

Annalise Baxa

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Blueberry Budget

I ran into my mommy's arms and gave her the biggest hug I could. I felt her arms wrap around me, and I told her "I missed you!" She said, "I missed you too, baby." I looked for Daddy, but daddy wasn't with her, so I asked, "Where's Daddy?" Mommy started to cry, and she said "Baby, Daddy loves you so much, he's on a work trip with Jesus so he can afford your blueberry budget." That's what a mom had to tell her three-year-old child because she couldn't bear to explain to her daughter that her daddy was never coming home. No one should have to explain the concept of murder to children so young. No one should have to tell a child that her daddy was shot and murdered.

On September 10, 2025, a young man known as Charlie Kirk was murdered at a Utah university event. He was shot because of his political beliefs and his willingness to stand up for them. Charlie Kirk was a Republican with a strong following. He was also a Christian man, and because of LGBTQ liberal terrorists, he is now in heaven with his heavenly Father.

That single bullet changed so many lives. It changed the life of his wife Erika Kirk, making her a widow, and a single parent to their two young children. It changed the lives of all the people who looked up to him and followed him. We had all heard stories throughout history about the gunshots "heard around the world." This will be the gunshot of my generation: One single bullet changed so much in just a short amount of time. Because of one man's actions another is dead. Because of one man's actions, thousands are calling for justice. Yet a different set of thousands praise this act of murder. They go online to spread the news of the murder of Charlie Kirk, and they celebrate. Not only do they celebrate, they call for the death of more

people, just like him. People who are speaking out about their beliefs are now in danger. If someone points out how messed up and wrong it is to celebrate the murder of a human being, they shout back, "You are next!" I could be next. After the murder of Charlie Kirk, these cowards behind keyboards posted death threats to multiple individuals and groups, including conservative politicians like Lauren Boebert and Rep. Thomas Massie. Some arrests around the country have been made, such as a New Mexico teenager who threatened to target people. My own dad has received threatening text messages mentioning Charlie Kirk

Tyler, who is the accused murderer of Charlie Kirk, is now in prison and according to Fox News, "Tyler Robinson, 22, has been formally charged with aggravated murder, along with six other felony counts. The charges include felony discharge of a firearm causing serious bodily injury, obstruction of justice, two counts of witness tampering, and commission of a violent offense in the presence of a child." Just because Miss Erica Kirk forgave the shooter does not mean that human justice won't be implemented. Not only will our country's justice be implemented but God's justice will be too. Even though it sounds impossible, God can do amazing things, and he did. He did good work through that bullet; that one bullet sent America into an uproar, hundreds of thousands of people came out of their homes and spoke up. They got out of their homes, met up together and they cried for justice. Here in Lubbock thousands of people packed a large church for a vigil. This continued his legacy, not only adults but children. Children saw the crying, saw the hurt, and they stood up too. They made their own group. They saw the good work of their parents and copied them. Now, there are tens of thousands of Turning Point groups. All because of one bullet, his legacy grew around the world. Some reports say that there were around 2,000 college and high school Turning Point chapters in place before the murder of Charlie Kirk. Now they have 3,500 chapters and 900 official college chapters with

more being formed. His death has inspired America to get up and work and learn to grow his legacy. I've even seen it in my own community. I am a homeschooler and I wouldn't have it any other way. A couple of young men in my homeschool co-op were able to form a Turning Point chapter and start teaching homeschoolers how to protect their freedoms. Because of these two young men's dedication to keeping Charlie Kirk's legacy alive, I am able to attend and learn more about how to better protect my freedoms, and even strengthen my walk as a Christian.

A young man was shot and murdered, but God can do amazing things. Erica Kirk, after the echo of the gunshot faded, reminded us that the response to this gunshot should not be to fear those who take one's life, but to fear the One who judges the soul. Remember the father, the husband, the human being who was murdered for his beliefs. Remember Charlie Kirk. Pray for Tyler Robinson, who faces a penalty far greater than death if he does not repent. Pray for the children of Charlie Kirk; may their blueberry budget never be empty, and the limited memories of their father never fade.

Works cited

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