

Library Books & Resources Available through Mourning Hope's Lending Library:

Section: Youth Books

Topic: Loss of a Family Member

Title	Author (Last Name)	Description
A Mural for Mamita/ Un Mural Para Mamita	Alexander	English and Spanish versions of a story about a young girl whose Mamita gets cancer and later dies. Lux, the granddaughter, remembers all the special things about her grandmother and gets everyone together to create a fantastic mural.
A Place in My Heart	Aubrey	Andrew's grandpa has died, and Andrew is feeling very sad and confused. Explore with your child the difficult issue of loss as Andrew talks about his feelings with his mom and dad.
Am I Still A Sister?	Sims	This book was written when Allie Sims was 11 and reflects the child-wise discoveries she made after her baby brother died. "I learned that death is all right for some, but terrible for others. Some think death is a release from life. Others aren't ready to leave."
Animal Crackers	Marshall	A gentle, sad story about a loving, playful grandmother who hides treats for her grandchildren. The day comes when she must move from her house to a nursing home; she is no longer able to play with nor provide treats for her grandchildren. She then gives out boxes of animal crackers (a favorite hidden treat) to remember and say a special goodbye. For very young children.
Anna's Scrapbook	Aitkin	Journal of a Sister's Love: When her beloved baby sister dies suddenly, nine-year-old Anna keeps a journal of her

		feelings and makes a scrapbook of photographs and other reminders.
Annie and the Old One	Miles	Annie, an Indian child, resorts to extremes in trying to prevent her dear grandmother from dying. The "old one" has said she will return to Earth when she has finished helping Annie and Annie's mother to weave their new rug, so the child does everything she can to delay the project. When the grandmother explains her beliefs, Annie understands and no longer attempts to hold back time.
Babka's Serenade	Zebrowski	Babka tells the most wonderful stories about kingdoms, dragons and princesses. One day, when Pipchin came home, her mother was crying. Babka has died. They began to clean out Babka's house. Pipchin loved all the beautiful flowers in Babka's garden where she listened to her stories. In the end, Pipchin begins her own garden and continues to tell Babka's stories.
Badger's Parting Gifts	Varley	The story of the death of a beloved old friend. As the animals talk about Badger they remember his many skills and the kindness he showed them.
Blackberries in the Dark	Jukes	Nine-year-old Austin visits his grandmother for the first time since his granddad's death. The awkwardness of that first day does not lead to a morose story; instead, it is one of love, shared feelings and family.
Dancing on the Moon	Roper	Six-year-old Carly experiences confusion and sadness following the death, by SIDS, of her baby brother. Then, in a dream, she flies to the moon and finds Nigel, who assures her that he will always be with her, which can be a powerful message of hope and comfort to a young child struggling to cope with a sibling's death.
Emily's Sadhappy Season	Lowden	This is an excellent story about a little girl's reaction to the sudden death of her father from a heart attack. The story is well told and it covers feelings that the child would experience in response to the loss. The story is realistic and the emotional responses are honest and sincere. At the end of the story there are some helpful tips for children grieving the death of a parent. This book is highly recommended for children ages 6-10.

Everett Anderson's Goodbye	Clifton	A young African American boy struggles to understand and accept his father's death. With the help of his mother, he remembers that love never dies, and his father will live in his memory. A simple but sensitively told story. "I knew my daddy loved me through and through, and whatever happens when people die, love doesn't stop, and neither will I."
Finding Grandpa Everywhere	Hodge	A wonderful resource for helping children understand death, grief, and remembrance, this is the story of a young boy who has been told that he has "lost" his grandfather. The boy remembers when he himself was lost in the mall and wants to help his grandmother find his grandfather. When he learns that his grandfather is not lost but dead, the boy remembers the old man's kindness and love.
Geranium Morning	Powell	A story about a little boy whose father dies in a car accident while going to buy geraniums to grow on his porch. While the boy is dealing with his loss, he befriends a girl whose mother is dying. After some initial difficulties they become good friends and help each other to deal with loss.
Grandfather's Shirt	Morning	A book for children to help understand and come to terms with the loss of someone very close to them. Peter struggles with the loss of his grandfather but finds hope in working in the garden his grandfather loved.
Gran-Gran's Best Trick	Holden	A poetic story about a young girl whose beloved grandfather battles cancer, becoming very different from the Gran-Gran who loved fishing, grew plants in old ice coolers, and took her on neighborhood "safaris." She decides to keep his memory alive by telling her little sister all about him and the things he taught her, and by doing so, learns that those we love never leave our hearts and that this is "love's best trick."
Green Mittens From Grandma	Hanks	Grandma knits special green mittens. When she died, the little boy goes to his room and digs a green mitten out of his drawer and keeps it in his pocket. The young child remembers all the things he loved about his grandma.

Ira Says Goodbye	Waber	Reggie is moving out of town. With much humor and a clear sense of what is important to children, Waber portrays the range of feelings and emotions that accompanies this move.
Isabelle's Dream	Arenella	A story and activity book for a child's grief journey. Based on the true story of two sisters, this book takes the reader on a heartwarming journey from grief to hope.
Just a Heartbeat Away	Constans	This gentle book moves through the feelings a young child has when a parent has AIDS, to the death, and then the many changes that happen when a parent dies. "I held onto her as tight as I could. Then I got scared again and remembered that she was dying and there was nothing I could do to stop it." It is an excellent resource for schools, hospice, families and friends.
Laughter in the Wind	Trunz	This beautifully illustrated story of a young butterfly named Bernadette goes beyond the traditional symbolism of metamorphosis, allowing the reader to share Bernadette's transition from the physical world and follow her into the spiritual realm.
Lilacs for Grandma	Hucek	Death of a Grandmother for children ages 5-10. Megan hid under the lilac bush under Grandmother's bedroom window. Grandma knew she was there. she heard the grown-ups talking about Grandma being ill. After Grandma dies, Megan watches the doves build a new nest and she gathers lilacs to bring to the funeral.
Losing David	Young	David, a young volunteer at Hope House who suffers from leukemia, gives AIDS victim Kim Roberts help and support, and when David's illness worsens, Kim wonders if she can live without him.
Losing Uncle Tim	Jordan	This book is about a boy and his uncle. The boy really looks up to his uncle. His uncle owns a store. The boy likes a bear at the store. One day after a visit to Uncle Tim's house he found out that Uncle Tim had AIDS. After Uncle Tim died the boy bought a few things from the store that helped him to remember Uncle Tim.
Lost and Found	Yeomans	In this beautifully written book, a girl's sister dies of cancer. People around her say that 'we lost Paige.' As the family goes through the grief process, Alexandra discovers that

		she can always find Paige through art, memories, memorials, and Paige's possession. The illustrations in this picture book are emotionally provocative, yet beautiful and soothing.
Molly's Rosebush	Cohn	A gentle, honest story about Molly, whose mother suffers a miscarriage. In an introduction, Cohn talks to parents about how children are affected by such a loss, how it should be explained to them, what their reactions may be, and how to determine if professional help is needed.
My Grandpa Died Today	Fassler	David remembers everything about his grandpa and all the things that he has taught him over the years. When grandpa explains that he is very old and cannot live forever, David tries to understand how to cope with the news and later with the loss.
My Grandson Lew	Zolotow	Together Lewis and his mother remember Grandpa, who used to come in the night when Lewis called.
No Bigger Than My Teddy Bear	Pankow	For sisters and brothers of a healthy preemie. You'll enjoy giving this to your children or your very young visitors. "The first time I got to go into the nursery, I was scared. There were so many machines, lights, wires and tubes. I smiled because he was my new brother."
On the Wings of a Butterfly	Maple	This is the gentle story of Lisa, a young child dying of cancer, who finds comfort and support in her friendship with a caterpillar preparing for transformation into a butterfly.
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes	Coerr	The touching story of a terminally ill girl based on the true story of a young Japanese girl who contracts leukemia as a result of the atom bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima, the story follows Sadako as a healthy schoolgirl, through her diagnosis, to her long stay in the hospital. It is in the hospital that she first begins making origami cranes to pass the time. Her ultimate goal is to make 1000, but she dies with only 644 completed. Sadako's classmates finish making the remaining cranes, and all 1000 are buried with her.
Sam's Dad Died	Holmes	After Sam's Dad dies, Sam explores his many feelings as he goes through his days at home and at school. Gradually, with support and time, he becomes thankful for the good

		feelings, love, and memories given him by his father.
She Was Born, She Died	Cohen	A collection of poems written following the death of an infant.
Since My Brother Died/ Desde Que Murio Mi Hermano	Munoz-Kiehne	A young person speaks to the reader about reaction, feelings, and ways of coping with the death of a brother. A resource page for parents and professionals is included. Bilingual.
Someone I Love Died By Suicide	Cammarata	The author, a suicide survivor and grief counselor, deeply understands what children need to know about suicide. For children as well as those who care for them, this lushly illustrated book can be read to or by a child. General grief support and activity suggestions are included.
Stacy Had A Little Sister	Friedman	Young Stacy has mixed emotions about the birth of her new sister, Ashley. While Stacy misses the attention her parents formerly devoted to her, she is anxious for Ashley to grow so they can play together. When the baby dies unexpectedly, a victim of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), Stacy worries that somehow she may be responsible or that SIDS may be contagious. Finally, her grieving parents manage to assure her that she neither caused nor is in danger of contracting the mysterious illness.
Sunflowers & Rainbows for Tia	Alexander-Greene	This story is about a child whose father dies at home. It follows the family from the night of the father's death through the days following the funeral. The feelings of the child and the events surrounding her father's death are realistically portrayed and caringly addressed. The illustrations are bright and colorful and the text is rich and descriptive.
The Brightest Star	Hemery	A little girl, grieving the death of her mother, finds comfort in looking for the brightest star in the sky to remind her of her mother's love. A tender story about Molly and how she is helped to remember and feel connected to her mother.
The Butterfly Bush	Evarts	How a young granddaughter copes with the loss of her grandmother and her love. After her grandmother dies, Lindsay finds strength and beauty in the butterfly bush they planted together.
The Butterfly Field	Glaine	"Oh Grandpa! Why did you leave me?" This is the question

		that lingers in little Billy's mind when his beloved Grandpa dies. Then he remembers his trip with his grandfather to a beautiful valley alive with colorful butterflies. Their discovery of caterpillars turning into butterflies helps Billy understand his grandfather's passing.
The Christmas Cactus	Wrenn	Megan doesn't want to hear that her Nana is dying. She picks up one of Nana's plants and tries to bring it back to health. The Christmas season just isn't the same- all of the colors of the season seem to be gone. But after Nana dies, Megan get a very special present.
The Class in Room 44	Blackburn	The story of the experiences of classmates when a friend dies. The teacher helps the class share their thoughts and feeling and receive help.
The Empty Place	Temes	This book speaks to the many experiences of emptiness children may feel in their home and in their heart when a sibling dies. The book gently explores feelings and needs a child may have and suggests practical ideas of comfort.
The Garden Angel	Czech	A young child discovers a grandparent's love grows even after death. This remarkably tender, child-friendly story shows the creative spirit exhibited in children facing grief.
The Memory Box	McLaughlin	"How could Grandpa die when he promised to take me fishing?" A young child shares his feelings after Grandpa dies. He talks about all the things he will miss doing with his Grandpa. The child decides to make a memory box out of Grandpa's tackle box. He fills it with special items and all the memories of his Grandpa.
The Purple Balloon	Reschka	For seriously ill children and their loved ones, the simple, profound story reassures that we are not alone, even in dying. The image of a balloon released and floating free in a universal symbol of life continuing on. A fine resource for encouraging discussion.
The Snowman	Vogel	The Snowman was the first Tommy and Buddy built since Dad died. They had Dad's old pipe. They found his favorite scarf. His hat was ready and so were the big buttons for his eyes. And the two brothers were ready too, ready to talk about how Dad died and what his death meant to them.

The Three Birds	Van Den Berg	When a young bird's mother dies, its father tells it that Mummy is living in the sun now, where it is warm and Mummy can fly freely.
Thumpy's Story	Dodge	This is the story of how a family of rabbits help each other when a beloved bunny dies. The story teaches families, and children of all ages, how to be sensitive and to support each other through loss.
Tim's Dad	Hitchcock	A story about a boy whose father dies. The book has great ideas for helping children to cope with significant loss such as writing letters and making lists.
Timothy Duck	Blackburn	The story of a young duck whose best friend becomes ill and dies. It is a gentle picture book with warm illustrations and text that covers both the process of terminal illness and the associated feelings of the loved ones. "Timothy knew every living thing dies some day. He just couldn't understand why a nice person like John had to get sick and die. He was angry because John wouldn't have a chance to grow up."
To Hell With Dying	Deeter	At this book's center is the narrator's feeling for Mr. Sweet, an elderly friend from her childhood. Diabetic and alcoholic Mr. Sweet is repeatedly recalled from the edge of "death" by the narrator and her brother. Their affectionate need for him works like a charm until his 90th birthday, when the narrator hurries back from the university but is only just recognized before Mr. Sweet is really gone.
Tracker	Paulsen	For John Borne's family, hunting has nothing to do with sport or manliness. It's a matter of survival. Every fall John and his grandfather go off into the woods to shoot the deer that puts meat on the table over the long Minnesota winter. But this year John's grandfather is dying, and John must hunt alone. John tracks a doe for two days, but as he closes in on his prey, he realizes he cannot shoot her. For John, the hunt is no longer about killing, but about life.
We Were Gonna Have a Baby, But We Had an Angel Instead	Schwiebert	A little boy's excitement turns to sadness when the baby he is waiting for dies before birth. He learns that the baby still lives in his heart. Helpful advice for parents. Expresses the excitement and anticipation children have while waiting for

		their new sibling to arrive, and the sudden, life- changing nature of an unexpected loss.
What's Happening to Grandpa?	Shriver	Kate has always adored her grandpa's storytelling—but lately he's been repeating the same stories again and again. Her mother's patient explanations open Kate's eyes to what so many of the elderly must confront: Alzheimer's disease and other forms of memory loss. Determined to support her grandfather, Kate explores ways to help him—and herself—cope by creating a photo album of their times together.
What's Heaven?	Shriver	Many children ask the question, <i>What's Heaven?</i> And as adults we struggle for the right words to say. In this book, Kate, a little girl whose great-grandma has died, seeks this answer. "You go to Heaven and when your life here on earth is over. But no one who goes to Heaven is forgotten."
Where is Grandpa?	Barron	This question haunts a young boy on the day his grandpa dies. As the boy remembers Grandpa with his family, he discovers a surprising answer. Beautifully illustrated.
Where the Balloons Go	Coleman	Corey and his grandmother love to watch balloons floating up to the sky, and when she dies, Corey thinks of a special way to say goodbye
Where's Jess?	Johnson	Written after Ray and Jody Goldstein's daughter, Jess, died at age nine months. Simple and easy for children to understand. For siblings who had a baby at home. "Sometimes when I talk about Jess, Mommy cries. I'm scared that my talking makes her cry. Mommy smiles. She says I don't need to be afraid of her tears. I can talk about Jess all I want to."
Why Did Grandma Die?	Madler	When her grandmother dies, Heidi tries to deal with her feelings of grief and loss and comes to accept death as a part of the life cycle by attending the funeral and talking to others about her feelings.

