

GS Meet our GriefShare Facilitators!



Gerald and Cindy Bendele

We lost our fifteen-year-old son Brian to cancer on May 3, 1991. Gerald's dad passed away in 1975. Gerald now serves as an elder here at Bammel. Both Cindy and Gerald are participating in our group to encourage and support the participants as the griefwork progresses.

DeAnna Graves

In April, 2001, my sweet husband, Jim, was diagnosed with lung cancer. After 40 years of marriage, on February 11, 2005, my best friend went home to be with the Lord. I was lost. My two favorite places to go were church and home - both were difficult at best. Sherry Forbish invited me to join the GriefShare group. I began looking forward to those Wednesday night meetings where I found that "safe" place to be. People understood my tears, my guilt, my anguish, and my great sadness and no one passed judgment. I appreciate so much the group that supported and encouraged me and am so thankful to have the opportunity to minister to others who have similar needs.



Judy Reeder

I was married for 47 1/2 years to the love of my life, Buddy, who went to meet our Lord on November 24, 2005. We raised three Christian children who have married Christian mates, and have 4 wonderful grandchildren (is there any other kind?). Including my husband, my losses have been numerous: a stillborn baby daughter, 3 siblings at 21, 37, and 50, parents, and nephew at 21. They include illnesses, accident, a suicide due to alcoholism, and death after childbirth, and I have similar losses on my husband's side of the family. Grief support is my chosen ministry as I have a heart for the hurting and want to serve my Lord in this way.

Brenda Vaughan

After a 2-year battle with kidney cancer and leukemia, I lost my husband of 46 years in December 2005. I found myself lost and alone without Harold to love and take care of. At the urging of my family I got the courage to go to a GriefShare meeting. I found other people hurting much like me. The videos and the discussions helped me through that very difficult time. I made some great friends and found that by helping others I myself was being helped.



Jackie Johnson

My husband, Bill, died November 22, 2002. He had heart problems for several years. We were married 46 wonderful years. One thing I was grateful for was that he had been feeling really good. We had taken a trip and he had driven the RV there and back the weekend before he died. Regardless of how bad he felt, he was always at church services. My brother had died the year before on September 9, 2001. He lived in Missouri. My sister and I had made the trip up there but he died before we got there. I lost my mother when I was 12. She was only 33. My dad took us to Arkansas to live with our maternal grandparents. I have also lost both of them, my paternal grandparents, my Dad, all of my aunts and uncles. My sister and I are the only ones left except for cousins. God has blessed me with a good Christian family and through him I will be OK. I have wonderful memories.