



*A
Celebration
Of the life of
Kayden Holt*

Music on Entry - Twinkle, twinkle Little Star.

Good afternoon. My name is Elizabeth Clarke. I am a Civil Funeral Celebrant.

I warmly welcome everyone here today as we come together to celebrate all the time that Kayden spent here on earth, bringing love, joy and laughter to not only his Mum and Dad and big brother Taylor, but with his bright blue eyes, his cheeky little grin and infectious laugh Kayden, melted the hearts of everyone he met.

Many of you will wonder what we have to celebrate as our tears of sadness for the loss of a life that was meant to mature and blossom will mingle with the tears of possibilities - games to play, songs to sing, and feeling those sweet little kisses and cuddles. How can it be that we are here to celebrate the loss of a beautiful little boy who was taken by the Angels on the 30th July, 2013?

It is important for us to remember that Kayden was conceived in love, nurtured and protected by Terry for nine months; that there was an unending supply of love waiting for him amongst the excitement and anticipation of his arrival. Everyone here today will have been uplifted at the thought of a new baby, a new life, a new addition to the family. A new life brings love and hope to us all. Never forget the happiness you felt the day Kayden was born.

We must also celebrate the fact that for every single minute little Kayden was a part of our lives, that he was loved and cherished by Terry, Colin and Taylor, his grandparents, Amanda and Eric, Angie and Alan, and Colin's dad Andy. He was also a very special great grandson to Irene, Patsy, Forbes, Edna and Davie, a precious nephew to Leigh, Nicole, Carol Ann, Sharon,

Jai, Patrick and David, and was a lovely cousin to Dean and Codie, Rees, Ava, Josh and Dillon, Connor and Aiden.

No-one will ever forget this precious, adventurous, happy little boy who brought so much love into the world and let us be comforted by the knowledge that little Kayden felt so much love from everyone in return. His passing makes us see the most precious gift we have - this treasure of love. When we lose someone we love so deeply, we will feel pain like no other. It is the tears of love that flow longest, the pain of love that aches the deepest, and the thoughts of love that move us the most.

So, whatever happens, let it happen. You see, it's ok to cry, it's good to cry, and it is important to express our love in this way. So, Terry and Colin, speak his name, think about your precious little boy until your sorrow begins to be bearable and slowly heal.

Although we grieve over any death, we have all been touched with the hardest grief to bear - that for the very sudden and unexpected death of an infant.

I know it will be extremely difficult, but everyone here today must find the strength that will allow you all the ability to bear this grief, to endure the enormity of it, and to carry on. In the midst of our broken heartedness and devastation, may we feel the love that sustains us, a love that endures beyond death, and although it will take a while, may we all know peace and healing, and may we also eventually have an acceptance that Kayden is also at peace, sleeping in a long and peaceful sleep, cradled in the arms of the Angels.

And now I would like to recite this beautiful poem in tribute to Kayden, with lots of love and kisses from his Mum and Dad ...

*In a little baby castle just beyond our eyes
Our baby plays with angel's toys that money just can't buy*

*Who are we to wish that you had known this world of strife -
Now play on little Kayden - you have eternal life.
At night when all is silent, and sleep escapes our eyes,
We'll hear your tiny footsteps come running to our side.
Your little hands caress us, so tender and so sweet,
We'll breathe a prayer and close our eyes
And embrace you in our sleep.
Feelings we will treasure, sometimes they'll make us sad;
Because our precious little Kayden,
We are still your Mum and Dad.*

The smiling, cuddly bundle of joy that was Kayden Holt, came into this world in Edinburgh on the 26th June, 2012. He was the youngest son of Terry and Colin, the not so little brother to Taylor, Kayden having weighed ten pounds and nine ounces when he was born, and he was a much loved addition to the wider family.

In no time at all, Kayden's personality began to shine through. An extremely happy little boy, he was always smiling, always had a cheeky grin on his face which endeared him to everyone. It didn't matter whether it was a member of the family, family friends or strangers in the street, they all said the same thing - what a gorgeous little boy he was. Kayden just loved getting to know people!

His chubby little cheeks told us that he just loved his food, and the sound of him giggling and laughing told us that he adored playing with his big brother Taylor. Kayden's favourite toy would always be whatever Taylor was playing with - and the bigger the toy, the better, but as he was getting older, he was happy to share. He even loved to share his bath with Taylor, playing with all the bath toys or seeing who could make the biggest splashes!

He was a strong and active little boy - he never had a day's illness in his short life - and he was totally fearless. Kayden loved to climb, and to sit on the edge of the settee, and even if he fell off on to the floor, he was more likely to get up laughing than crying over a bump on his head. Even at his age, he loved being on the swings and slides in the park. He was over the moon when he found he could walk around the furniture, and only the week before he passed away, he took his first four steps on his own.

But it was while standing holding on to the furniture, that Kayden learned to dance - believe it or not to the tune of the Honey pops advert. Just imagine his little body bopping to this (tune to the advert to be played here).

His wee body may have bopped along to that tune, but his wee bum was also a fascination to him - he loved to scratch it when he didn't have his nappy on - much to Colin's amusement when he tried to put a nappy on him - Kayden's hand would be behind his back having a good old scratch and the nappy wouldn't fit!

The only picture Terry and Colin have of Kayden crying was when he couldn't reach that itch on his bum!

Kayden was just full of fun and laughter. He loved nothing more than crawling around, following Taylor everywhere, just as he loved to follow the pet budgie, which couldn't fly, all around the house.

But perhaps one of the most comical memories the family have of Kayden is him sitting in front of the washing machine, watching it going round and round, his little head spinning circles in time with the machine - the other being when he visited his Nana, Granddad and Buster the Rottweiler - Kayden would pick up Buster's water bowl and pour the water all over his head! Let's not forget that he loved to bite his Daddy's

fingers, too, and when Colin shouted 'ouch!', Kayden would dissolve into fits of laughter!

There are so many little memories - the way he preferred to say Dada than Mama, the different expressions on his face, and his big beaming smile, will never leave Terry and Colin, and of course, you will all have your own little memories of Kayden, and so I now invite you all to take a few moments to think of him and what he meant to you. During this time of reflection we will listen to the song, True Colours.

Words of Committal

Although we must now say our final goodbyes to Kayden, please remember that it is only his little body which we say goodbye to today - not his personality, his soul or his spirit which will remain alive forever in your minds and in your hearts. You see, to live in the heart of another person is not to die - love doesn't end with dying, or leave in the last breath, for someone you've loved so deeply, love doesn't end with death, and the love you all held in your hearts for Kayden will be with you for all time.

*Kayden,
Into the freedom of wind and sunshine
We let you go
Into the dance of the stars and the planets
We let you go
Into the wind's breath and the hands of the star maker
We let you go
We love you, we miss you, we want you to be happy
Go safely, go dancing, go running home.*

(Hush Little Baby to play here)

Every faith throughout the world speaks about life after death, and not one of us knows for sure if or what it is, but we can all still hold on to the belief of peace, rest, fulfilment and of people being reunited in love. We can have no doubt that wherever Kayden is now, he is watching over and protecting his family, and all those who had a special place in his heart.

And so we say that we are glad Kayden lived. We are glad we saw his face. We are glad we felt his touch and heard his laughter. We will forever cherish the memory of Kayden's love of life, his cheeky wee grin, his love of food, and the wonder of the innocent and pure love he felt for his big brother, Taylor.

We have been remembering with love and affection, Kayden's life which has sadly ended and now is the time for you to go out and continue living your lives enriched by his memory, but before you leave here today, you are about to hear a song chosen by Terry and Colin, in tribute to their fearless little boy.

(Play the Lion Sleeps tonight here).

And now a little message from Kayden to his Mum and Dad

*I am sitting high above you
On a fluffy puffy cloud
Seeing all the tears you cry
Makes me feel so very proud.*

*I'm so proud that you both loved me
My lovely Mum and Dad
And I loved my brother Taylor
Tell him not to be too sad.*

*Remember all my giggles
And my funny itchy bum*

*My chubby cheeks and cheeky grin
Remember for all time to come.*

*Because I'll remember all the fun
That I had with Mum and Dad
All those lovely kisses and cuddles
Were the best I ever had.*

*So dry your tears with angel hair
And butterfly wings and know
You really must stop being so sad
It was just my time to go.*

*The Angels needed a little boy ...
Itchy bum and all
They cuddled me in their sweet soft wings
Like a soft and downie shawl.*

*They are keeping me safe in a place for you
Until we meet once more
When you and me and Taylor
Will play together forever more.*

The Sick Children's Hospital in Edinburgh is a unique teaching hospital for adolescent illnesses and the doctors, nurses and staff work tirelessly with all the children, no matter what their ailments. As a token of their appreciation for all that the hospital does for children, it is Terry and Colin's wish that a retiral collection be taken in Kayden's name, in aid of the Sick Kids, and so as you leave here today, you will find a donation box, and contributions, no matter how small, will be very gratefully received.

Terry and Colin warmly invite those of you who are able, to join them at the Coopers Rest in Easter Road, not only for refreshments, but also for the opportunity to share in your own thoughts and memories of little Kayden with each other.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your attendance here today. The love and support you have shown Kayden's family will bring them much comfort in the difficult days ahead.

Music on Exit - Twinkle, twinkle, Little Star.