

**Prayer for Brett Love, University faculty
Prior to his death
1960-2003**

We pray, O God, on behalf of Brett Love. We thank you for this child of yours that you have fashioned so beautifully in your image and for the way you have blessed his life. We are grateful for the way he has used his gifts through his loving attention to his family and friends, his devotion to knowledge and learning, his teaching and the ways in which he has touched the lives and minds of his students. He has been a faithful servant, using to the fullest his life as an instrument for good in the world.

We know that only you, O God, can know the unknowable and hear the unspeakable. So we ask that as Brett lies silently in his hospital bed, unable to speak, that you hear the silent prayers on his heart, that you hear his silent cries in the night, that you hear his voice as he speaks his deepest needs and yearnings. For you alone know the deepest yearnings and groanings within him that cannot be uttered.

We trust in the knowledge that you are a loving and merciful God. We trust that you are with us and have promised to walk with us even through the valley of the shadow of death. So remove fear from his heart, O God. Let him rest in you and trust in your faithfulness to deliver us from evil and from fear. Bless him with strength for each day and courage for his journey. Surround him with your loving kindness and extend to him your mercy in this, his hour of great need.

Bless his family and his friends who minister so faithfully to him and who wait beside him with love and who speak to his heart words of comfort and tenderness. Speak your words of love and comfort to his heart through them, O God.

We lay Brett's stricken body, so ravaged by cancer and disease, in your hands, knowing that you know all things and you understand our deepest needs. Receive him into your rest so that he might know pain no more.

We pray this prayer in faith in your son and the power of the resurrection— amen.

D'Esta Love
University Chaplain