



### TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Shane Allen's oldest son recently passed away. Specialist, Angelo Shane Allen, age 20, of C Company, 15th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas passed away the morning of August 5, 2008, as the result of a one-vehicle accident while on his way to the army base. He was buried August 12, 2008 in Lubbock, Texas.

We all realize there could be no greater sorrow than the loss of a child. Sadly some of us may know this heartache and are partially consoled knowing that our child is in a greater place called heaven. Most of us could never imagine how great the hurt consumes your entire being once you lose a child. As a parent you are always proud of them no matter how small or large their efforts and achievements are. We always try to protect, guide and teach them along life's journey the morals and values that they one day will entrust in their families. But please remember that the greatest gift you can give a child is love, for this will remain in their hearts forever.

Angelo was truly an extraordinary person that we know would have someday been someone that the whole world would come to know either by his words, actions or being. He will never be forgotten by those who loved and cherished him. Though his life with us on this earth was short, we thank God for allowing Angelo to touch our lives and we all know that we will see him again in a better life.

Angelo was born in Aurora, Illinois, but raised in Lubbock, Texas. Angelo is survived, not only by his beloved family, but also by his wife Malini, whom he married just a few months earlier, on April 14, 2008. Malini read a poem at Angelo's funeral service that he wrote, so we would like to share it with you now.

#### ONCE AGAIN

I'VE CHANGED AND TO MOST IT SEEMS FOR THE WORSE  
IT SEEMS FAIR TO ME ONLY I KNEW HOW MUCH IT HURTS

MOST PEOPLE DO NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND  
WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO NO LONGER HOLD A LOVED ONES HAND

THAT LOVED ONE TOLD ME LIFE WITHOUT ME WOULD BE HELL  
SO I SUPPOSE NOW YOUR SUFFERING, SOMETHING I KNOW ALL TOO WELL

HOWEVER SINCE THEN I'VE CHANGED, CHANGED INDEED  
NOW I TRY TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED

BECAUSE FOR THEM THEIR WOUNDS WON'T SEEM TO HEAL  
THEY CANNOT BELIEVE THAT THIS AMOUNT OF PAIN IS REAL

I HELP THEM LEARN THESE FEELINGS ONLY LAST  
AS LONG AS ONE DWELLS ON THE PAST

AND PEOPLE ALWAYS SEEM TO SAY THIS TO THEIR DECEMBER  
I TELL THEM LOVED ONES NEVER DIE IF YOU DO NOT DWELL BUT REMEMBER

AND I SAY TO YOURSELF LEARN TO LET GO  
OR LOVE IS A FEELING YOU MAY NEVER AGAIN KNOW

I'VE CHANGED AND IT NO LONGER SEEMS FOR THE WORST  
AND SINCE IT STARTED WITH YOU I WANT YOU TO KNOW FIRST

FOR US THERE ARE NO GOOD BYES MY BELOVED FRIEND  
EVEN SHOULD IT BE AT MY END  
SOONER OR LATER WE WILL MEET ONCE AGAIN

Shane has opened the Angelo Shane Allen Memorial fund in hopes of raising money to help cover the cost for a headstone on Angelo's grave and to help his wife Malini who is expecting their first child. All donations can be made to the Angelo Shane Allen Memorial, c/o Earthmover Credit Union, Attn: Maegan, 27 S. Randall Rd., North Aurora, IL 60542.

Thank you to everyone for your thoughts, prayers and contributions.  
God bless you.