

Myers

MORTUARY

AND CREMATION SERVICES



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Category I: Basic Requirements

Criteria I: Innovative Program by Myers Mortuary

My "ME" Story

Myers Mortuary has sponsored a grief program called, Good Grief, for over 40 years. It is a series of 4 lectures that is put on in the spring and in the fall each year. The lectures cover a wide range of topics designed to help our grieving families thru the grieving process. One of our guest speakers and our Good Grief program director, Tami Hendricks, would present and share her own grief story of losing her first husband, Dirk, many years ago. She called it, "My ME Story". Tami said, "We all get to hear the story of the life of a loved one that we lost: the good, the bad, the memories and how they died; but what about the story of those who stood beside them, who held their hand as they were dying, who cried many hours and many nights, who prayed for miracles; they have a story to share as well. Her hope is that in sharing her story of grief to others that it would give those that are grieving a glimmer of light at the end of the grief tunnel. To know that someone else understands the pain they are feeling, the struggle to want to go on and that others have stood in their footsteps and they have survived. That this struggle will eventually come to an end and you too can overcome your grief. Tami would share successful stories that our families have told to her over the years with friends and staff members of how others listened to her story and they themselves now have overcome their grief.

Tragically, last year in 2018 we lost our dear Tami, whose health had been declining for several years. Her husband, Gary, shared with us his grief story in hopes that it could help others, like Tami has helped. Myers Mortuary started working on a completely new look for our website this past spring. As part of that website, we designed a new section under resources called, "My ME Story", in honor of Tami Hendricks. It provided an area for grieving families to share their story of grief and loss so that others can have that opportunity to know as Tami has shared, "you are not alone on this grief journey and this is how others have survived." Tami's story has helped so many and now her legacy can continue to grow for years to come as a wonderful Aftercare tool.

As funeral directors for Myers Mortuary with four funeral home locations, we all helped with this project by reaching out to the families we have served from one to two years ago with a plea that if they would like to help someone struggling, to send us their "ME" story. We all feel and struggle with grief in a different way. Their story may touch the heart of someone in need.

(Documentation Attached)

The Funeral Directors Who Care

Web-site: www.myers-mortuary.com E-mail: office@myers-mortuary.com

Category I: Basic Requirements: I

My “ME” Story

My wife Tami

During each Good Grief fall and spring series, at some time during the rotation of different speakers, Tami would tell “Her Story”.

Part of living your life is dealing with the sudden loss of life. At twenty-eight years old, her beloved husband Dirk Maw just shy of being married for twelve years was killed in a car accident.

Never good at being alone, Tami was suddenly alone. Many of the things Tami talked about during her presentation was both confessing the mistakes she had made in going through her grief and what she could teach others by what she had learned.

One lesson Tami resonated with every grieving person attending the series was, “Your grief is YOUR personal journey”. Not many people know this, but after each class on the drive home, Tami would be sick with worry about each of the attendees somehow wishing she could take their pain away or if not, just make the grieving process a little shorter.

In all of her classes, Tami did possess one secret gift and that was to be blessed with having Christ like empathy. Having her main job as a manager at Standard Optical, Tami used to say she did that job for the paycheck and Good Grief was for her heart.

Now physically unable to work at Standard Optical, while preparing for the 2018 spring series, just trying to muster the energy to get to the library was so taxing and disheartening but she pushed herself to do it because Tami believed in Good Grief so much.

It was during the spring series that the hope of life slipped away from Tami in the early morning hours of May 21, 2018 as Tami would now teach us how to mourn her.

Sadness without surrender. Weakness without defeat. To truly know and understand Tami, we can love completely without completely understanding.

Winter Kill by Gary D. Hendricks

Spring:

- A time to be thankful.
- A time of birth and rebirth.
- A time for the emergence of love and renewed energy.
- A time of tenderness and hope.
- A time to celebrate the victory of daylight over darkness.
- A time of planting dreams.

Summer:

- A time to enjoy and grow.
- A time to live and laugh.
- A time to learn, tend and teach our young.
- A time to imagine and explore.
- A time to gather together.
- A time to enjoy the warmth of life.
- A time of nature’s bounty.
- A time to prepare and build.