncari Development Company, Deborah Roncari, Gilda Roncari, Robin Roncari, Kristin Salvatoriello, Amy Sauger, Daniel Saunders, Monica Setian, South Windsor Rotary Club, Margaret Travella, Jennifer Tasman, The Hartford, Karen Vennart, Louise Violette, Katie Vohr, Katherine Wakefield, Laura Walker, Kimberly Wheeler, Gary & Barbara Wilcox, Cameron Wood, Elizabeth Wood, Sheila Yellen

## SUPPORT WAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

Elaine Amborsino  
Derby Boller  
Denise D'Ascenzo  
Daniel Griffin  
Jackie Jensen Keen  
John Kalinowski  
Michael Loney  
Sue Nolte  
Karagin & Bernadette Setian



## THANK YOU TO OUR TEAMS:

Team Masi (Theresa Masi)  
Team Sisters (Deb Roncari)  
Team Dans Fans (Nancy Griffin)  
Team Paws for a Cause (Ashley Bergeron)  
Team Hoss (Abi Cavazos)  
Team We Love Mike Loney (Kristin Salvatoriello)  
Team Fitzpatrick/Fortier (Irene Fortier)  
Team Harrison (Julie Harrison)