

Please keep our community Safe This Long Weekend

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

This message has been brought to you by these community minded businesses.

Don't Let This Happen To You
Please Don't Drink & Drive

MADD
Mothers Against Drunk Driving™
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In Loving
Memory of
Kortney Dakota
Burge
June 17, 1992 –
October 3, 1998



Mayor Rick Bonnette & Members of Council

Please
drive
safe this
summer
season.

GOODYEAR



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My daughter Kortney was only 6 years old. She was so special, so wonderful.

Kortney was a whirlwind, always on the go. She loved soccer and loved "hanging out" with her Dad, my husband Terry. Even in first grade she was excelling in school. There was never a dull moment!

But Kortney's gone. Terry and I and Kortney's older sister, Kodi, will spend the rest of our lives without this bright light. She was taken from us by a 17-year-old who had been up drinking at a house party just a block away from where we live.

I was driving that morning, in our minivan. Kortney and Kodi were with me in the van as were my sisters, Roxanne and her little boy Kolten. We were stopped at a road construction site, with four cars in front of us, waiting to be passed through.

But the 17-year-old driver who had consumed alcohol didn't stop. He plowed into the back of our van, driving it into the cars in front of us. Kortney was killed outright. The rest of us suffered severe injuries.

The driver who hit our van escaped without injury. And to this very day, my anguish over Kortney's loss is made even worse by the fact that the boy who killed her has never shown any remorse, none at all, for what he did!

I'm not telling you about Kortney to ask for your sympathy. I'm asking you for something else entirely.

I'm asking you to join me in fighting to keep what happened to Kortney and to us from happening to others – maybe even someone in your family.

If we can prevent even one death from impaired driving, perhaps Kortney's death will at least have some meaning.

So I am asking you today to do two things, really. The first is to join MADD Halton & Peel Chapter and supporting the kinds of programs and efforts that can put an end to Canada's impaired driving nightmare.

Second, I ask you, please, to tell one person today NOT to DRINK & DRIVE. Ask that person to tell one other person. If we all do that, keep that chain intact and growing, we can save lives, we will save lives.

Rhonda Burge

P.S. Talking about Kortney's death is not easy for me and never will be. Terry and I do it as often as we can, because we believe it will help convince others of the dangers we face from impaired driving all across Canada. Please join in spreading the word!



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