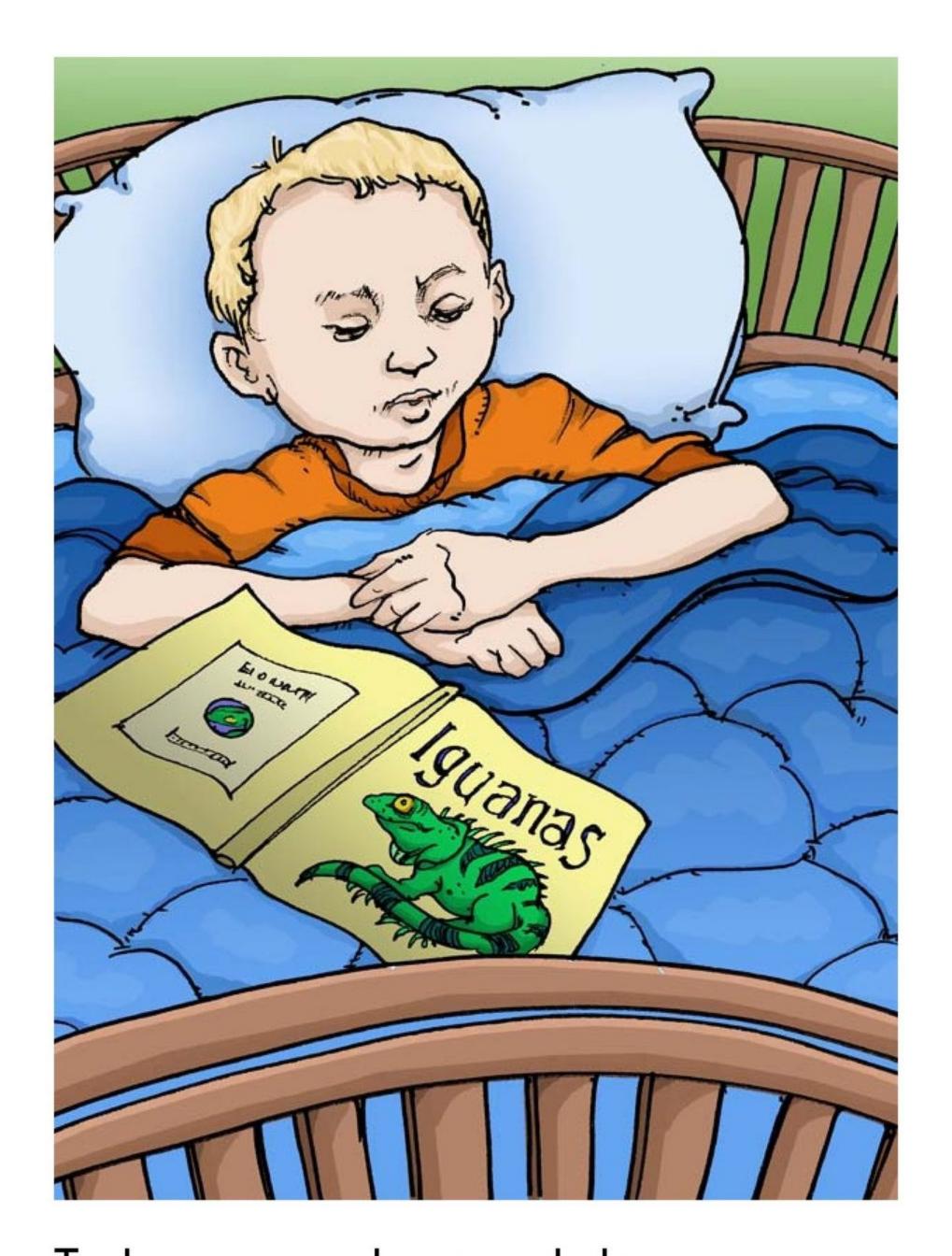


When Bad Things Happen



Written by Page Burdick Illustrated by Joel Snyder

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Today was not a good day.

My pet lizard died.

I don't understand why.

I did everything right.

Izzy had a safe home.
Izzy had clean water.
Izzy had plenty of food.
But he died.

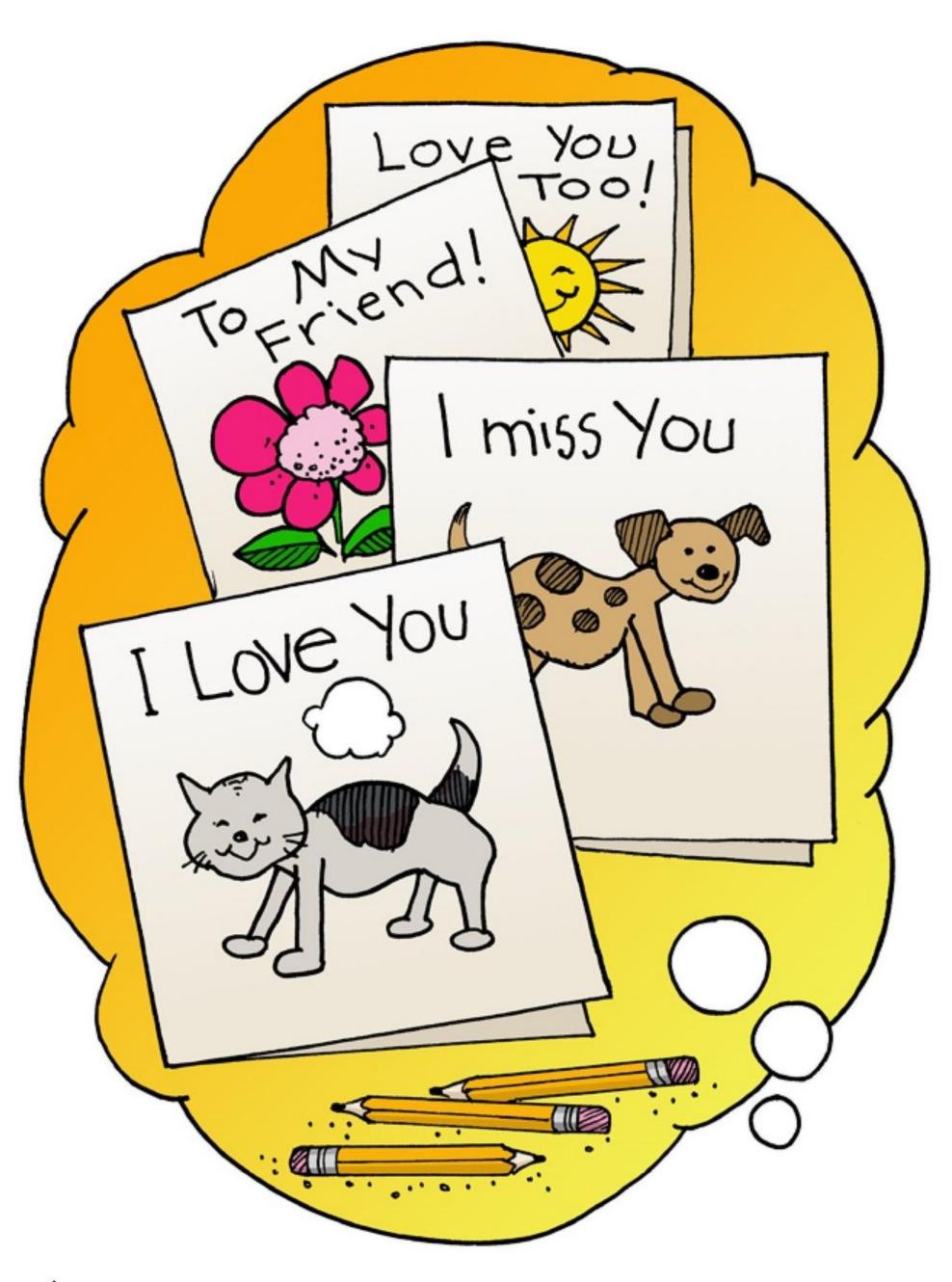




My dad said sometimes bad things happen, even when you do everything right.

I understood what my dad told me. But I still felt bad.

My mom said there were things
I could do to help me feel better.
She said some people make cards
and then color them with bright colors.





My dad said some people write a letter when they lose a friend. The letter tells about the good times they had together.

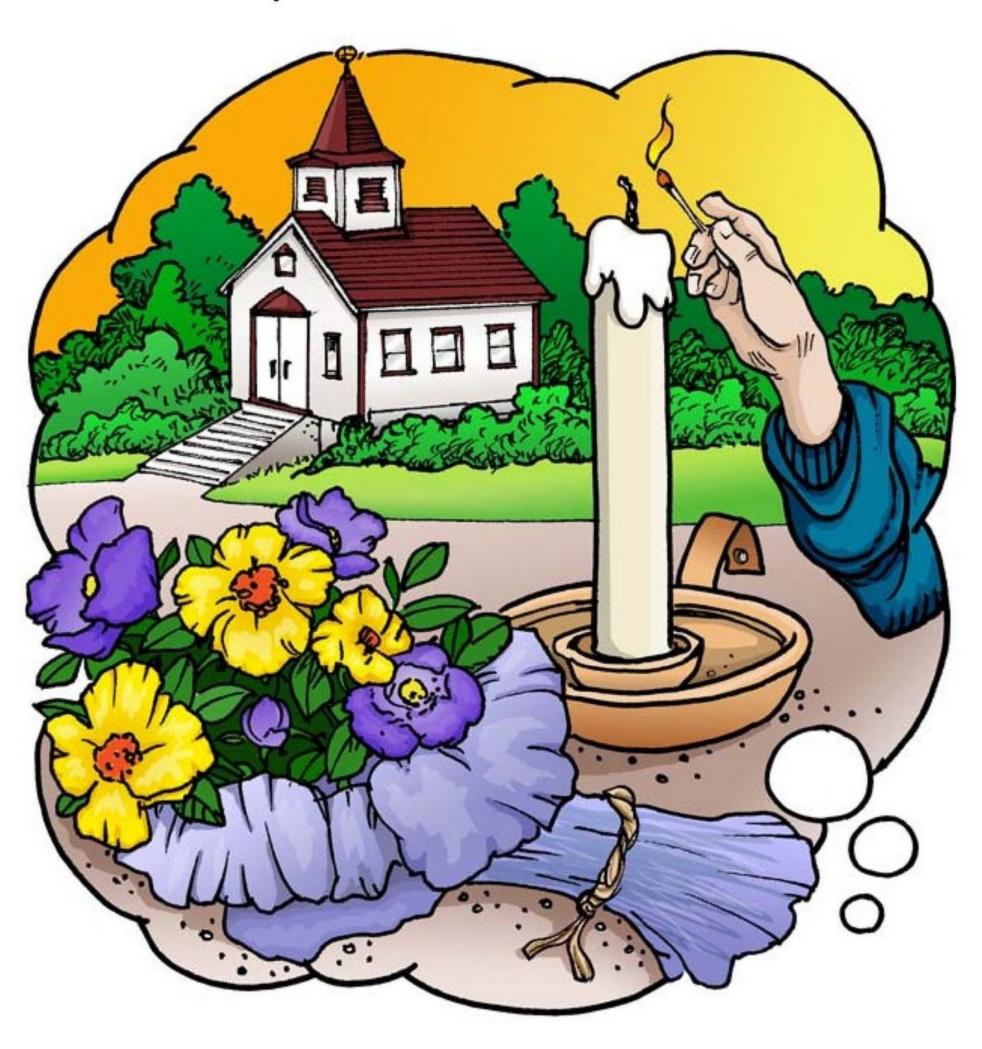
He said I could write about how Izzy sat on my shoulder when I did my homework.

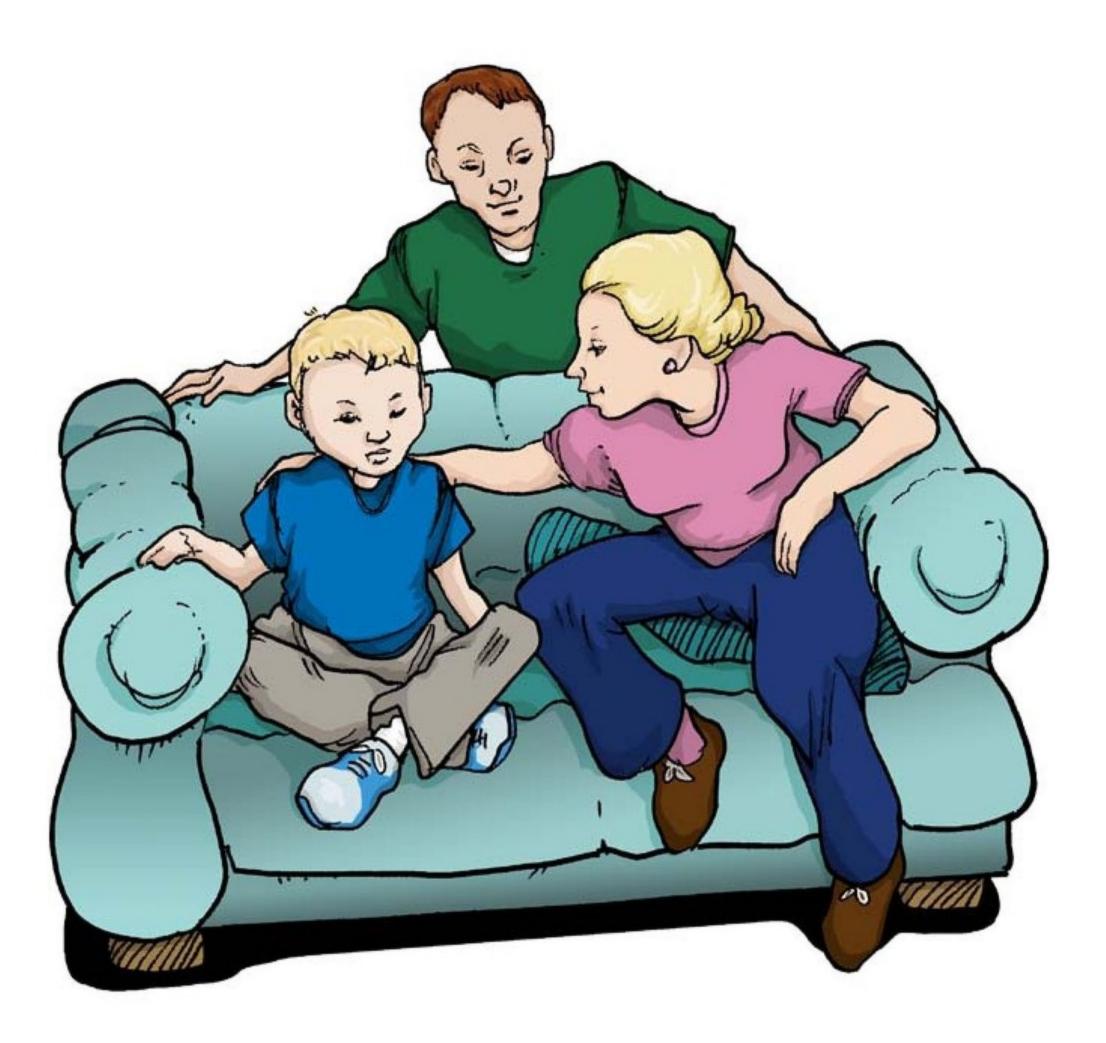
He said I might share how Izzy loved to eat green beans.

My grandmother said that some people go to a church or another place of worship.

My mom said that some people light candles and pray.

She said other people put flowers next to a photo of their friend.





My dad said that whatever I did to remember Izzy would help me feel less sad.

Mom added that in time I would feel much better.

But she also said I might feel sad again some days along the way.

I chose to make Izzy a card.

I drew Izzy with a smile.

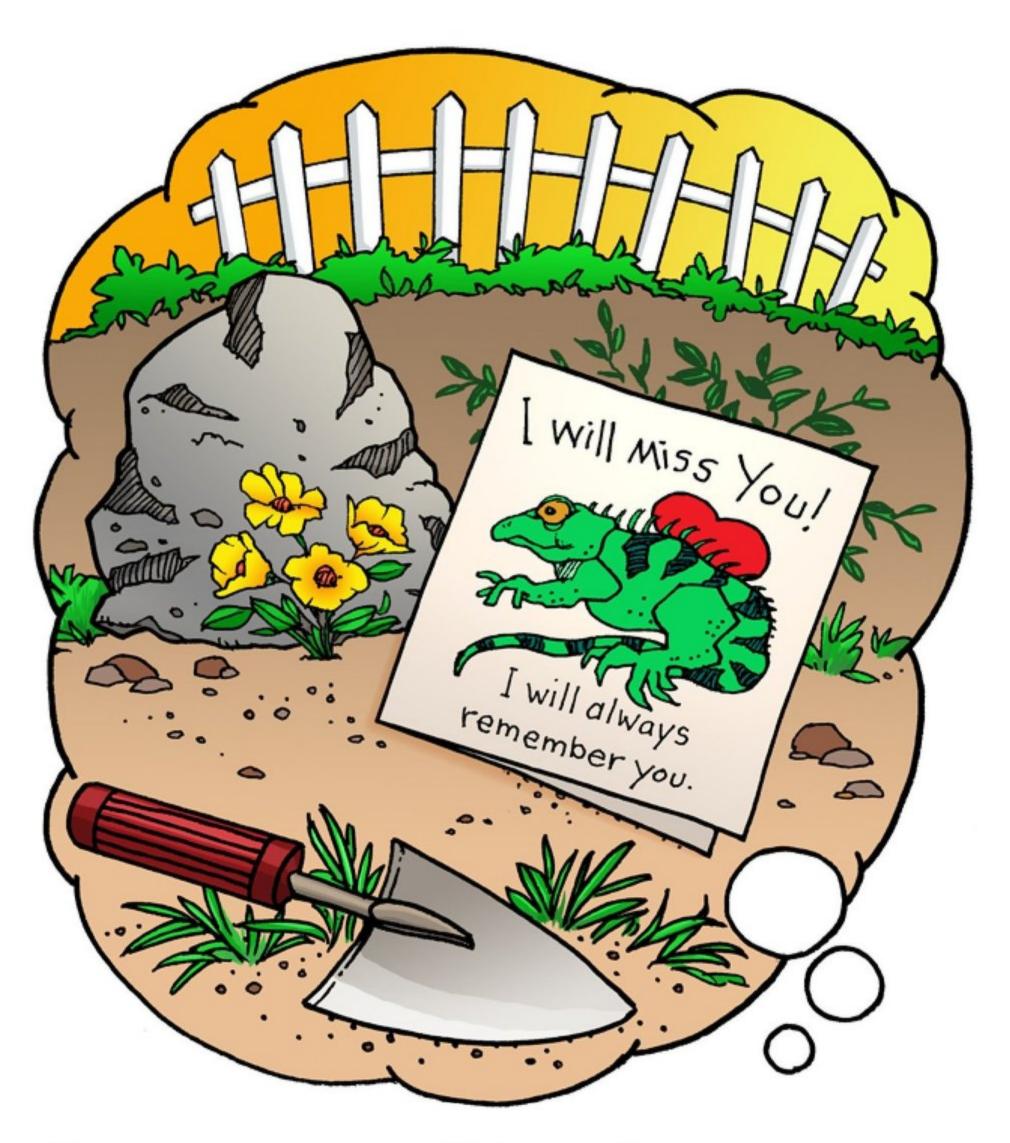
I drew a big heart because

I loved him.

I wrote that I missed him.

I wrote that I would remember him.





Tomorrow we will bury Izzy. I chose a special place in the backyard.

It is next to a clump of flowers.

I will put his favorite rock there.

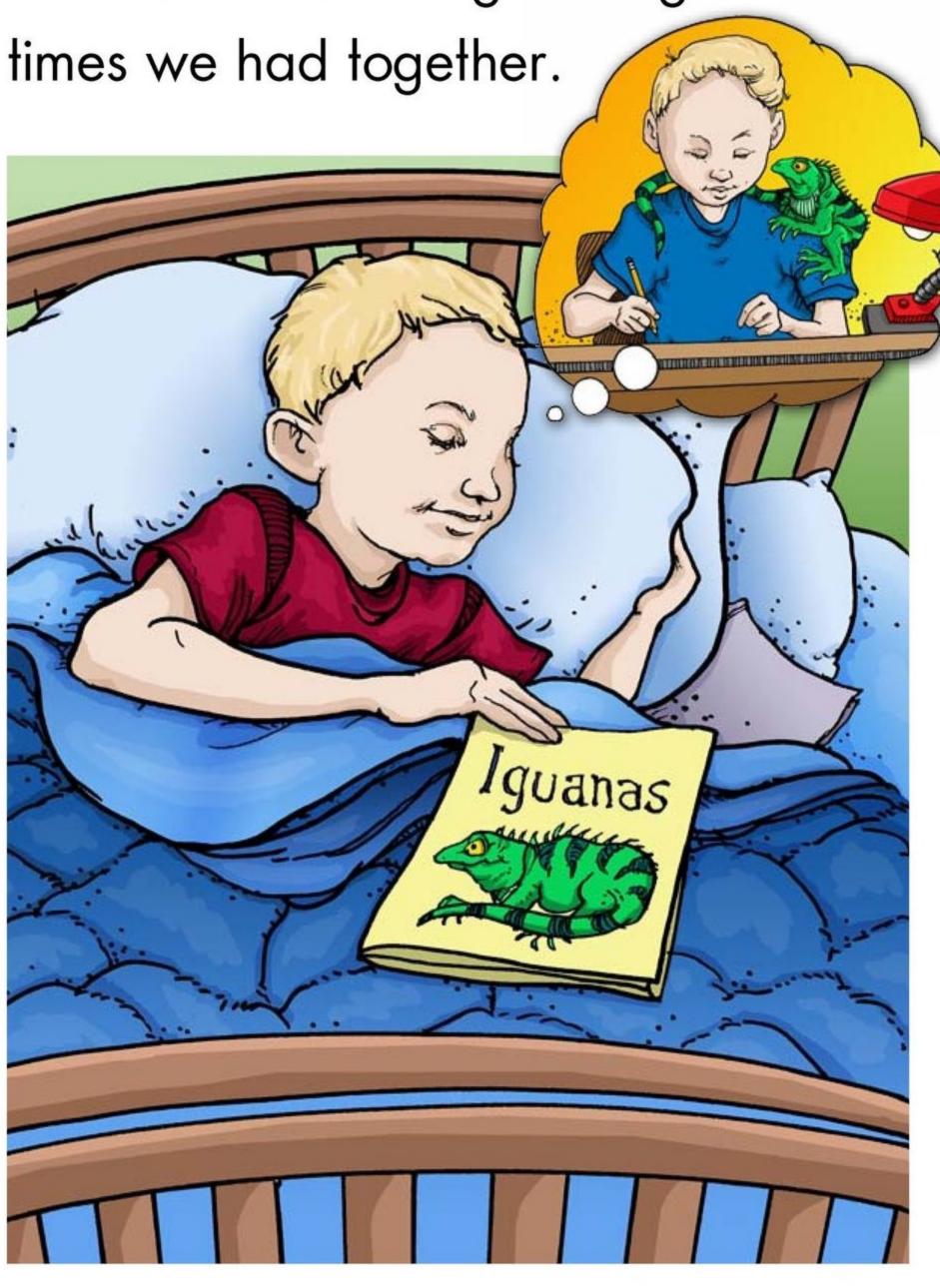
I will put my card there, too.

My dad was right.

I do feel a little bit better.

I will always miss Izzy,

but I won't ever forget the good



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