# Prayer to Be Offered with Children

# after they have been told that their parent or guardian will soon die

*By David Sparks, United Church of Canada minister, and Sheila Noyes, former co-president of Dying with Dignity Canada*

Dear God,

We know *parent* is not going to live very long.

We know they have tried so hard to stay here and not leave us. We know they love us.

The medicines have stopped working. *Their* sickness is taking them away.

We know *they* are hurting. We have seen *them* cry. We have seen our *parent* cry and other people cry. It makes us afraid.

We will miss our *parent,* we will miss *their* smile, we will miss their stories, and *we will miss their* fun.

*Did you know that mom loved camping, God? She really loved camping.*

We do not know where *they* are going, but we know *they* will stop hurting. We are glad *they* will stop hurting.

We are not sure what happens when a person dies. Maybe part of them goes to a better place. Dear God, please take care of our *parent* when *they* die. Hug them very close and take care of them after, too.

We are glad other adults will love us and take care of us. We can cry as much as we need to. We can laugh, too. Our *parent* would like that. *They* would like that we can cry and laugh.

Be with *them* always. Amen