



LINDA DUVALL

**DESPERATELY
SORRY**

EMAILS

A close-up photograph of a bouquet of flowers, primarily pink and white, with green foliage. The flowers are arranged in a dark, possibly black, vase. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the bouquet and some white fabric or paper.

Desperately sorry to hear your tragic news; letter in the mail.

My heart goes out to you all. I am so sorry for your terrible loss.

I know what it is to struggle and lose someone you love fiercely

You and your family are in our thoughts at this tough time

What deeply saddening news. I'm thinking of you and sending lots
and lots of hugs, sympathies, blessings and strength.

There are no words that I could write that will bring you comfort,
but know that my love and absolute empathy surround you, and will
continue to surround you as you cope with the most terrible and
tearing loss of all.

I'm not sure whether you remember me or not, but upon returning
from holidays I learned of your son's passing. Please know that my
thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time.



I just opened your e-mail. i sit here with tears running down my face for the pain you feel. There will be numbness, profound sadness anger, disbeleif. Your world will never be the same.

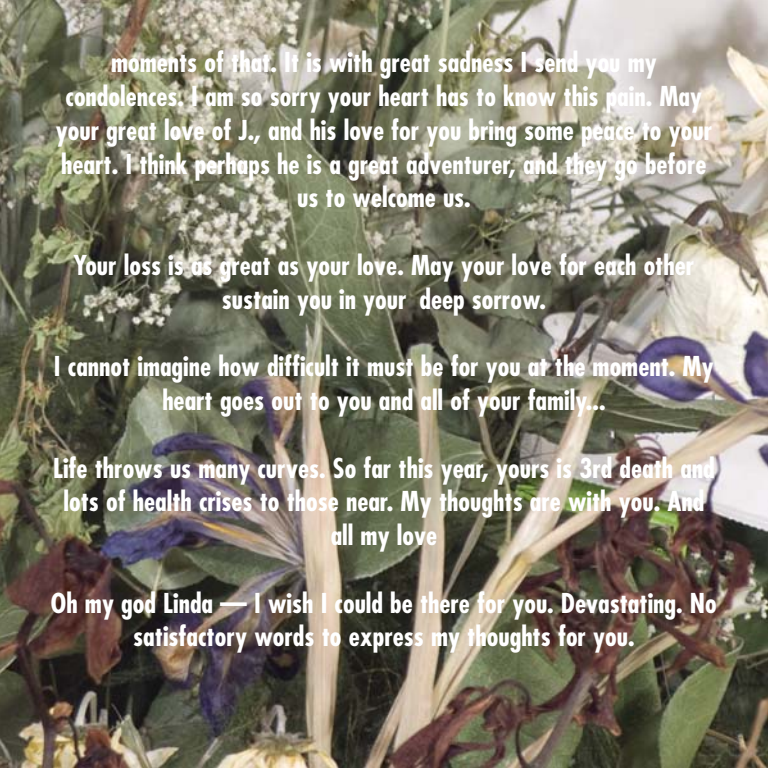
Is there a place to which we can send flowers or make a donation?
Our thoughts are with you.

Such sad and terrible news...My prayers are with you all.

There are no word suitable to express our sadness at your tragedy.
We are there for you if you require anything at anytime.

Although we have not seen you or your family for several years, B. keeps us posted. Please accept our condolences in the loss of your dear J.

I send my love and sympathy for your loss. I have had you in our thoughts all week. If there is anything I can do for you please let me know, I wish you peace in your grieving....and there are



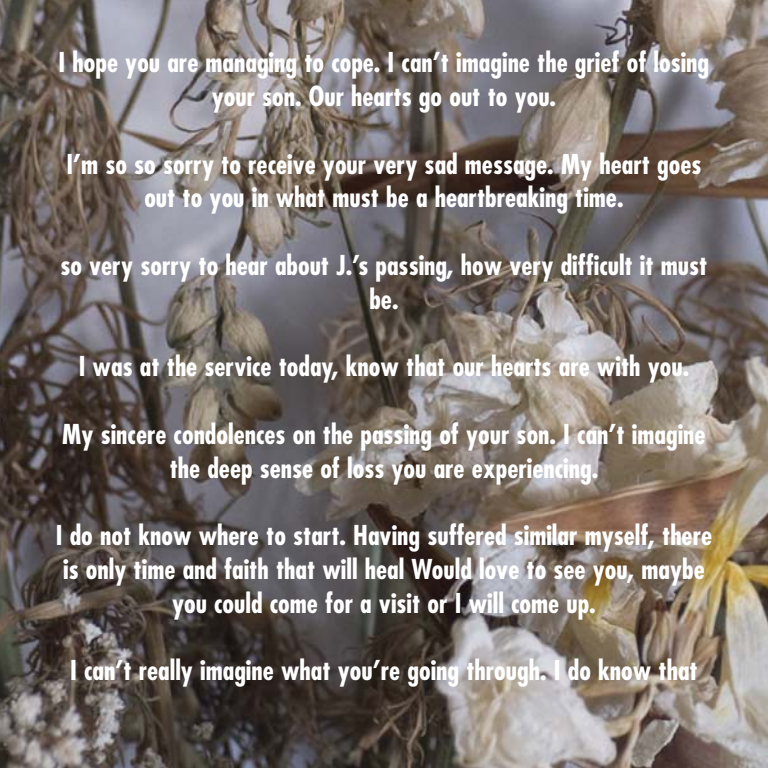
moments of that. It is with great sadness I send you my condolences. I am so sorry your heart has to know this pain. May your great love of J., and his love for you bring some peace to your heart. I think perhaps he is a great adventurer, and they go before us to welcome us.

Your loss is as great as your love. May your love for each other sustain you in your deep sorrow.

I cannot imagine how difficult it must be for you at the moment. My heart goes out to you and all of your family...

Life throws us many curves. So far this year, yours is 3rd death and lots of health crises to those near. My thoughts are with you. And all my love

Oh my god Linda — I wish I could be there for you. Devastating. No satisfactory words to express my thoughts for you.



I hope you are managing to cope. I can't imagine the grief of losing your son. Our hearts go out to you.

I'm so so sorry to receive your very sad message. My heart goes out to you in what must be a heartbreaking time.

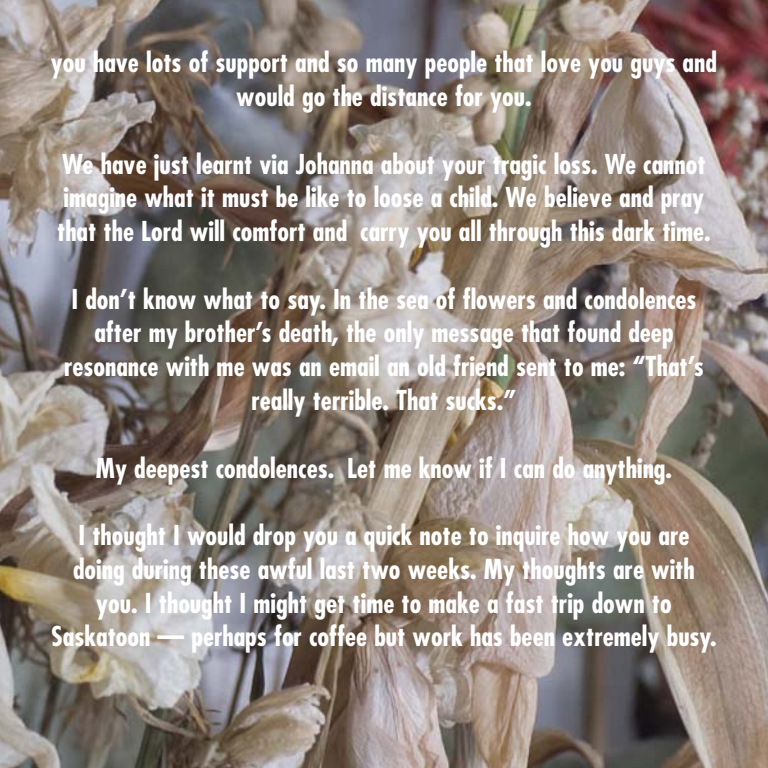
so very sorry to hear about J.'s passing, how very difficult it must be.

I was at the service today, know that our hearts are with you.

My sincere condolences on the passing of your son. I can't imagine the deep sense of loss you are experiencing.

I do not know where to start. Having suffered similar myself, there is only time and faith that will heal. Would love to see you, maybe you could come for a visit or I will come up.

I can't really imagine what you're going through. I do know that



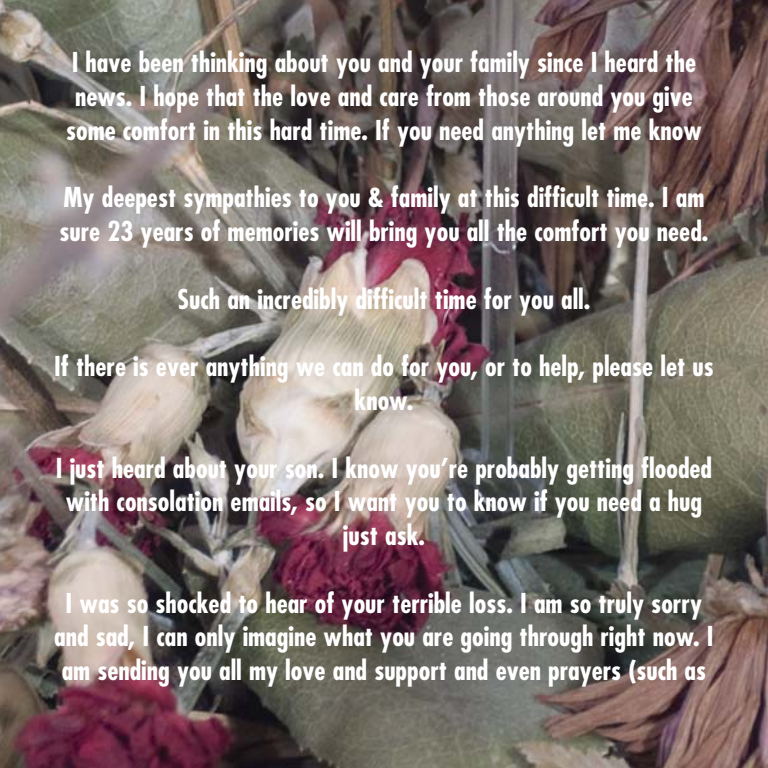
you have lots of support and so many people that love you guys and would go the distance for you.

We have just learnt via Johanna about your tragic loss. We cannot imagine what it must be like to loose a child. We believe and pray that the Lord will comfort and carry you all through this dark time.

I don't know what to say. In the sea of flowers and condolences after my brother's death, the only message that found deep resonance with me was an email an old friend sent to me: "That's really terrible. That sucks."

My deepest condolences. Let me know if I can do anything.

I thought I would drop you a quick note to inquire how you are doing during these awful last two weeks. My thoughts are with you. I thought I might get time to make a fast trip down to Saskatoon — perhaps for coffee but work has been extremely busy.



I have been thinking about you and your family since I heard the news. I hope that the love and care from those around you give some comfort in this hard time. If you need anything let me know

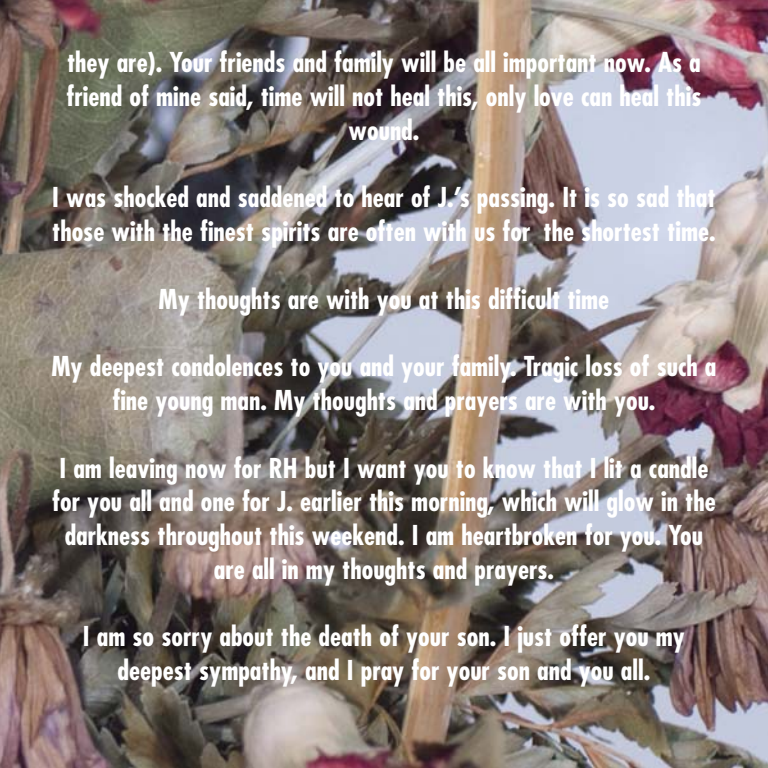
My deepest sympathies to you & family at this difficult time. I am sure 23 years of memories will bring you all the comfort you need.

Such an incredibly difficult time for you all.

If there is ever anything we can do for you, or to help, please let us know.

I just heard about your son. I know you're probably getting flooded with consolation emails, so I want you to know if you need a hug just ask.

I was so shocked to hear of your terrible loss. I am so truly sorry and sad, I can only imagine what you are going through right now. I am sending you all my love and support and even prayers (such as



they are). Your friends and family will be all important now. As a friend of mine said, time will not heal this, only love can heal this wound.

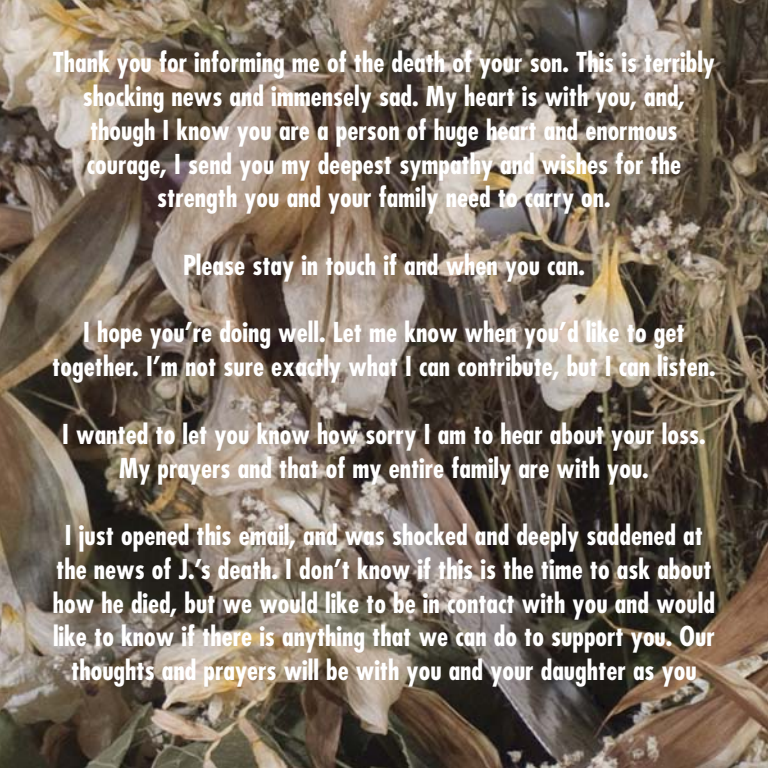
I was shocked and saddened to hear of J's passing. It is so sad that those with the finest spirits are often with us for the shortest time.

My thoughts are with you at this difficult time

My deepest condolences to you and your family. Tragic loss of such a fine young man. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

I am leaving now for RH but I want you to know that I lit a candle for you all and one for J. earlier this morning, which will glow in the darkness throughout this weekend. I am heartbroken for you. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

I am so sorry about the death of your son. I just offer you my deepest sympathy, and I pray for your son and you all.



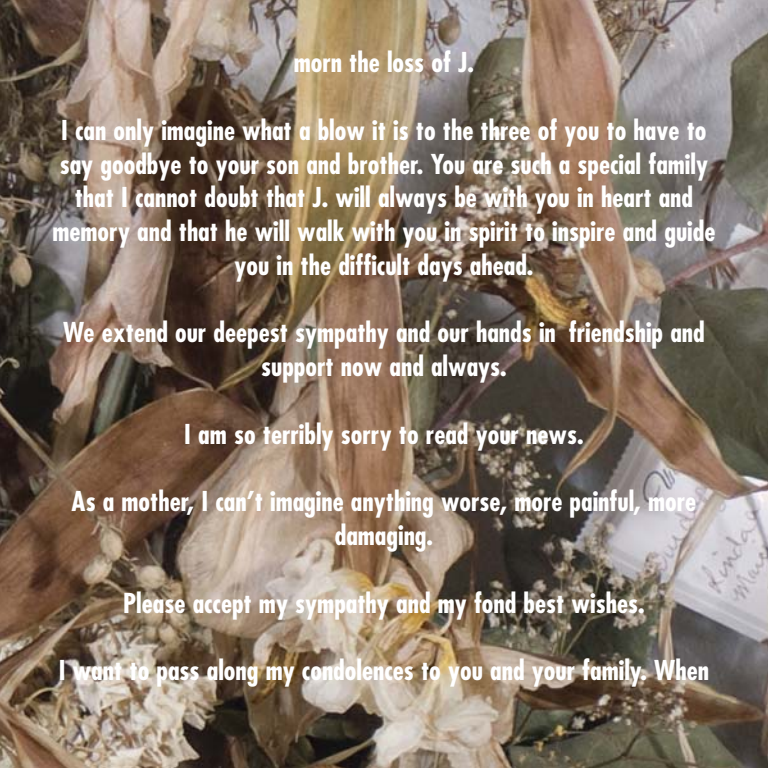
Thank you for informing me of the death of your son. This is terribly shocking news and immensely sad. My heart is with you, and, though I know you are a person of huge heart and enormous courage, I send you my deepest sympathy and wishes for the strength you and your family need to carry on.

Please stay in touch if and when you can.

I hope you're doing well. Let me know when you'd like to get together. I'm not sure exactly what I can contribute, but I can listen.

I wanted to let you know how sorry I am to hear about your loss. My prayers and that of my entire family are with you.

I just opened this email, and was shocked and deeply saddened at the news of J.'s death. I don't know if this is the time to ask about how he died, but we would like to be in contact with you and would like to know if there is anything that we can do to support you. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your daughter as you



morn the loss of J.

I can only imagine what a blow it is to the three of you to have to say goodbye to your son and brother. You are such a special family that I cannot doubt that J. will always be with you in heart and memory and that he will walk with you in spirit to inspire and guide you in the difficult days ahead.

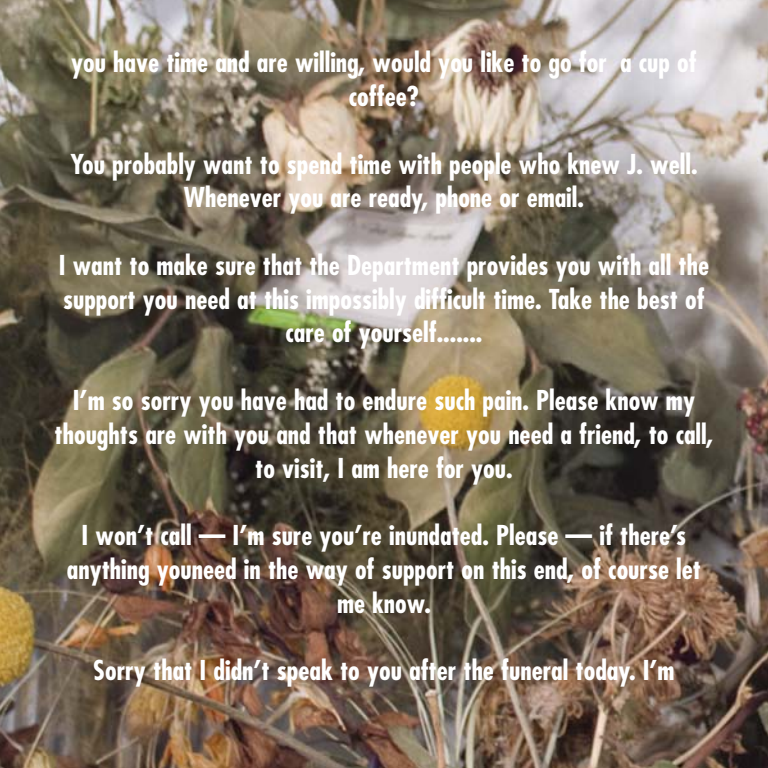
We extend our deepest sympathy and our hands in friendship and support now and always.

I am so terribly sorry to read your news.

As a mother, I can't imagine anything worse, more painful, more damaging.

Please accept my sympathy and my fond best wishes.

I want to pass along my condolences to you and your family. When

A bouquet of dried flowers and greenery, including a prominent yellow flower and a white card, serves as the background for the text.

you have time and are willing, would you like to go for a cup of coffee?

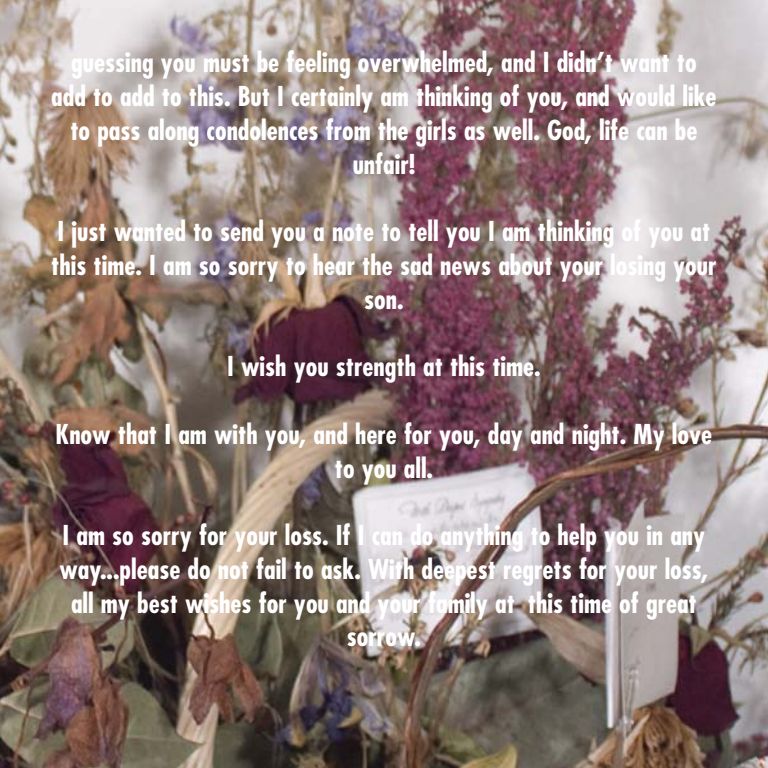
You probably want to spend time with people who knew J. well. Whenever you are ready, phone or email.

I want to make sure that the Department provides you with all the support you need at this impossibly difficult time. Take the best of care of yourself.....

I'm so sorry you have had to endure such pain. Please know my thoughts are with you and that whenever you need a friend, to call, to visit, I am here for you.

I won't call — I'm sure you're inundated. Please — if there's anything you need in the way of support on this end, of course let me know.

Sorry that I didn't speak to you after the funeral today. I'm



guessing you must be feeling overwhelmed, and I didn't want to add to add to this. But I certainly am thinking of you, and would like to pass along condolences from the girls as well. God, life can be unfair!

I just wanted to send you a note to tell you I am thinking of you at this time. I am so sorry to hear the sad news about your losing your son.

I wish you strength at this time.

Know that I am with you, and here for you, day and night. My love to you all.

I am so sorry for your loss. If I can do anything to help you in any way...please do not fail to ask. With deepest regrets for your loss, all my best wishes for you and your family at this time of great sorrow.



We were very sad to hear the news that you lost your son. You are in our thoughts.

Much much love to you. I will light a candle for J. and will be thinking of the three of you tomorrow.

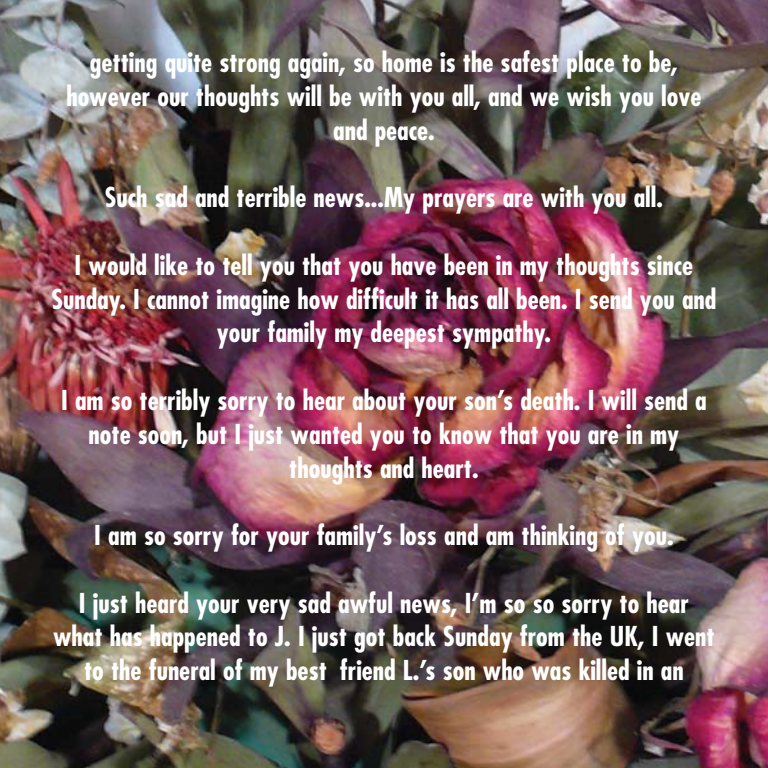
Courage dear friend.

I want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I hope you will take comfort in the love and support of friends and family at this very difficult time in your lives.

It is impossible to express the depth of my sympathy, but know that I wish I could be with you to put my arms around you and hold you.

I am so sorry. What very sad news indeed.

I am so sorry that we cannot come to the funeral today, as we had planned. We have three or four feet snowbanks and the wind is



getting quite strong again, so home is the safest place to be,
however our thoughts will be with you all, and we wish you love
and peace.

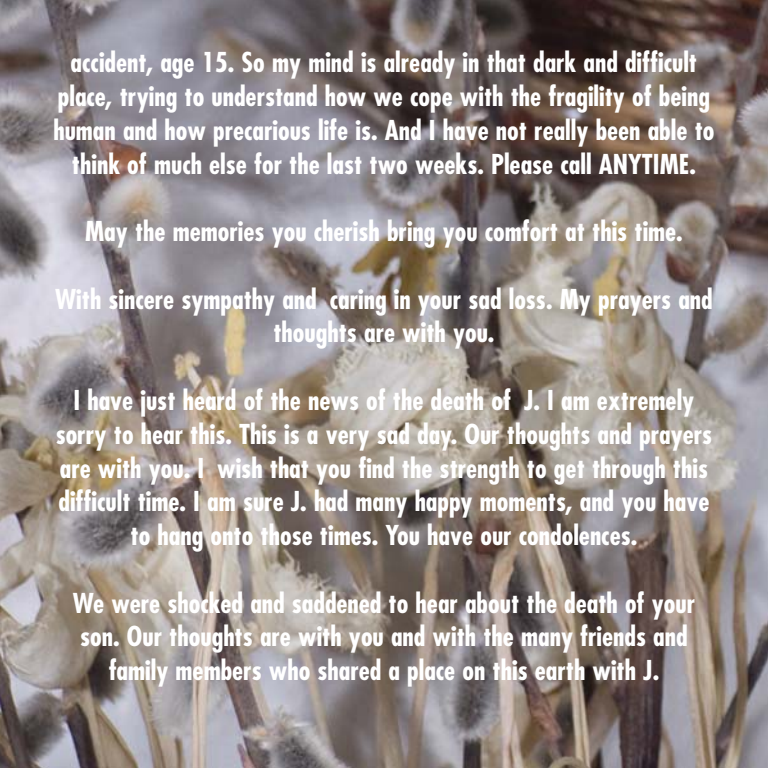
Such sad and terrible news...My prayers are with you all.

I would like to tell you that you have been in my thoughts since
Sunday. I cannot imagine how difficult it has all been. I send you and
your family my deepest sympathy.

I am so terribly sorry to hear about your son's death. I will send a
note soon, but I just wanted you to know that you are in my
thoughts and heart.

I am so sorry for your family's loss and am thinking of you.

I just heard your very sad awful news, I'm so so sorry to hear
what has happened to J. I just got back Sunday from the UK, I went
to the funeral of my best friend L.'s son who was killed in an



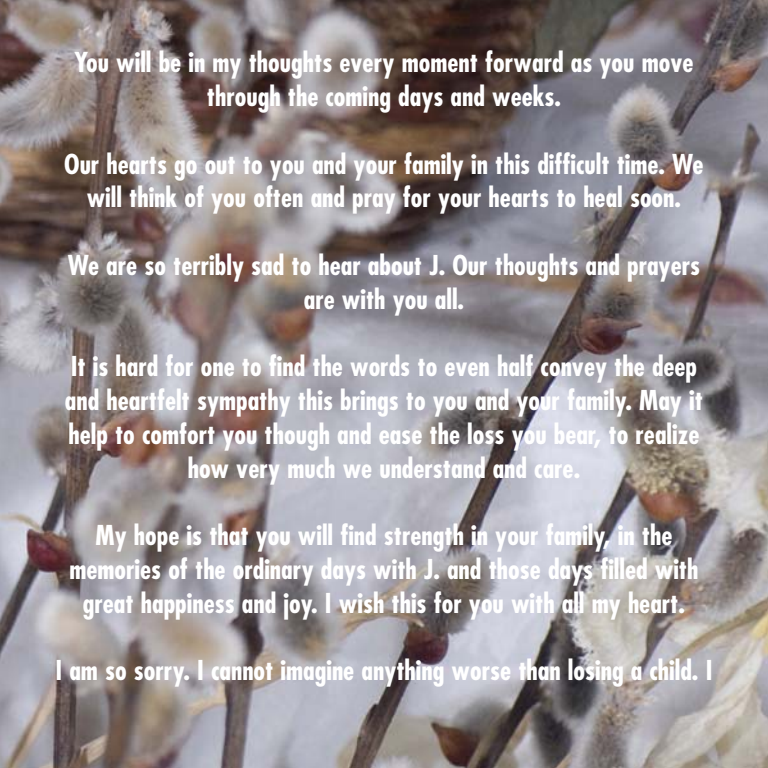
accident, age 15. So my mind is already in that dark and difficult place, trying to understand how we cope with the fragility of being human and how precarious life is. And I have not really been able to think of much else for the last two weeks. Please call ANYTIME.

May the memories you cherish bring you comfort at this time.

With sincere sympathy and caring in your sad loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you.

I have just heard of the news of the death of J. I am extremely sorry to hear this. This is a very sad day. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. I wish that you find the strength to get through this difficult time. I am sure J. had many happy moments, and you have to hang onto those times. You have our condolences.

We were shocked and saddened to hear about the death of your son. Our thoughts are with you and with the many friends and family members who shared a place on this earth with J.



You will be in my thoughts every moment forward as you move through the coming days and weeks.

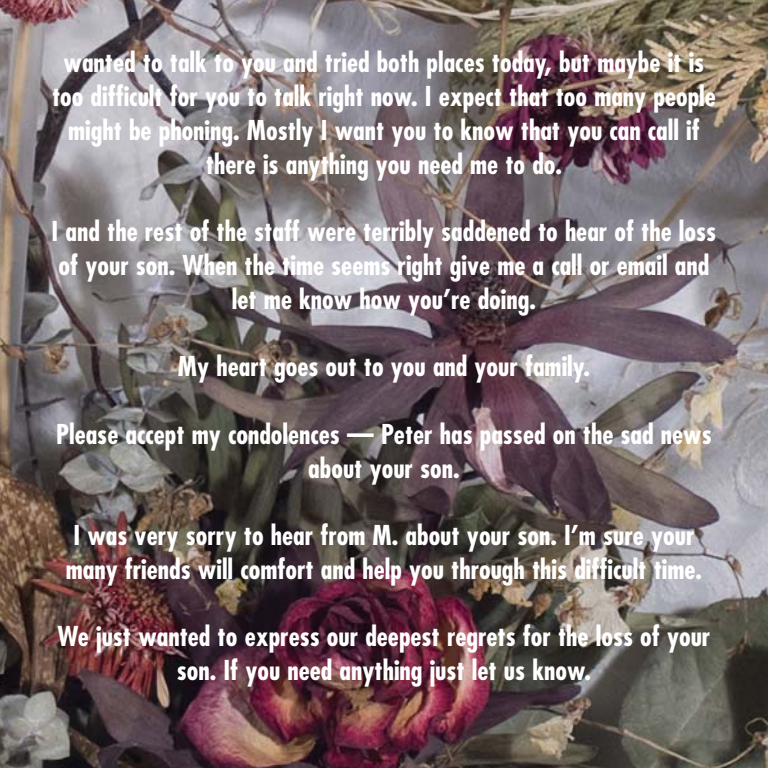
Our hearts go out to you and your family in this difficult time. We will think of you often and pray for your hearts to heal soon.

We are so terribly sad to hear about J. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

It is hard for one to find the words to even half convey the deep and heartfelt sympathy this brings to you and your family. May it help to comfort you though and ease the loss you bear, to realize how very much we understand and care.

My hope is that you will find strength in your family, in the memories of the ordinary days with J. and those days filled with great happiness and joy. I wish this for you with all my heart.

I am so sorry. I cannot imagine anything worse than losing a child. I



wanted to talk to you and tried both places today, but maybe it is too difficult for you to talk right now. I expect that too many people might be phoning. Mostly I want you to know that you can call if there is anything you need me to do.

I and the rest of the staff were terribly saddened to hear of the loss of your son. When the time seems right give me a call or email and let me know how you're doing.

My heart goes out to you and your family.

Please accept my condolences — Peter has passed on the sad news about your son.

I was very sorry to hear from M. about your son. I'm sure your many friends will comfort and help you through this difficult time.

We just wanted to express our deepest regrets for the loss of your son. If you need anything just let us know.

The combination of flowers and emails provide invaluable support both during the initial hours and days following a death, and in the ongoing grieving period.

Flowers have remained a constant means of expressing condolence over hundreds of years.

The advent of email has shifted the speed at which the occurrence of a death is communicated. The news of a death is spread across that family's extended internet community within hours. This in turn affects the nature of the expression of grief. Email messages have generally replaced the preprinted standardized sympathy cards. A notable result of this change is that one must use one's personal words to communicate something often difficult to express.

These messages are received very soon after the actual death has occurred, even before the funeral has happened. Essentially these emails are being inserted into the primary rituals of death, joining the nonverbal communication of the floral arrangements.



BlackFlash

Linda Duvall, 2008