

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

By: R. D. Cawyer
Bereaved Father
Denton, TX

We do it all the time, send good wishes and thoughts to those we love who are separated from us. It may be across town, across the state, across the world, or in another time. We cannot help thinking about them and sending our love. It is only natural.

We may do it by card, by telephone, by email, or just by thought. If we are separated by time instead of distance, thought is the only way to send our love.

To those who have never experienced the death of a child, it may seem morbid or like a waste of money to celebrate one's child's birthday. Those same people probably think nothing abnormal about visiting the grave of a favorite relative (mother, father, etc.). These are considered acts of love, and for me, I seek to communicate (at least one way; maybe one of these days, two-ways) with a sorely missed and loved daughter.

So, whatever anyone else may think, I will continue to celebrate my Sarah's birthday. I will do so by releasing balloons, planting a rose bush, making a donation to organizations that either she participated in or that I believe are helpful in some ways to foster understanding, love and tolerance. In doing so, I tell her one more time, *I love you, Sarah. Happy Birthday.*

Printed with Permission From "Where Are All The Butterflies?"