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Flashlight of Hope, Inc.
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GRIEF AWARENESS CALENDAR FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR

Compiled By Elder George N. Gibson, B.A., C.D.A., Sp. Ed., CIRS Pastor and Chaplain

This is not considered a comprehensive list on grief awareness. There are many health awareness days, weeks, and months where programs, activities, candlelight vigils, et cetera can take place to remember loved ones. Again, bullying, water safety, fire safety, the gay community, et cetera are other instances where people can be remembered. Many people take their lives because of the harassment, torture, et cetera from bullying. Also, I mentioned the gay community because of the following: High rates of suicides among gay youths, people who succumb to their injuries from gay bashings, the death penalty in foreign countries because homosexuality is illegal, et cetera.

There are different types of griefs. The gay community, girlfriend/boyfriend of a married, deceased person, gang members, and terrorists are notable examples of disenfranchised grief. This is when society does not validate the survivors' grief, yet they are mourning just like everybody else. Again, pets are another example of disenfranchised grief. Some people are very close to their pets.

In my bereavement support group, **EVERYBODY'S FEELINGS ARE VALIDATED** regardless of the decease's or survivor's status! I do not discriminate at any time, especially at a time of mourning! Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:"

I was brought up in the church, studied theology, ordained as an elder (minister) and pastor, and trained as a chaplain. Esther 4:14 and I Timothy 1:12 say, "... and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom [called into the ministry] for *such* a time as this? And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

WORDS OF COMFORT

"He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.

(Psalm 147:3 and II Corinthians 1:3)

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FEBRUARY

3RD Monday Presidents' Day

MARCH

Pregnancy after Loss Awareness Month

APRIL

Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) (The date varies each year.)

Genocide Awareness Month

MAY

2ND Sunday Mother's Day

LAST MONDAY Memorial Day

JUNE

1ST Friday Gun Violence Awareness Day

3RD Sunday Father's Day

Gun Violence Awareness Month

JULY

Bereaved Parents Awareness Month

AUGUST

30TH Grief Awareness Day

31ST International Overdose Awareness Day

Grief Awareness Month

Make a Will Month

SEPTEMBER

10TH World Suicide Prevention Day

Suicide Awareness Week (The dates vary each year.)

1ST Sunday after Labor Day Grandparents' Day

11TH Patriot Day (9/11)

Suicide Awareness Month

OCTOBER

15TH Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day
Global Wave of Light at 7:00 P.M. (Your Time)

3rd Week Estate Planning Awareness Week

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Estate Planning Awareness Month

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Month

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month

NOVEMBER

1ST All Saints' Day

2ND All Souls' Day

11TH Veterans Day (This day honors all veterans whether they are living or dead.)

3RD Thursday Children's Grief Awareness Day

20TH Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR)

20TH – December 20TH Homicide Awareness Month

Home Care and Hospice Month

Hospice and Palliative Care Month

Children and Teens' Grief Awareness Month

DECEMBER

November 20TH – December 20TH Homicide Awareness Month

1ST World AIDS Day

7TH Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

21ST OR APPROXIMATELY 1ST Day of Winter (Winter Solstice) Blue Christmas Service

Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

Impaired Driving Prevention Month

More suggestions will be added in the future.

Call on the name of JESUS when life seems to be so fragile.

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