

## DWI RE-ENACTMENT 2006

Hello. My name is Mrs. Kato. Last year I came here to talk to the seniors, just as I am today. It was especially difficult for me because my boy, Matthew should have been sitting with his class, where you are now. Instead, I was here speaking in hopes of preventing what happened to him from ever occurring in their lives ... in *your* life because of a poor choice.

A drunk driver killed Matthew. Matt never attended his prom or graduated because an adult chose to drink alcohol and then drive. Make no mistake about what happened. Driving under the influence of alcohol or any drug is a choice. This tragedy and pain is completely preventable.

It is very easy to have the attitude "I can handle it" or "That won't happen to us". Matt used to tell me that I worried too much. Certainly, worry did not change the other person's behavior, did it? You need your wits about you at every moment behind the wheel; no distractions, definitely, no mind numbing substances. One moment, your vehicle is your sweet ride, your mode of transportation. Have a few drinks, it will transform into a lethal weapon! Then no one is safe.

I do not want to read about you in tomorrow's paper. I do not wish to comfort your parents at your grave. I want you to live your life. To be safe. To come home to tell about the days adventures. You can bet I would love to hear about it all. God bless the Class of 2006.