FamilyLife Blended® Radio Transcript

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Keeping Contact: Stepparenting a Grieving Child

Air date: June 11, 2021

Ron: When a parent dies, a child needs to stay in touch.

Announcer: For FamilyLife Blended®, here's Ron Deal.

Ron: Children of divorce can stay in contact with both parents. When a parent dies a child can't. But in her book, *Stepparenting the Grieving Child*, author Diane Fromme points out that the need to maintain an emotional connection to a parent does not end just because the parent dies.

The living parent and stepparent can help with this: acknowledge the deceased parent over time; write letters or song lyrics to the parent; look at pictures and talk about them; and put an empty chair at the table for special meals. Help the child bring the deceased parent along with them through life and a healthy connection will endure. For FamilyLife Blended I'm Ron Deal.

Announcer: Find more at familylifeblended.com.

FamilyLife Blended with Ron Deal is a production of FamilyLife. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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