

# Volunteers needed for our Annual Butterfly Release ceremony held in May!



www.TylerTCF.org

Thanks to Skillern's Business Systems for printing our newsletter!

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Please join us at 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762.  
We hope to see you at our next meeting!

*We need not walk alone.*



Tyler, Texas 75711  
P.O. Box 9714

**THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**




**The  
Compassionate  
Friends**  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies



*We need not walk alone.*

Volume 20, Issue 6

Tyler, Texas

June 2019

**Monthly Group Meeting**  
Tyler Area Meeting  
17555 Hwy. 155 S.  
(off Loop 49) Flint, TX 75762  
3rd Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.  
Find us on Facebook @TylerTCF

**Contact**

Phone: (903) 422-0358  
www.TylerTCF.org • info@TylerTCF.org  
P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

Co-Chapter Leaders:  
Cheri Zucca & Trish Mann Taylor  
Secretary: Trish Mann Taylor  
Newsletter/Website: Mary Lingle  
Tyler Meeting Facilitator:  
Heather Ogg

Steering Committee: Cheri Zucca, Don & Leslie Dixon, Janet Majors, Trisha Mann Taylor, Barbara Barton, Heather Ogg, Kim Cathey, Mary Lingle

Joan & Bill Campbell, Regional Coordinators: (972) 935-0673  
TCF National: (877) 969-0010  
www.compassionatefriends.org

**The Meeting Agenda**

6:30 p.m. - Meeting will begin with refreshments followed by announcement of birthdays and anniversaries and reading of the Credo. We will then have open discussion.  
8:00 p.m. - Meeting will close by recognizing our childrens' names. Feel free to visit after the meeting or check out books from our library.

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**How Can You Survive?**

You stood there staring with your eyes open wide when I told you my only child had died. Then I heard that question again today and those thoughtless words that take my breath away, "I could not go on living had my child died." "How can you stand it, how can you survive?" You seemed not to notice the hard painful lump that had settled in my throat despite my brave front I tried to speak, but my mouth was bone dry. All I could do was just stand there and stifle my cry. Then you turned in silence and I followed your lead. Wiping tears off my face as I struggled to breathe.

How do I answer these questions you ask? Should I tell you the truth and then wait for your gasp? I've been told by other parents who have also lost a child that they have heard these words before and cannot believe the guile of those who think life simply stops because you're left to bear the greatest tragedy of all, lost hopes and bleak despair. Yet perhaps you do not realize the pain you have just caused so once more I will answer in hope to give you pause. I would have gladly died, exchanging my life for his. Willing myself into my son's broken body, for weeks I prayed for this. When he took his last breath, I was left alone in this place to live one day at a time and remember his sweet face.

You ask me how I stand it; how I manager to survive? How I can stand to go on living when my only child has died? The answer is so simple; I'm amazed you cannot see that the answer you seek does not lie with me. The Lord in His wisdom makes me draw breath each day I do not know His reason, I do not know His way. I wake each morning with my son's death on my mind. Living only for heaven to hold the child I called mine. This is how I stand it; the only reply I can give I did not die, I did not survive, and I did not want to live.

So when next you see a parent grieving for their child take care to be gentle and just offer us a smile. For our numbers are great and our hearts have been broken. We need only your love with your arms wide open.

*In memory of Eric. Eric was killed in a car accident with his best friend. Nancy, Alive Alone, October, 1998*

**The Waves of Grief**

Grief is like the ocean tides with their constant ebb and flow. Sometimes the tides are quiet sometimes the strong wind blows. The pain is like the ocean waves that roll way out in the sea. Sometimes the motion is gentle and lulls me into a sense of complacency. But then from out of nowhere treacherous storm clouds fill the air. The sharp, white foam waves lash over me and overwhelmed me with despair. Just as a vicious storm waves battering the rock will eventually etch their mark, so too, the ravishment of pain and grief, have taken a toll on my heart.

*"Living With Loss," Summer, 2007, livingwithloss.com*

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive.



We need not walk alone.

"Thanks The Compassionate Friends for being there. It helps to not feel like you're walking the journey alone, even though family and friends are all around. They just don't fully feel what the experience is like no matter how deep their love and commitment goes. No one knows unless they have walked in the same shoes." —Lori Kern

### Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to those who attended their first TCF meeting last month.

We deeply regret the circumstances that brought you to our TCF Chapter. The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, not-for-profit, self-help organization that offers support and understanding to families who have experienced the death of a child. You are cordially invited to attend our monthly meeting (held the third Monday of the month). The meeting is open to everyone and free of charge. You are free to talk, cry or to sit in silence; we respect the individuality of mourning. Comments shared in the meetings remain confidential.

Our chapter is operated entirely by volunteers dedicated to furthering the work of TCF. Your voluntary, tax deductible donations honor your loved one(s) in a meaningful way by enabling us to print and mail this newsletter and meet other expenses involved in reaching out to other grieving families (100% of funds are used for this outreach). Donations, along with the name of the person being honored, may be sent to:

The Compassionate Friends of Tyler  
P.O. Box 9714  
Tyler, Texas 75711

### To Our New Members

Coming to your first meeting is the hardest thing to do. But, you have nothing to lose and much to gain. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not TCF will work for you. The second, third or fourth meeting might be the time you will find the right person—or just the right words spoken that will help you in your grief work.

### To Our Old Members

We need your encouragement and support. You are the string that ties our group together and the glue that makes it stick. Each meeting we have new parents. Think back—what would it have been like for you if there had not been any "oldies" to welcome you, share your grief and encourage you? It was from them you heard, "Your pain will not always be this bad; it really does get softer."

### Grief Resources

*Note: Some resources are based on individual opinion and experience and are not officially endorsed by the organization. The hope is that you may find a grief resource helpful to you and your family. We will continue to build on our resources column. Please let us know of any of your personal recommendations. Thank you.*

**Compassionate Friends (International Website)** [compassionatefriends.org](http://compassionatefriends.org)  
Also offers grief support for **siblings & grandparents**

**The Childrens Park:** [www.childrensparktyler.org](http://www.childrensparktyler.org)  
**Glory Babies** meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Alison house next to The Children's Park of Tyler: [www.glorybabies.com](http://www.glorybabies.com)

**GriefShare:** [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org)

**Smith County Victim Services Division**  
[www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html)

**The Hospice of East Texas:** [www.hospiceofeasttexas.org](http://www.hospiceofeasttexas.org)

**Victim Services Division - Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Online Resource Directory**  
[www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs)

**Survivors of Suicide:** [www.allianceofhope.org](http://www.allianceofhope.org)

**Samaritan Counseling of Tyler:** [www.scctyler.org](http://www.scctyler.org)

**Tyler Counseling & Assessment, LLP:** [www.tyler-counseling.com](http://www.tyler-counseling.com)

**Angel Layettes** brings comfort to families grieving over the loss of an infant from miscarriage, stillbirth or death shortly after birth, and honor and dignity to the memory of the precious baby. Angel Layettes provides without charge custom designed burial layettes and keepsakes. [angellayettes.org](http://angellayettes.org) • 903-534-5212

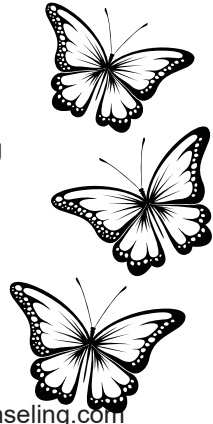
**University of Texas at Tyler Psychology and Counseling and Training Clinic:** 903-593-2348

**The Cope Foundation:** [www.copefoundation.org](http://www.copefoundation.org)

**Grief Camps for Kids:** [www.moyerfoundation.org/programs](http://www.moyerfoundation.org/programs)

**WINGS** was established through Hospice of East Texas in 1993 to help children navigate the grieving process. WINGS, "a comprehensive bereavement program that provides both emotional support and grief education," offers a camp (Camp G – grieve, grow and go forward) twice a year. For more information or to register for a grief support program, contact the Hospice of East Texas Bereavement Department at 903-266-3400 (Extension 127) or call 1-800-777-9860.

**Group Meetings for Survivors of Trauma and Survivors of Suicide Loss**, sponsored by Michael's House of Hope at the New Life Worship Center, 18535 Hwy. 69 S., Tyler, room 620. Call Dr. Timothy M. Roddam at 903-681-3161 for more information. Survivors of Trauma meets the second Thursday of each month from 6-7 p.m.



We're on Facebook! Search for The Compassionate Friends of Tyler and Like our page.



## The Compassionate Friends of Tyler

P.O. Box 9714  
Tyler, TX 75711

We are happy to send our newsletter to you. We hope that it is helpful to you to be kept informed of chapter resources and activities and that you still wish to receive our newsletters that contain excellent material relating to grief issues.

To keep our mailing list current, we do ask to hear from you each year making sure that our information is correct and that you still wish to receive our mailings. If we did not hear from you in the last year please indicate any appropriate choices below and return the form to the address at the bottom of this page.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Death Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cause of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please check any of following that apply:

Due to the rising cost of postage, please send newsletters via email. My email address is \_\_\_\_\_.

I prefer not to receive the newsletter via email and would like to continue having a hard copy sent to the mailing address you have on file for me.

Please update my mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

No thank you, I'd prefer to stop receiving the newsletter. (Newsletters are posted monthly on our website.)

Please include my child's name and picture in the slide presentation at the Candle Lighting Ceremony.

Please include my child's picture and information on the TCF Tyler Web site. ([www.TylerTCF.org](http://www.TylerTCF.org))

I am enclosing a memorial to support The Compassionate Friends in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make check payable to TCF

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this gift for:  TCF Newsletter  Butterfly Release  Candle Lighting  TCF Events

The continuation of this chapter's work depends on donations. If you have not taken the opportunity to give a donation in memory of your child please consider taking this time to give a gift that will help reach out to other newly bereaved parents.

We must have your written permission on file to use your child's name and/or picture in the newsletter, Web site, Candle Lighting Ceremony or any other TCF event. Permission may be withdrawn at any time by written request. This information is used to maintain our Chapter Database. It is confidential and is only utilized for Chapter activities such as the newsletter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

Please return completed form to: The Compassionate Friends of Tyler, P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, TX 75711



*We need not walk alone.*

"Time may heal. It may help to dull your pain. But the medicine of time, taken by itself, is not sure. Time is neutral. What helps is what you do with time."  
—Rabbi Earl A. Grollman

### June Birthdays



Jasmine Elizabeth Thomas



Brian Harris



Thomas "Chuck" Carroll, II



D. Anriloten Bennett



Charlie Clakley



Trisha Thomas



Bryce Ramirez Cooksey



Alfred Donnell Guthrie, III



Matt Mears



Seth Henry Porter



Jonathan Shipman



Erin Evans



Erika Reyes



Trey LePelley



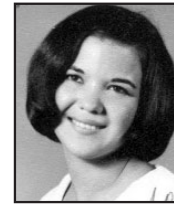
Michael Holdway



ShiAnn Renee Robinson



Leslie Eugene Robb



Jackie Marie Heerd



Joshua Andrews



Michael Ritchie



Jake Higgins



Kelly Ann Campbell



Justin McCullough



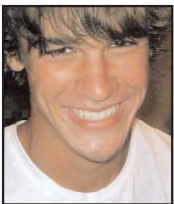
Timothy Allen Hawkins



Jeremy England



Ryan Glasco



Chris O'Leary



Joshua Malone



Ronald Gary Smith



Chandler James "Jimmy" Brazell



Melissa Helsel



Hudson Hutchins



Knox Knight



Kelly Ann Campbell



Natalie Foster



*We need not walk alone.*

"So when next you see a parent grieving for their child, take care to be gentle and just offer us a smile. For our numbers are great and our hearts have been broken. We need only your love with your arms wide open." —Nancy

### What to Do, What to Do?

Rabbi Earl A. Grollman said, "Time may heal. It may help to dull your pain. But the medicine of time, taken by itself, is not sure. Time is neutral. What helps is what you do with time."

In the early days after the death of a child you may be so numb that it is all you can do to get out of bed in the morning. You toss and turn unable to sleep or you sleep for hours or days. You can stumble through your days unaware what is happening around you. Eating is not something you can or want to do. If you have other children it will effect how you function or not, depending on their ages. Eventually you will begin to want to join the world but may have a hard time in certain situations and you may have to retreat back to the safety of your "cocoon." Be kind to yourself. Don't let others tell you "isn't it time you got over "it" and moved on with your life?" You have to take all the time to grieve and begin to heal that is necessary. Each person is different even spouses grieve differently.

When you begin to get comfortable in your world, your changed world, you can begin to think of how you want people to remember your child. This may be a time for you to join a support group. Compassionate Friends is where you can talk about your child. You can celebrate their birthday. You can show pictures of your child. It is a place where no one has the answers but they are willing to share what has worked for them and what hasn't. It is a place where we do not judge or tell you that you are wrong in what you are doing. We are there to hold your hand, to offer love and support, to listen to your story. Someone said you have to tell your story at least 100 times. Your family and your friends may not be able to listen 100 times but your Compassionate Friends will. Why?

Because we have been there and someone listened to us so it is our turn to give back what has been given to us. This is what we do. This is what we do with time. Our children, grandchildren, and siblings will never be forgotten as long as we share them with others. We can set up scholarships, plant memorial gardens, purchase benches engraved with their names, start a foundation to support a cause or disease connected with their death, volunteer our time with a charity, help other children with one on one mentoring and many more ways. As we travel this painful road we reach out to other bereaved people with love and hope... that is what to do.

*Greenville, SC TCF Chapter*

### A Bereaved Mom's Thoughts on Bereaved Dads and Stepdads on Father's Day

Father's Day, a day we honor those wonderful dads, for many is a day that can be bittersweet. There are two groups of fathers that fall into that category and, if I may, would like to speak up for. I know I have mentioned the bereaved moms on Mother's Day, but I ask you to keep in mind those dads whose children who have died before them. Just as the bereaved siblings are oftentimes the forgotten mourners, the fathers can become invisible too. I know many a bereaved dad who, when met on the street got the question, "How is your wife doing?" I suppose for the person who asks, it is easier not to confront the father's grief head on by asking about someone not present and therefore, easing their own discomfort. I am here to tell you that those dads hurt every bit as much as the moms, but, because of the macho burden placed on men by society, don't always freely show it like we mothers do, and they keep it bottled up inside. Take a minute, at any time, but especially on days such as Father's Day where the focus is on them, to tell that dad you are thinking of them. I guarantee they will appreciate it.

The other group that more often than not are overlooked are the stepfathers. I think that we have the fairy tale, Cinderella, to thank for the bum rap that many of us stepparents get! That is particularly true when that parent isn't the "real" parent. However, I know many, many stepdads who deserve the title of father minus the "step" even more than the biological ones. They are dads, like one I now personally, who sat up all night long after a 13-hour workday and comforted his stepdaughters who were suffering a miserable case of chicken pox, made the midnight trips to the emergency room, as well as delighted along with them in their triumphs, and agonized in their defeats. And I know one in particular who grieved with every fiber of his being when his stepdaughter, (though he never uses the term "stepdaughter," it is always "daughter") Nina, died almost eight years ago. Along with other bereaved stepparents he didn't deserve comments such as, "Well, at least it doesn't hurt as much because she wasn't your REAL daughter." To him, (just as many others I know), she is just as significant as his own flesh and blood. I wish all father's, dad's, daddy's, stepfather's and stepdad's (which is a step UP) a day filled with love, support, understanding, warm hugs, and an abundance of comforting memories. Happy Father's Day!

*With gentle thoughts, Cathy Seehuetter, Nina's Mom, TCF St Paul, MN*





*We need not walk alone.*

"The grief of siblings may differ from that of a parent, but it ought not be discounted. People need to realize that while it is obviously painful for parents to have lost a child, it is also painful for the sibling, who has not only lost a sister or brother, but an irreplaceable friend." —Jane Machado

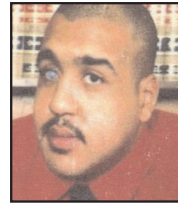
### June Anniversaries



Roozbeh Arianpour



Christopher John Fisher



Gary R. Gribble



Lindsey Barton



Michael A. Rucker



Gabe Levi Hunt



Tami Kay Brown Roberts



Kyle Beck



Justin Corey Modisette



Justin Morrow McIntyre



Bryce Ramirez Cooksey



Joshua Walker



Mark Turner



Joshua Renaud



Christina Boyd



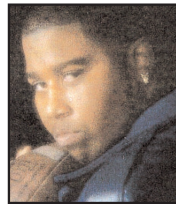
Autumn Dale Romine



Jeremiah Barker



Emily Elizabeth Ellis



Todd Dean



Jodi Lynne Attaway



Justin McCullough



Justin Bynum



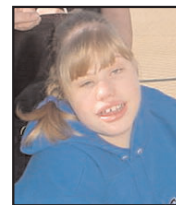
Jesse Lee Irby



Nathan Spataro



Christopher Pope



Amber Glasco



Kelynn Pinson



William Jeffrey Stack



Lester "Bubba" Chase



Kenneth Melvin



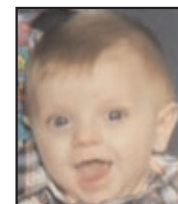
Kelbi Mathis



Noah Bass



Joseph Richard Watson, Jr



Carson Kerry Rose

*Continued on next page.*



*We need not walk alone.*

"Above all else, remember that you will always be a father! Be especially kind to yourself as you prepare for the array of emotions you will experience on Father's Day. As you work through these feelings of loss, you are taking steps forward towards healing in this difficult journey we call grief!" —Clara Hinton

### June Anniversaries Cont.



Hudson Ayers



Natalie Foster



Zayin Wells

**Find us on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/TylerTCF](https://www.facebook.com/TylerTCF)**

### One Foot in Yesterday

Yesterday my child was here, on this planet, alive. Yesterday life looked promising. Yesterday morning I woke up looking forward to the day. Today I awake peacefully and then I remember my child is dead, and I cannot breathe. I am jolted from head to toe. My child has been dead for a day. I wonder what my child was thinking in the last moments. I remember all the wonderful times. I remember the joy. I think of my child's life and how his life changed me forever. I remember the last time I saw my child. I remember the last goodbye. I sob and breathe.

I am lost for days. Final arrangements are made. The platitudes float past me....these words have no meaning. A memorial service for my child. People with sad faces. Hugs, words, tears, head shaking. I can see it in their eyes....they are thankful it isn't their child. They are uncomfortable. Time heals, they say. There's a plan, there's a reason. I cannot respond. They understand. No, they don't. My child is dead. This is not my parent, my husband, my sibling. This is my child. My child was supposed to outlive me. I thank them for their good intentions. I have no interest in their words. A few friends say nothing. This is the better choice, the wiser action. Be there, be there for me. Understand my unspoken words. See my broken heart. Understand. Listen to my story, a story of my child. Remember his life, remember his death.

*Annette Mennen Baldwin, In memory of my son,  
Todd Mennen, TCF Katy, TX*

From "Goodbye, My Child," copyright 2005

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### A special thanks to all who made the 2019 Butterfly Release possible ...

Amy Molnari for her Scentsy fundraiser (Amber Turner) and making all the scentsy baskets in memory of Christopher

Jenna & Brentley Epperson and Grace

Carol Thompson in memory of Sarah

Jim & Linda Crawford in memory of Jared Sheets

Cathy Booth in memory of Jennifer Booth (music)

Andrea & Chris Knight in memory of Knox Knight

Janet Majors in memory of Melissa Majors

Kirby and Lisa Smith in memory of Scarlett Smith

Kim & Thomas Cathey in memory of Christopher Molnari

Don & Leslie Dixon in memory of Austin

Bobby Thompson in memory of Christopher Molnari

Catherine Munson in memory of Christopher Molnari

Scott Garrison for his great music

Best Bird Foods

All TCF committee members and parents/friend for their donations and hard work





*We need not walk alone.*

“Our monthly support group offers hope. Hope that the sharp pain of grief will go away. Hope that I can begin to remember my child’s life more than their death. Hope that I will survive. Hope that I will laugh again. Come and share in that hope. We need not walk alone.” —*Dave Wilkinso*



*We need not walk alone.*

Overheard at a TCF meeting:  
“The anticipation is often worse than the day itself!”



### TCF Quilt Announcement!

We are compiling names and photos for our 7th quilt! Please mail your \$30 donation for a square, child's name, and make sure we have a quality picture of your child that will show up well. Let us know quickly as we anticipate the list of 30 will fill up fast. You can mail your donation to TCF Tyler PO Box 9714 Tyler Texas 75711, please note on your check what it is for. Photos or questions can be emailed to [info@TylerTCF.org](mailto:info@TylerTCF.org).

### Forgive Until Forever

Grieving is a fierce and overwhelming expression of love thrust upon us by a deep and hurtful loss. Yet, grieving is frequently such an entanglement of feelings that we often fail to recognize that ultimately forgiveness must be an integral part of our grief and our healing. For what is LOVE, if forgiveness is silent within us?

We learn to forgive our children for dying, ourselves for not preventing it. We begin to forgive God or the fate we see ruling the universe. We start to forgive friends and relatives for abandoning us in their own bewilderment over the onslaught of emotions they sense in our words and behavior.

I believe we must be open to the balm of forgiveness. Through its expression in our lives, be it through thought, word or deed, we find small ways to seek life once more. Deep within us, forgiveness is capable of treading the wasteland of our souls to help us feel again the love that has not died.

It is the beginning of release from the dominance of pain, not from the continual hurt of missing those we have lost, but from lacking the fullness of the love we shared with our child. That love lives with strength inside ourselves, and yet our beings are so entrapped in a whirling vortex of anger, despair, frustration, abandonment and depression that we often feel it only lightly.

Let us all heed the quiet message heard so softly in that maelstrom of the spirit. Forgive...forgive...forgive until forever. Let love enfold our anguish, helping us to learn to grow and strive beyond this hour to a rich tomorrow.

*Don Hackett, TCF Hingham, Massachusetts*

**Thank you** for your generous donations to TCF of Tyler. These ‘love gifts’ allow us to provide our local chapter with special events, the TCF Newsletter, our website and more!

### Thanks for your donations and continued support of TCF of Tyler.

In loving memory of Alex Conway by Robert & Trisha Taylor



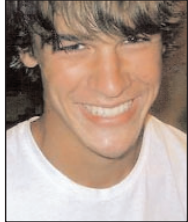
In loving memory of Candice Lingle by Mary Lingle



In loving memory of Andy Terrell by David & Teresa Terrell



In loving memory of Chris O’Leary by Merri Walsh



In loving memory of Leah Zucca by Jim & Cheri Zucca



In loving memory of Chad Cavazos by Dale Cavazos



In loving memory of Christopher Loper by Tina Loper



In loving memory of Jared Sheets by Carol & Shane Johnson



In loving memory of Stephanie Settle by Danny & Pat Settle



**Lindsey Barton**  
**In loving memory of Lindsey.**  
**Barbara & Lee Barton**



This month’s printing of our newsletter sponsored by Barbara & Lee Barton.  
Call (903) 258-2547 to sponsor a monthly newsletter.



*We need not walk alone.*

“When it seems that our sorrow is too great to be borne, let us think of the great family of the heavy-hearted into which our grief has given us entrance, and inevitably, we will feel about us, their arms and their understanding.”  
—Helen Keller

### The Butterfly

Butterfly, don't pass me by. Stop and light for a little while.  
Soothe me with your soft sensation;  
give me hope and consolation.

Butterfly, don't pass me by. Stop and light for a little while.  
Help me to release my sorrow;  
deed me strength to meet tomorrow.

Butterfly, don't pass me by. Stop and light for a little while.  
Oh, lift me up and let me feel the  
peace and freedom you reveal.

Butterfly, don't pass me by. Stop and light for a little while.  
Remind me to thank God above  
for cradling me in His great love.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted - Psalm 34:18

*Written by Connie Wade, 10/25/1990, for Lori Kern  
in memory of Emily Elizabeth Ellis*

### Grandparents are a Special Gift

Grandparents are a special gift...

God gives them to each child.

Their love outshines the brightest star...

Their love can never be defiled.

Oh, but when a child becomes an angel,

Grandparents feel the pain and sorrow.

Beyond any pain they've known in life,

Or will ever come to know tomorrow.

For a grandparent holds a special love

For the child their child has had.

And to lose what they hold dear...

Leaves them heartbroken and sad.

Their legacy is their grandchildren...

So how can they learn to survive?

Will the dreams of their tomorrows

Somehow be kept alive?

Yes, a grandparent is a survivor...

And life has taught them how to be.

*Author unknown, TCF Greenville, SC*



*We need not walk alone.*

“With the passing of years, I have learned that if I can hang on for just a little longer, these emotions—strong as they are—will pass and I can live again with the longing hidden deep inside my breast.” —Shirley Muller

### Love Gifts



Thanks to the following people who make a MONTHLY LOVE GIFT to TCF of Tyler:

(For monthly donors we will post photos of your children.)

Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O'Leary - rent

Carol & Shane Johnson in memory of Jared Sheets - rent

Danny & Pat Settle in memory of Stephanie - rent

Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah - rent

Robert & Trisha Taylor in memory of Alex Conway - rent

Barbara Barton in memory of Lindsey - rent

Dale & Phyllis Cavazos in memory of Chad - newsletter

Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper  
in memory of Christopher - TCF Phone

David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy -  
rental of a storage building

See more love gifts on page 7.



### Newsletter Submissions

TCF Tyler welcomes all submissions to our newsletter. Send articles, poetry, love messages and scanned photos to: The Compassionate Friends of Tyler, P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, Texas 75711. Or e-mail text and photos to: info@TylerTCF.org; We reserve the right to edit for space and/or content.

Deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month. TCF Chapters may copy articles from this publication provided credit is given to the author and the original source.

Errors and Omissions: We try very hard to be sure that all of the names and dates of our children are correct. If you see an error in the newsletter, please contact TCF at 903-422-0358. We want to get it right and will correct the information for future use. Thanks very much.

Email Addresses: If we do not have your email address or it has changed, please email it to info@tylertcf.org so that we may email you announcements and updates about TCF of Tyler.

Sign up for email notifications of events and to be notified when the newsletter is posted online at:  
[www.tylertcf.org](http://www.tylertcf.org)



### Announcements

**Meeting Info:** The meeting location is 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762. Our meeting is held on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call 903-422-0358.

**Steering Committee Meeting:** If you are interested in participating in our chapter by serving on the steering committee, please plan to attend a steering committee meeting. Anyone who would like to become more involved in TCF and serve on the steering committee is welcome to come! Email us at info@tylertcf.org to get involved!

**News from National:** Compassionate Friends National offers webinars for the public on grief related topics. Upcoming public webinars will include Death of a Child By Suicide, Pregnancy and Infant Loss, The Death of a Special Needs Child and How Can I Help When A Child Dies? Check out www.compassionatefriends.org for dates and times.

#### Event reminders for parents:

- If anyone is interested in singing at the Candle Lighting in December or if you know of anyone who is blessed with musical talent, and would like to participate, please contact us.
- If you have a butterfly release sign, please put it out the end of April or first of May.
- If we are storing your butterfly sign, please contact us to pick it up the end of April or first of May so you can put it out at place of your choice.
- Pre-Registration is required every year to have your child's picture in the butterfly garden. (We are very sorry, but due to growth we need to know who will be attending.)

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear TCF Members,

**As always, we welcome volunteers to serve in any capacity within our group, including sending out birthday and anniversary cards each month.**

**We are already planning our Annual Butterfly Release for May and would love to have your help!**

**If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer or steering committee member, please reach out to us. We'd love to have you aboard!**

Sincerely,  
Cheri & Trisha