## WHAT NOT TO SAY TO SOMEONE WHO IS GRIEVING

These may sound comforting, but they can feel dismissive or push someone to rush their grief.





- THEY'RE IN A BETTER PLACE
- I KNOW EXACTLY HOW YOU FEEL

YOU HAVE TO BE STRONG

IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON

LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING

GOD NEEDED AN ANGEL

**GRIEF DOESN'T NEED FIXING** 

GRIEF NEEDS PRESENCE, PATIENTS AND PERMISSION TO BE FELT.

LET THIS BE A GENTLE REMINDER TO BE KIND TO EACH OTHER

WE ALL HAVE A DIFFERENT JOURNEY WITH GRIEF.

## WHAT TO SAY TO SOMEONE WHO IS GRIEVING

Try these phrases

- I AM SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS
- YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK. I WILL JUST SIT WITH YOU
- IT'S OK TO NOT BE OK
- I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL BUT I AM HERE

- IT'S OK TO HURT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE STRONG FOR ME
- YOUR REACTIONS TO GRIEF IS NORMAL
- BE KIND TO YOURSELF
- THERE IS NO TIMELINE FOR GRIEF

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love." — Washington Irving