



## Captain Aaron Dale Istre, United States Army

April 5, 2012

Captain Aaron Dale Istre Jennings: Funeral services honoring the life of Captain Aaron Dale Istre, 37, of the United States Army will be held at Matthews & Son Funeral Home in Jennings, LA on Thursday, April 5, 2012 @ 2 PM. Captain Istre will be laid to rest in Calvary Cemetery where he will be honored with full military rites. Henry Son is the United States Army Chaplain who will be officiating Aaron's services. Captain Aaron Dale Istre died while courageously serving our country in Kabul, Afghanistan on March 24, 2012 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was an U.S Military Logistics Officer. Istre's awards and decorations include two Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, Army Good Conduct Medal, two National Defense Service Medals, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with campaign star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, three Overseas Service Ribbons, and NATO Medal. Captain Istre leaves behind to cherish his memories: his beloved wife, Lieutenant Jennifer Gustin Istre of Nolanville, TX; his three beautiful children, Nathaniel, Benjamin, and Kylie Istre of Nolanville, TX; his mother, Victoria Istre Cormier (Donald) of Lake Charles; grandfather, Harold "Boo" Latiolais (Stella) of Jennings; his in-laws: Alan and Lindy Gustin of Belton, TX; his brother-in-law, Todd Gustin of Maurpass ; sisters, Kristin Hanks of Lake Charles and Heather

Hanks of Lake Charles; step sisters, Nichole Cormier of Lake Charles and Julie Lavergne also of Lake Charles; his father, Allen Johnson (Cindy) of Gueydan; grandmother, Irene Johnson of Gueydan; brother, Kerry Johnson of Bell City; sisters, Lacey Landry (Adrian) of Lake Charles and Haley Johnson of Alexandria; step sister, Amber Voorhees (Shane) of Pineville; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins. Aaron now rest in Heaven with his grandmother, Delta Latiolais; grandfathers, Harry Johnson and Edward Gidney, Jr; and his uncle Ophe Joseph Istre. Visitation will be held at Matthews & Son Funeral Home in Jennings, LA on Wednesday, April 4th from 2 PM until 9 PM and will resume on Thursday at 8 AM until the time of his funeral service at 2 PM. An account has been set up for Aaron's wife and 3 children at Jeff Davis Bank & Trust: Cpt. Aaron Istre Memorial Fund # 10110078

# Tribute Wall



“ To Jennifer and the kids it been 14 years since Capt. Istre passed I cant state how much he helped me through a tough period nor how much I appreciated the help you and the kids were to my wife and children. I thought of you all often I heard of Cpt Istre passing at a time when I lost a lot of friends and my own Troopers. There is no excuse for me not writing sooner I placed all the losses in a box that creeks open alot it seems more and more your husband and father was a great man with a good heart and a firm commitment to others. I know the pain you live with and I know the question, why and while I dont know his personal moment but I know the history and the pain I am retired and in KS now but know I thing of Aaron and all of you even know if you need anything please reach out warr ior7r@yahoo.com,David Mac McGregor I hope you see this.

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David M McGregor - May 19 at 03:21 AM



“ Captain Aaron Dale Istre, Unites States Army

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January 28, 2023 at 04:12 PM

DR

“ Dear Jennifer, May God continue to comfort and care for you and your family. The news story was such a shock. Both times my son, Henry, went to Iraq, I tried to prepare for such a call - but found that it was impossible. I knew that we could be proud of his service and his willing sacrifice and know that his mission here was completed in God's plan. But the loss would be so great that we could only survive with the presence of God in every breath that we took. God will surely be with you and all of your family through these first days and all of the days ahead. When you and Aaron were in Denham Springs and attending Live Oak Baptist Church we all came to love you and your boys. We have been holding you up in prayer and would like to send you a prayer gift. I know I am late in sending this message, but if you do read it, please contact me by email with your address. My love and prayers go out to you.

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**Donna Roberts** - May 09, 2012 at 01:10 PM

SA

“ To Aaron's wife Jennifer & Children, May Our Lord keep you in his presence daily to live through this very difficult time. Never will you forget but hopefully the extreme pain may ease and life can resume some normalcy..I never had the pleasure of knowing Captain Istre personally but he has given to me and countless others the ultimate sacrifice, his life so that I and all of America can live in freedom. Aaron is someone that you, his children and his Mother can be so proud of. His character and his life stood for what is right in this world ,Faith, Family and Freedom..As a Mother we all hope that we have raised the same kind of children that Aaron was. I once was asked by a Veteran to always go up to and Thank any soldier for his sacrifice and I have tried to honor that wish ..Today I thank one of the fallen soldiers' family for his sacrifice, I am proud of the support our small community showed for Aaron upon his return to La. and to our community of Jennings. God Bless You and Yours at this time ..

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**Sue Ann** - April 17, 2012 at 11:04 AM

PT

“ I know these condolences are a little late. I am very sad for each of you. Such a wonderful person cut down way too soon. I know the pain of losing someone very dear to you. I recently lost my Mother and Father. May you find your strength in Jehovah God above and in each other. 2 Corinthians Chapter 1 and verses 2 through 5. You have my deepest sympathy.

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**Peggy Tupper** - April 11, 2012 at 01:29 PM

MB

“ We have never met, but as a military family, I wanted to send you our love and offer our prayers. My heart aches as I think about you and your three children. May you find peace and rest during this time.  
Thinking of you,  
Amy

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**MAJ David and Mrs Amy Bashaw** - April 09, 2012 at 12:20 PM

MW

“ My deepest condolences to all of Aaron's loved ones. I knew Aaron when he was a student at LSU and was honored to be invited to his commissioning ceremony when he graduated. Aaron was a very fine young man and I'm very glad to have known him.

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**Maud Walsh** - April 08, 2012 at 04:00 PM

LS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. Larry and Vickie Shubat (Ryan's Mom and Dad)

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**Larry and Vickie Shubat** - April 07, 2012 at 08:53 PM

AW

“ I am saddened to find my dear old friend in this way... Aaron and I shared wonderful summers together as children. My heart and prayers go out to his family. R.I.P. dear friend... Thank you for your bravery...Until we meet again!

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**Asha Johnson Wheeler** - April 05, 2012 at 10:36 PM

DP

“ We are all thinking and praying for you at this time. We wish we could be there and hope you know how much we love you all. This is a very painful time. God bless. Irvon and Donna Plummer, Kristina and Nicholas Istre, Donita and Miguel Legoas

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**Donna Plummer** - April 05, 2012 at 10:09 PM

FK

“ Thank you Captian Istre for your service to our country. Also Thank You to his Family for letting us share this with you. Keeping your family in our prayers.

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**Fanetta Keener** - April 05, 2012 at 12:28 PM

“ A Nation's Strength by Ralph Waldo Emerson

*What makes a nation's pillars high  
And it's foundations strong?  
What makes it mighty to defy  
The foes that round it throng?  
It is not gold. It's Kingdoms, grand,  
Go down in battle shock.  
It's shafts are laid on sinking sand.  
Not on abiding rock.  
Is it the sword? Ask the red dust  
Of empires passed away.  
The blood has turned their stones to rust.  
Their glory to decay.  
And is it pride? Ah, that bright crown  
Has seemed to nations sweet.  
But God has struck its luster down  
In ashes at His feet.  
Not gold, but only men can make  
A people great and strong.  
Men who, for truth and honor's sake,  
Stand fast and suffer long.  
Brave men who work while others sleep.  
Who dare while others fly.  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.*

*There are no words to express my sorrow at your loss. Your hero is  
the reason my family lives in freedom and he is our hero, forever.  
Our prayers are with you.*

ML

“ Jennifer, I am sorry that I cannot make it in person to the funeral today. Please accept my and Lynn's deepest sympathy for you and your family's tragic loss of Aaron. I admire your strength and perseverance through this incredibly difficult time. All our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Marybeth Lima** - April 05, 2012 at 11:24 AM

SD

“ I extend my deepest condolences to wife and children of CPT Istre. At Ease CPT! At Ease... Rest in peace.

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**SSG Domingue, Dale** - April 05, 2012 at 10:33 AM

IB

“ It is somehow inadequate to merely say thank you when one has sacrificed so much for his country..may you live forever more beside a man who gave his life for us..Jesus Christ..he welcomes you home

*Iris L. Burrell  
Lake Charles , LA.*

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**Iris Burrell** - April 04, 2012 at 11:50 PM

RB

“ My condolences to all the family.Feel my arms around you  
MRS.Irene, love to you and family/  
Ruth Monceaux Boykin

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**RUTH MONCEAUX BOYKIN** - April 04, 2012 at 11:37 PM

CB

“ You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you for your bravery and sacrifice. May you rest in peace and may your family obtain solace.  
*Semper Fi Soldier!!*

*M.O.M  
(Mother of A Marine)*

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**Chantal Brown** - April 04, 2012 at 11:15 PM

CD

“ To ALLEN and all the Johnson and Istre Families. Mom and I are sincerely sorry for your loss and are keeping you all in thought and prayer. WE thank God for the service this Young Man gave for us all.

*In God's Love and Blessings,  
Cathy and Leola Dupuis*

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**Cathy Dupuis** - April 04, 2012 at 04:28 PM

PC

“ My family sends our deepest condolences to the family of Capt. Istre. We thank him for the ultimate sacrifice he has given. May the many beautiful memories made with him , help get you through the difficult days ahead. Once again "THANK YOU" Captain Istre. Because of you and all the military men and women , I'm able to sit her freely and write this note. May you and all the fallen rest in peace. GOD BLESS !

*The Calais' from Arnaudville, LA*

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**PAUL, WILADENE & JENE'E CALAIS** - April 04, 2012 at 03:33 PM

DD

“ My heart is heavy today as I think about Captain Istre, his wife and children and all of his family and friends. His death is the ultimate sacrifice that a soldier can make for his country and his fellow Americans. Because of him and the countless others serving our country, we are here in a free country enjoying daily life. I pray that his family can know that his dedication, bravery and sacrifices, as well as their sacrifices, are deeply appreciated. As the mother of a soldier getting ready to leave for Afghanistan on May 10, I understand the worry and the pride, all wrapped up in one. Thank you Captain Istre and family. May God bless each one of you in the coming months and bring you peace.

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**Dana Durham** - April 04, 2012 at 03:12 PM

LJ

“ I am Scott Lubag's mom and I have often heard about the generosity and kindness both your husband and you have shown to my son and daughter-in-law, Rachael. As a military wife, a military mom, who has known the many sacrifices of such a life calls for, I send my profound condolences to you and to your family and to your husband's family. Words are so insufficient to fully give praise to a life, a man, a father and husband who gave so selflessly to his country...and still found time to be a friend. Blessings to you all.  
Lillian M. Jeskey-Lubag

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**lillian jeskey-lubag** - April 04, 2012 at 02:42 PM

ST

“ Extending deepest sympathy for you in your loss.  
And hoping that comfort and peace may come to you. God Bless you and your family through this difficult time.

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**SFC Capers, Taquita** - April 04, 2012 at 02:39 PM

JB

“ My family sends our deepest condolences to the family of Captain Istre and our heartfelt thanks for his service to our great country. We do not know him or his family but appreciate his service and sacrifice for our sakes. May God wrap His loving arms around all during this time of sorrow and suffering and watch over you as you travel your journey without him. God Bless.

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**Jill Breaux** - April 04, 2012 at 02:23 PM

SV

“ On behalf of my family CPT Istre impacted the lives of every Soldeir and their families that was under his command, I am truly saddened by his passing. He trained us all well, the rest of this tour and Nato mission we dedicate to you! In john 16:33 is says “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” Sir you overcame the world and I am so looking forward to seeing you again. God bless you and your family, and you will always be “Service 6”

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**SGT Valora** - April 04, 2012 at 02:07 PM

JP

“ My condolences to the entire family. CPT Istre was a great Leader and Mentor. You will be missed. God be with you.

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**Jorge Pimentel** - April 04, 2012 at 01:59 PM

CS

“ My deepest condolences to you and your family. It takes someone really special to give up his family and serve his country the way you did. Thank you for your services over the years. I heart really goes out to the family and friends.

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**Connie Sonnier** - April 04, 2012 at 01:53 PM

BD

“ We lost our soldier in 2010. No words can express the sorrow we feel for you today.

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**Brenda Dupont** - April 04, 2012 at 01:20 PM

KG

“ With sadness and sympathy to the family of CPT Istre. May you rest in peace and may your family find peace from the wonderful memories they have shared with you.

God Bless,

Mrs. Karin Gay

(Kylie's Kindergarten Teacher 2010-2011)

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**Karin Gay** - April 04, 2012 at 12:42 PM

LL

“ my heart hurts so much for you,thank you so much for everything.  
rip

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**lake charles, la.** - April 04, 2012 at 12:31 PM

MB

“ Sincere sympathy to you and your family. There is no way to express my appreciation for the sacrifice your husband, you and your family have made for the people of this country. May God bless you and help you through this time.

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**Merrie Bennett** - April 04, 2012 at 12:19 PM

LL

“ Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

*May the Lord send His peace to those who have given their lives in the call to serve others.*

*They have not died in vain for God has blessed their sacrifice.*

*They have paid the ultimate price for our freedom and they will never be forgotten.*

*They live on in the memory of those left behind.*

*They live on in the sunsets of another day.*

*They live on in the blue skies and starry nights.*

*They live on in the Freedom enjoyed by this Great Nation. For each day that we are Free, they will never be forgotten.*

*My deepest sympathy to the family of  
Captain Aaron Istre*

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**Lynell LaGrange** - April 04, 2012 at 12:13 PM

KW

“ Our deepest sympathies and prayers are with you and your family. Praying the Lord's comfort and peace for your hearts. The Lord bless and keep you in this time of sorrow.

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**Ken and Angela Woods** - April 04, 2012 at 11:09 AM

SB

“ My condolences to the family. I have served as CPT Istre Senior PLT SGT ( B Co, 143rd). He was a great leader and I would have followed him to the end of the world. I don't say that lightly. He will be missed and never forgotten. My heart is broken. May God bless you all and The USA. Forever my beloved Commander.

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**SFC(ret) Debra Blain** - April 04, 2012 at 10:00 AM

TF

“ we are saddened by your loss and pray that God may give you strength during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

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**The Durand family** - April 04, 2012 at 09:05 AM

AA

“ Just wanted to extend our sympathy to your family during this time. I did not know your husband, father & son but "WE" are a part of the same family "MILITARY". Our hearts and prayers go out to you and yours during this difficult time and beyond. Please accept my gratitude for your family's service to our country!

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**Angela & Brian Allen** - April 04, 2012 at 08:33 AM

SF

“ Jennifer, Victoria and Family,  
Mini and I send our condolences to all of you during these challenging times. I worked closely with Aaron on a daily basis at the 13 ESC, G4. I considered him to be part of my family away from home. We shared a common goal to take care of Soldiers within the Unit he commanded. With just a smile you could tell that he was willing to assist me and anyone that knocked on his office door. May God provide you and the family with the necessary peace, and strength to continue forward with your lives.

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**Serrano Family** - April 04, 2012 at 12:39 AM

KH

“ I know this Pain all to well, my son and I lost our solider in 2007, I know yalls hearts ate hurting but hold your heads up high and be proud. We will pray for the family and ask our solider to welcome yours to heaven!! Bless your family for your sacrifice! My son and I hope to meet the family on Wednesday to let them know we are here if they may need anything.

*The Proud Wife and Son of SFC John M Hennen Sr*

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**Kayla Hennen** - April 04, 2012 at 12:02 AM

“ *Rest easy, sleep well my brother  
Rest easy, sleep well my brother.  
Know the line has held, your job is done.  
Rest easy, sleep well.  
Others have taken up where you fell, the line has held.  
Peace, peace, and farewell...*

#### *THE FINAL INSPECTION*

*The soldier stood and faced God,  
Which must always come to pass.  
He hoped his shoes were shining,  
Just as brightly as his brass.*

*'Step forward now, you soldier,  
How shall I deal with you ?  
Have you always turned the other cheek ?  
To My Church have you been true?'*

*The soldier squared his shoulders and said, 'No, Lord, I guess I  
ain't.  
Because those of us who carry guns,  
Can't always be a saint.*

*I've had to work most Sundays,  
And at times my talk was tough.  
And sometimes I've been violent,  
Because the world is awfully rough.*

*But, I never took a penny,  
That wasn't mine to keep...  
Though I worked a lot of overtime,  
When the bills got just too steep.*

*And I never passed a cry for help,  
Though at times I shook with fear..*

*And sometimes, God, forgive me,  
I've wept unmanly tears.*

*I know I don't deserve a place,  
Among the people here.  
They never wanted me around,  
Except to calm their fears.*

*If you've a place for me here, Lord,  
It needn't be so grand.  
I never expected or had too much,  
But if you don't, I'll understand.*

*There was a silence all around the throne, Where the saints had  
often trod.  
As the soldier waited quietly,  
For the judgment of his God.*

*'Step forward now, you soldier,  
You've borne your burdens well.  
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,  
You've done your time in Hell.'*

*Author Unknown~*

*Whoever does not have the stomach for this fight, let him depart.  
Give him money to speed his departure since we wish not to die in  
that man's company. Whoever live past today and comes home  
safely will rouse himself every year on this day, show his neighbor  
his scars, and tell embellished stories of all their great feats of  
battle. These stories will teach his son and from this day until the  
end of the world we shall be remembered.*

*We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for whoever has shed  
his blood with me shall be my brother. And those men afraid to go  
will think themselves lesser men as they hear of how we fought and  
died together.*

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4*

*"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going." John 14:1 - 4*

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**Someone Who Cares** - April 03, 2012 at 07:07 PM

HG

“ *Deepest sympathy to all of the family. We appreciate his service and pray for God to give comfort and extra angels to be with all of you.*

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**Hal W. Gould** - April 03, 2012 at 06:53 PM

MH

“ *From the mother of a Marine currently serving in Afghanistan...We appreciate your loved ones service and sacrifice for our country. Your family will be in my prayers. Marisa Baton Rouge, LA*

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**Marisa Hebert** - April 03, 2012 at 03:46 PM

BP

“ *Aaron and his family were always great folks. I had the honor of knowing him for just the short time that he was married to my sister years ago. My heart goes out to the entire family. Delta, Joe and now Aaron we will all meet again my friends.*

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**Bill Plummer** - April 03, 2012 at 02:00 PM

KS

“ Our prayers goes out to the Istre's family. My wife and I got the oppertunity to get to know Aaron tru school. Aaron was a good friend, someone that brightened the day when he would walk tru a door.Our sencere condolences goes out to you and your family.

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**kenneth sheppard** - April 03, 2012 at 01:43 PM

LM

“ mY DEEPEST SYMPHAY GOES OUT TO YOUR FAMILY IN THIS TIME OF TRAGETY ,MY SON JUST RETURNED HOME FROM THERE HE HIMSELF WAS ON THE FRONTLINE ,I WORRIED DAILY AND PRAYED GOD WOULD RETURN HIM TO ME .I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT A HORRIABLE DISMAY YOUR FAMILY IS IN AT THIS TIME I PRAY TO GOD WITH ALL MY HEART THAT YOUR FAMILY MAY LAY HIM DOWN WITH FULL HONOR THAT THIS YOUNG MAN DESERVES ,PPL DONT UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH THEY GO THROUGH TIL THEY HAVE ONE OF THEIR OWN GO THEIR .

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**Lisa Moore** - April 03, 2012 at 01:27 PM

FL

“ You have our heartfelt condolences. Aaron must have been a wonderful son. May God five you His peace at this time and comforting memories.

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**Fran & Bernadette Landry** - April 03, 2012 at 01:13 PM

JB

“ We all need a time to grieve , sift through memories and come to grips with our loss.  
A time for tears for ourselves as we realize things will be different.  
A time to just BE when we open ourselves to God and let the reassurance of HIS everlasting promises and love start to heal our broken hearts.  
Praying strength and peace for all of Captain Istre's love ones that God and time will do this for you. God Bless.

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**Janet Scaruffi B.S.Mom** - April 03, 2012 at 12:23 PM

PM

“ Our condolences to the entire family. Rickey, Patricia Menard, Lula and eva Istre. May you all know that God is there for ya'!!!

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**Patricia I Menard** - April 02, 2012 at 06:14 PM