

Before I begin, I wish to thank you for the gift of your time. I want to thank you for allowing me to share my beautiful daughter's story. As painful as this is for me to do, I wish to spare as many parents the unfathomable pain and debilitating grief I carry every single day. My daughter left this Earth 967 days ago. Today would have been her 29<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In the next five minutes you will see many beautiful photos of Ashley. Photos are all my family and I have left of her. That is not true I guess we do have a small urn with some of her ashes and we do have our memories.

In the same five minutes that I get to share her story, someone else's loved one in the United States will die from Fentanyl. Over the next 24 hours 190 loved ones will die. Today, in my state. The beautiful state of Arizona alone 5 people will lose their lives to this weapon of mass destruction.

While you see her beautiful smile and almond shaped eyes scroll across the screen, more often than not I remember her differently. Every time I close my eyes. I see all of the tubes. When it is quiet, I hear all of the machines working to keep her alive. You see, my husband and I sat with her for 86 hours in the ICU. We were begging God for her to just come back to us. Pleading. Bargaining.

Over the last 32 months, Ashley did not celebrate her beautiful son's 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> birthday. She did not watch him graduate from Kindergarten. She did not celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July's, Thanksgivings, Christmas' New Year's days. She did her birthdays because she will forever be 26 years old.

The only reason for her absence is she died of Fentanyl poisoning on May 26, 2021. She spent over 30 minutes on the floor of her bathroom between the commode and the bathtub. She lay waiting for her "friends" to clean up her home before calling 911 requesting paramedics. The Good Samaritan Act did not save her.

Her murderer, a convicted, repeat drug distribution offender, a 44 year old career drug dealer/trafficker calculated the value of Ashley's life to equate to a mere \$40. This dealer has 14 prior convictions for drug sales. "Dawn the dealer" even went so far as warning Ashley of the possibility of her death. These facts are clearly documented in Ashley's phone. That phone was surrendered to the honorable officers of PANT because a search warrant was issued.

As Ashley laid in the ICU at YRMC in Prescott her Father and I prayed at her bedside for her to just breathe. You see, Ashley never took another breath on her own. At her bedside, her father and I were faced with the unbearable decision to discontinue all mechanical life saving measures after 86 grueling hours of begging and pleading she just survive this poisoning. That she just breathed.

Instead one half of ONE PILL that contained 5 mg of Fentanyl killed her.

Her dealer cannot be prosecuted for Ashley's death. Nor can she even be charged. Ashley's son, Her father and I are not even considered victims of "Dawn the dealer's" actions. We do not even have the ability to provide a victim impact statement in Ashley's traffickers case. The evidence is clear in Ashley's phone. Toxicology report states 5mg of Fentanyl. Nothing can be done. She knowingly sold poison to our daughter which caused her death. Yet she will not be charged.

Before you decide how you feel about this legislation and our fight to raise awareness about Fentanyl and drugs in general I wish to remind you no family is immune from being touched by Fentanyl. Fentanyl is poison. My fight to pursue and see drug dealers prosecuted, poison peddlers in prison and the murders for quick money will only end when I take my last breath.

I do not wish to bore you with statistics except for the following:

In the United States, every 5 minutes of every day of the week, someone dies from OVERDOSE/POISONING. Yes, you read that correctly. That is something I never wanted to know. Please take a moment and thank God right now, if your family has not been touched or changed by addiction, or death because of addiction, or death from fentanyl/opioid poisoning. All street drugs are potentially laced with fentanyl these days.

So by the time my testimony is over, someone will have died from an opioid overdose/poisoning. Maybe someone you know. Someone's child. Someone's Mother. Someone's spouse. Someone's parents. Someone's friend. Someone's aunt/uncle. Let that sink in. Ashley Dunn was my "someone". She will not die in vain.

Ashley had brown hair and beautiful almond shaped eyes. Ashley, with One smile would steal your heart. Ashley had a kind heart and gentle soul. Ashley had a personality that would light up every room. She paid the ultimate price by losing her life because of ONE pill.

Ashley was a daughter and a granddaughter. She was a sister and an Aunt. She was a wife and a Mother. She was a cousin. She was a friend and animal lover. She was an artist. She was a painter.

So the paradigm needs to change. Public awareness needs to change.

My hope is this email humbles you and your judgement of who might take one pill. The people dying from fentanyl are high school students, first time users, recreational users and long time addicts. These people come from all walks of life.

Fentanyl doesn't discriminate. I will forever advocate for each and every person that dies from fentanyl overdose/poisoning because those people deserved every bit of space on this earth as we do. Every bit of love and peace and opportunity. Survival from overdose is possible but not for my Ashley. My Ashley has died.

I understand that the Mission of Department of Homeland Security is to secure our nations air, land, sea and borders to prevent illegal activity while facilitating lawful travel and trade. In my humble opinion, Mr. Mayorkas' border polices is partially responsible for my daughter's death.

His wide-open border policy allows massive quantities of poisonous fentanyl into our country. Arizona is the fentanyl SUPERhighway into the United States. I personally feel Mr. Mayorkas is responsible for opening the border to allow more than 10 million illegal border crossings since February 2021 which supply illegal Fentanyl. THIS WEAPON of Mass destruction that has killed over 100, 000 Americans on our soil for 2 years in a row. Under Secretary Mayorkas' leadership, Fentanyl is an invasion. This weapon of mass destruction, has caused unimaginable numbers of deaths and unmeasurable damage to our country' s families. My family is broken. My heart is broken. I live in a border state. I believe that our border is not secure. I believe myself and the American people have been misled by Mr. Mayorkas. Our country deserves a secure border. Our country deserves a secure border. We need to close the Fentanyl superhighway. We need to close the border. Thank you.