

A CELEBRATION OF THE  
LIFE OF OUR LITTLE ANGEL

DYLAN DARREN SHEPPARD  
*"Dylby"*



BORN 4 MAY 2010  
LEFT US PEACEFULLY 29 MARCH 2012



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*"Children are kisses blown to us by angels"*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

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DYLAN DARREN SHEPPARD

*“Dylby”*

CELEBRANT  
Deacon John Lim

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OPENING SONG  
*The Last Day On Earth – Kate Miller-Heidke*

OPENING PRAYER

To you, O Lord  
We humbly entrust Dylan Sheppard,  
So precious in your sight.  
Take him into your arms  
And welcome him into paradise,  
Where there will be no more sorrow, no weeping nor pain,  
But only peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit.  
For ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

EULOGY  
Darren Sheppard

PRAYER  
Deacon John Lim

Let us pray:  
God, it is our certain faith that your Son who died on the cross, was raised from the dead, the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Grant that through this mystery your servant Dylan who has gone to his rest in Christ, may share in the joy of his resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

FIRST READING  
*When God Calls Our Children*  
Melissa McCoy

When God calls little children to dwell with Him above,  
We mortals sometime question the wisdom of His love.  
For no heartache compares with the death of one small child,  
Who does so much to make our world, seem wonderful and mild.  
Perhaps God tires of calling the aged to his fold,  
So He picks a rosebud, before it can grow old.  
God knows how much we need them, and so He takes but few,  
To make the land of Heaven more beautiful to view.  
Believing this is difficult still somehow we must try,  
The saddest word mankind knows will always be “Goodbye.”  
So when a little child departs, we who are left behind,  
Must realise God loves children, Angels are hard to find.

**All: Praise and thanks to God.**

SECOND READING  
*God Sent An Angel To The Earth*  
Therese Skelly

God sent an angel to the earth  
The sweetest angel too,  
And for such a tiny little thing  
He had so much to do.  
He knew he did not have  
Much time upon this earth to stay,  
So he did not waste a second  
He got started right away.  
His eyes were bright and sparkly  
He took in every turn,  
He did not miss a single thing  
Because Angels come to learn!  
God sent him here to touch the  
Hearts of those he could not reach,  
He taught them courage, strength and faith  
Because Angels come to teach.

His tiny little body  
Was so full of God above,  
You felt it when you held him  
Because Dylan came to love.  
In 22 short months he managed  
What many never will,  
When he went home to Jesus  
His purpose was fulfilled.  
He learned and taught, loved and played  
He learned his lessons well,  
I know He was so proud of him  
When he went home to dwell.  
But when we miss him OH-SO-MUCH  
I can almost hear Him say,  
Please understand, my work is done  
I did not come to stay.

**All: Praise and thanks to God.**

#### GOSPEL READING

**Mark 10: 13-16**

Deacon John Lim

People were bringing little children to Jesus, for him to touch them.  
The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms around them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

#### HOMILY

#### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

*Katherine Kearins:* Dear God, bless Dylan's parents Darren and Sonia. May they be strengthened by the knowledge that they filled Dylan's short life with tremendous love. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Molly Skelly:* Dear God, bless Dylan's big brother, Ben, who has been through so much heartache and pain during his life. Please make sure that Cody and Dylan watch over Ben and guide him through life. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Rebekah McCoy:* Dear God, thanks to Darren and Sonia's families and friends who were there to support them at the hospital when Dylan was born, and provided them with support during Dylan's short life. May they continue to be a source of strength. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Pamela Kearins:* Dear God, we ask that you bless all those special children like Dylan, and their families. We ask that society better understand the needs of children with special needs, and provide a supportive environment for the families of children with special needs. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Dearne McCreath:* Dear God, we ask that you look over those parents with disabled children and give them the strength to work together as husband and wife, to get through the heartache and pain. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Leanne Sheppard:* Dear God, we thank you for the gifted people who work so compassionately to support children with special needs, such as Professor Reynolds, Therapy ACT and Tandem. Please continue to guide them in the special work that they do. Lord, hear us

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

REFLECTION AND TRIBUTE OF DYLAN'S LIFE

*Heal the World – Michael Jackson*

Cousins

*You'll Be In My Heart – Phil Collins*

*Because You Loved Me – Celine Dion*

COMMITTAL

FINAL COMMENDATION

Deacon John Lim

Trusting in God, we have prayed together for Dylan and now we come to the last farewell. There is sadness in parting, but we take comfort in the hope that one day we shall see Dylan again and enjoy his friendship. Although we will disperse in sorrow, the mercy of God will gather us together again in the joy of his kingdom. Therefore let us console one another in the faith of Jesus Christ.

*All pray quietly in silence.*

CLOSING PRAYER

Most merciful God,  
Whose wisdom is beyond our understanding,  
Surround the family of Dylan with your love,  
That they may not be overwhelmed by their loss,  
But have confidence in your goodness,  
And strength to meet the days to come.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**All: May he rest in Peace, Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

*Count On Me – Bruno Mars*

SPECIAL MESSAGES FOR DYLAN

Dear Dyl,  
Rest now Dylby,  
In Heaven you play.  
We will be with you,  
To hold you again one day.

Our time together to short,  
We filled it with hugs,  
And gave you our love.

You were a special gift,  
We understood your special way.  
We kept you as comfortable as we could,  
Until your parting day.

Rest now Dylby,  
In heaven you play.  
Now we are crying,  
And carrying much pain.  
We do so miss you,  
Every minute, every day.

We had lots of warning,  
We knew your time was near.  
But nothing could prepare us,  
Your final breath to hear.

Rest now Dylby,  
In Heaven you play.  
What is it you're telling us?  
Up in Heaven, you're BOTH okay.

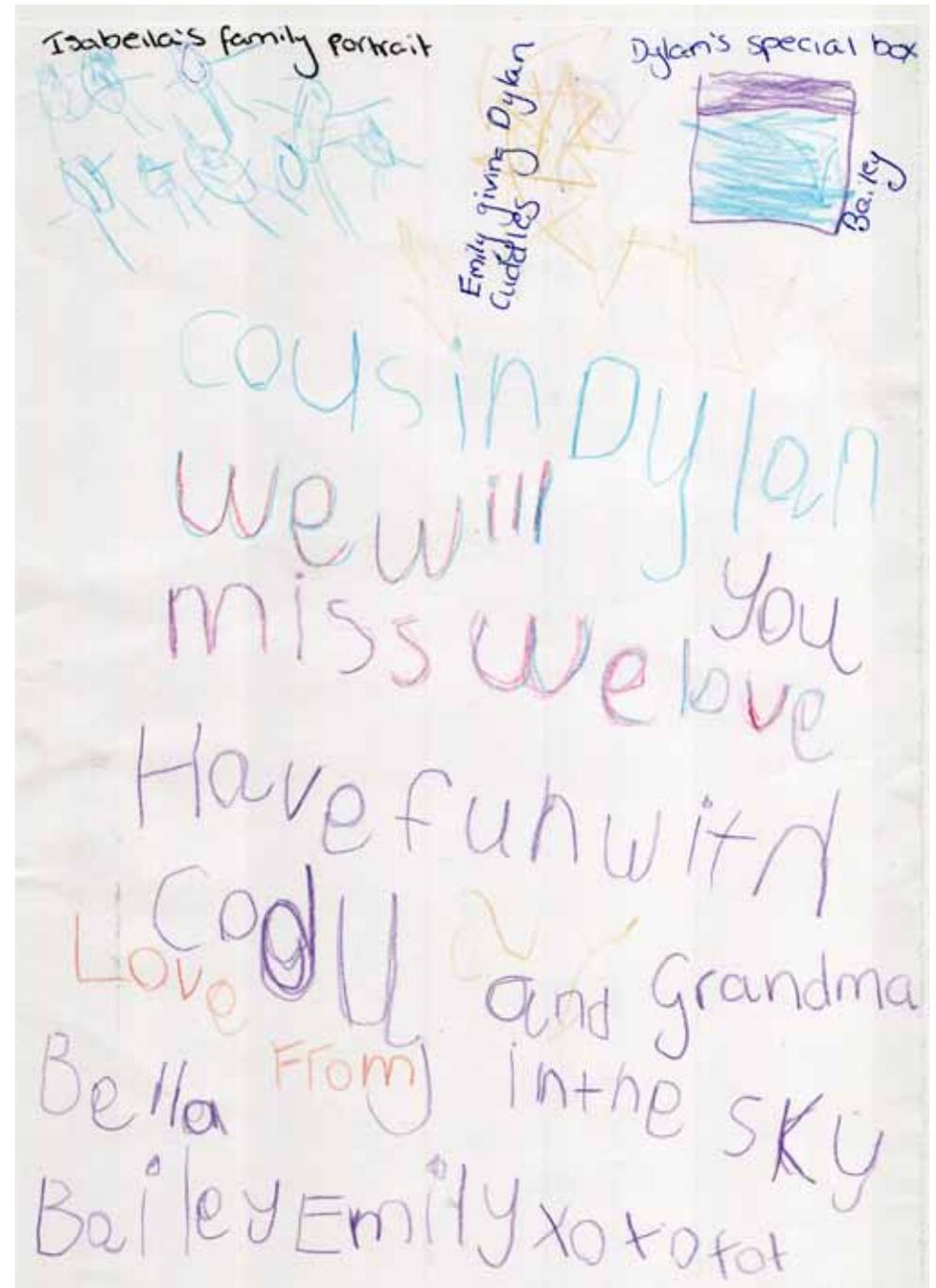
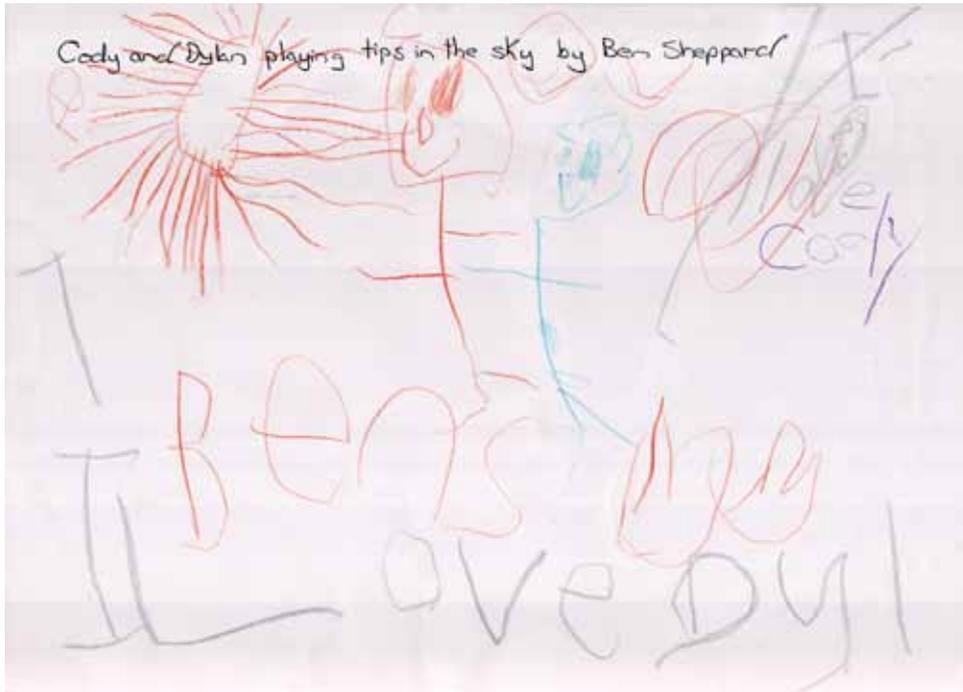
Our final goodbye,  
The time never right.  
We held you so close,  
But your future is now bright.

Rest now Dylby,  
In heaven you and Cody Boy play.  
Forever our Angel's,  
To show us the way.

*– Dad, Mum and Ben xxx*

SPECIAL NOTES TO DYLAN,  
FROM HIS COUSINS

TO MY LITTLE BROTHER,  
FROM BEN



I ♥ Dylan with all my <sup>Casey</sup>  
Heart and his big blue eyes.  
I will miss you.

"I love you Dylan  
cause you're so cute"  
love Billy

I'll miss you dyls.  
We love you and  
will never forget  
you. Love Luke

I will miss you Dyl  
Your up with Cody boy  
now xox ♥♥♥

Sarah  
my beautiful Dylan ~~Darren~~ Sheppard  
it's hard knowing that you are no  
longer around, but I know you  
are now in heaven smiling down.  
I will never forget your gorgeous  
little smile. I Love  
you Dylan. Rest  
in peace.  
Love Laura



Dear Dylan you  
mean the world  
to me I am  
going to miss  
you so much  
your amazing  
and your a  
fighter I'm  
gonna miss  
everything  
about you  
especially your  
laughs. Love Sam  
xoxo

Such a strong little  
boy, taken from us too soon.  
You're an inspiration  
to us all, now an angel  
you have blessed.  
I miss u little man.  
Love Jessi

I love you  
Dyl ☺ I'll miss  
you so much  
big fella ♥

Now your in  
the skys  
I don't know Love  
what I'm going to do  
without you, I love you  
Dylan in the skys  
Dylan, you were  
like my brother  
and I miss you

more & more  
each day, I miss  
your big eyes,  
your beautiful  
smile, your  
laugh, giving you  
baths, and your  
cuddles, but I  
know you are  
in a better  
place now

& Cody boy will  
look after you  
love you with all  
my heart. ♥  
Mollyxx

Dear Dylan,  
I'm going to miss  
you heaps and also  
miss your little cute  
smile. I hope you  
and your brother  
Cody are having fun  
together.

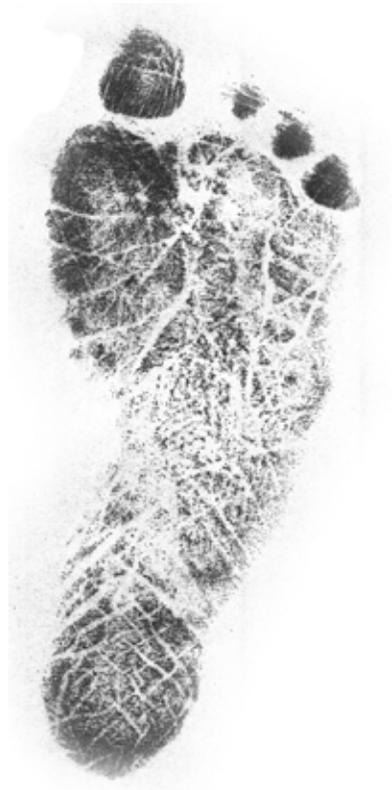
Love always  
Jack xoxo.

Dylby!  
You are the most strongest  
little boy I know. You are  
so beautiful and gorgeous.  
You are up with your big  
brother now.  
I will miss you little man.  
Love Beck xxxx 



Dear Dylan,  
I'm going to  
miss you lots  
and lots. Have  
fun with your  
big brother cody.  
Love from big  
cousin Adz.

to dylan  
you were cute  
my family  
will miss you.  
But how you  
are with cody!  
I love you  
lots!  
From HALLY  
xxxxxx





*Darren, Sonia and Ben would especially like to thank you for your presence here today and warmly invite you to the burial at Woden Cemetery, and then join us at Rose Cottage Inn, 1 Isabella Drive (Cnr Monaro Highway) Gilmore.*

*Many thanks to ACTEWAGL for the financial contribution that they have made for our special little Dylan's funeral.*

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Cody and Dylan's website: [www.codysheppard.com](http://www.codysheppard.com)  
(Special thanks to Andrew Taylor for maintaining the website.)