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



www.TylerTCF.org

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

Skillern's Business Systems 1604 Grande Blvd., Tyler, TX 75703 903-561-5591 • www.skillerns.com

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









Volume 20, Issue 3

Tyler, Texas

March 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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Butterfly Release

Butterflies will be released in memory of all our children at the 2019 Compassionate Friends Butterfly Release set for Saturday, May 18 at 11 a.m.

The setting for this uplifting and peaceful event will be at The Children's Park, corner of Dobbs and Broadway in Tyler. Volunteers are needed for setup on Friday starting at 4:30 p.m. and early Saturday morning at 6 a.m. We will also need some help after the program for take down. We hope you'll join us for refreshments after the ceremony.

Live butterflies are for sale for \$10 each and must be reserved in plenty of time for ordering. Please send your check and reservation information to TCF at P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, Texas 75711. Reserved butterflies will be picked up for release the day of the event.

Colorful solid-painted wooden butterflies will be sold for \$20 each at the Butterfly Release. We are not taking special orders for personalized butterflies this year. Please let us know as soon as possible, if you are attending, the name of your child(ren) and how many butterflies and wooden butterflies you'd like to purchase. (See order form on page 5.)

If you have a butterfly sign please put it out around the first of May. We will be sending an email closer to time so you can pick up your sign if we are storing it.

We are doing a silent auction this year. If you'd like to donate an item, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones at the Butterfly Release! Your presence means everything to this very special event!

Photos from a Previous Butterfly Release









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.



"Pain becomes bearable when we are able to trust that if won't last forever, not when we pretend that it doesn't exist." —Alla Bozarth-Campbell

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."

The Compassionate Friends

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 Also offers grief support for **siblings** & **grandparents**

The Childrens Park: 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

GriefShare: www.griefshare.org

Smith County Victim Services Division www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html

The Hospice of East Texas: www.hospiceofeasttexas.org

Victim Services Division - Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Online Resource Directory www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs

Survivors of Suicide: www.allianceofhope.org

Samaritan Counseling of Tyler: www.scctyler.org

Tyler Counseling & Assessment, LLP: 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 • 903-534-5212

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

The Cope Foundation: www.copefoundation.org

Grief Camps for Kids: 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.

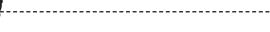
Group Meetings for Survivors of Trauma and Survivors of Suicide Loss, sponsored by Michael's House of Hope at the New Life Worship Center, 18535 Hwy. 69 S., Tyler, room 620. Call Dr. Timothy M. Roddam at 903-681-3161 for more information. Survivors of Trauma meets the the second Thursday of each month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



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



(Signature)



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.

return the form to the addr	ess at the bottom of this page.			
Your Name:				
Child's Name: Rela		Relationship	ationship:	
Birth Date:	Death Date:	Cause	of Death:	
Address:				
City:		State:	Zip:	
Home Telephone:				
E-mail:				
Please check any of follow				
☐ Due to the rising cost of	of postage, please send newsletters	via email. My email a	ddress is	
☐ I prefer not to receive address you have on file		ıld like to continue ha	aving a hard copy sent to the mailin	
☐ Please update my mail	ing address:			
☐ No thank you, I'd pref	er to stop receiving the newsletter	. (Newsletters are post	ed monthly on our website.)	
☐ Please include my child	's name and picture in the slide pres	entation at the Candle I	ighting Ceremony.	
☐ Please include my child	's picture and information on the TC	CF Tyler Web site. (www	v.TylerTCF.org)	
☐ I am enclosing a memor	rial to support The Compassionate F	riends in the amount of		
☐ In memory of			Please make check payable to TCF	
	TCF Newsletter 🛭 Butterfly Relea			
The continuation of this ch ory of your child please co	apter's work depends on donations. onsider taking this time to give a gift	If you have not taken the that will help reach out	e opportunity to give a donation in men to other newly bereaved parents.	
Lighting Ceremony or any		e withdrawn at any time	ure in the newsletter, Web site, Candle by written request. This information ter activities such as the newsletter.	

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

Date:

"All who have been touched by beauty are touched by sorrow at its passing." -Louise Cordana

We need not walk alone.

"Grief is like a long valley, a winding valley where any bend may reveal a totally new landscape." —C.S. Lewis

March Birthdays



Roozbeh Arianpour



Michael Schmidt



Gary R. Gribble





Colton Allen France





Randy Joe Cannon, Jr.



Andrea Young



Wadiya Adnan Bdah



Amanda Kay Stone







Jodi Lynn Attaway



Scott Bradshaw



Danielle Celeste



Cathy Key



Adam Grabill



Charles Bryan

Kathy Jo

Tumminello

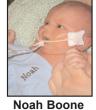
Tommy Jack

Burchfield









Bridges



Jackson Huse



Jill Rozell



Shearer



Brandon Krpec

Robby Cano



Jamye Marie

Zi'lain Cummings



Snodgrass







Daniel Thomas Khirallah





Continued on next page.

The Child Who Wasn't Perfect

I cannot say, as I have heard other parents say, "My child has always been a joy and pleasure; never gave me a minute's trouble," I cannot say that. I had a son who was always trouble.

He was born cross and irritable, real trials from the word go. He seemed to be in protest at having been born, from his very first breath and outcry, through the rest of his life. His thirty-seven years of life were one long outcry of protest, misery and unhappiness. He expressed his tormented spirit through music, poetry and a beautiful American Indian spirituality. But in spite of the pain that was in his heart, he had a wide smile and a hearty big laugh for everyone that belied the torment that raged inside him. He had a strange, mysterious wild charm, to which all who met him fell victim. He seemed to be born in the wrong time, wrong culture, with a crippled spirit, and a body that carried a fatal flaw; the fatal flaw of addiction. He put himself and his family through the agony of the damned. Step by step, he destroyed himself, as we watched with grieving hearts. He rejected every effort to save him.

Then came that fateful week; some mystery reached out for him; his body, his spirit defied every weapon at science's disposal to diagnose and save him. One by one his vital functions failed and he was gone. The word "forever" suddenly had a new and terrible meaning.

So, he was hard to love; but we loved him every step of the way. We had him because we wanted him and we loved him every minute of his life. Our grief has been no less because he was not a perfect child. It has just been an extension of the agony that we were helpless against the monster called addiction that destroyed him.

Yesterday, was his birthday, I longed for the sight and sound of him, and that wild melancholy charm that vanished a year and a half ago. My heart stays full of tears; they are always just beneath the surface. I struggle daily to keep them out of sight and my fellow man, who does not want to share my pain. So, I come home and sit on my porch in the dark; listen to the night sounds; stare into space and I cry for my child who wasn't perfect.

Jane Miller ~ TCF, Atlanta, GA

Christopher Molnari

In loving memory of Christopher

by Kim & Thomas **Kathey**



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Kim & Thomas Kathey.

Newsletter sponsorship is \$75. Contact us if you'd like to be a sponsor in memory of your loved one.

The Compassionate Friends The Compassionate Friends "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." —*Maya Angelou*

& We need not walk alone.

"An important way to cope with grief is having an outlet, be it interpersonal, be it artistic, that will allow you to not have to contain your grief, but will give you an opportunity to express it, to externalize it to some degree."

-R. Benyamin Cirlin

March Anniversaries

















Stillborn

With love I conceived and I bore you, I dreamt of you when I was a child. As I felt you grow I adored you, with your first feeble flutter I smiled. Happily I hummed an old lullaby, while I readied your room and layette. With thumps and bumps I felt you reply, playing percussion in a happy duet. Each day that passed our future I planned, where we would go and the things we would

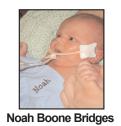


Christopher Molnari



Joshua Andrews

Douglas Johnson



Joshua Washburn











Laura Wilkinson

Nine joyful months together we spent, looking ahead to all that would be. Quickly you came, and just as quick went, and the two of us now is just me. A past that has passed; a future that's gone; everyone's back to normal again. While here I am, lost and alone, torn by thoughts of what might have been. Memories die out like an ember, I struggle to hold them. And yet it's very hard to remember, when you were not here to forget.

Find us on Facebook at: Facebook.com/TylerTCF

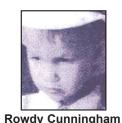
do. We'd takes trips to the beach and play in the sand, and go to the circus and visit the zoo.





















by Barbara & Lee **Barton**





Maryn McIntire

Irish Fave

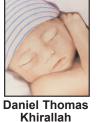
Haggerty





Kappy Lane Kolb













Continued on next page.

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Barbara & Lee Barton. Newsletter sponsorship is \$75. Contact us if you'd like to be a sponsor in memory of your loved one.

The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends

"Wounds do not heal without time and attention. Yet, too many of us feel that we don't have the right to take the time to heal from emotional and physical wounds." —Judy Tatelbaum



"When I grieve, when I stand by others as they grieve, even in the midst of seemingly unbearable sorrow, grief becomes a way to honor life—a way to cling to every fleeting, precious moment of joy." —*Cortney Davis*

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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.

Butterfly Release 2019

Please consider volunteering for our Annual Butterfly Release in May. If you would like to help this year, please call the TCF line at 903-422-0358.

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



March Birthdays Cont.







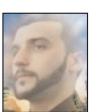
Timothy Andrew Lever



Doug Bennett



Joseph Richard Watson, Jr.



Jeff Maurer

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 Web site and more!

Order Form for Butterflies and Wooden Butterflies/Stakes



Please fill and cut out the form below and mail your check to P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, TX 75711 to purchase items for the May Butterfly Release.

Yes, I would like to have my child included in the be	utterfly garden
Child's/Children's name(s):	
	(required)
Number of Live Butterflies:(\$10 each)	
Number of Wooden Butterflies:(\$20 each)	
Your name:	(required)



Grief

It's an entity all its own,
with its pain that's never really gone.
It has many thoughts and faces,
but very few reality traces.

It makes you ask many a question, all of which you try to shun; What-When-Where-If-Why? Could I have done something so my child wouldn't die?

These are what every parent asks; this part of grief is a heart wrenching task.

Hours turn to days; days to months; months to a year, this is the war you fight without gear.

You feel bare and naked and all alone, at times you feel like you can't go on.

You say "This happens to someone else, not me!" This I think, every parent would agree.

But this time it really was you, you scream, No, No, No, but it's oh so true.

This nightmare that never seems to end, with these feelings you cannot pretend.

People say "Well you sure look good."

Don't they know that we would die if only we could.

Yes grief has its own way, while we endure it and live day to day.

Judy Craig, TCF Memphis, TN Written in memory of her son, Travis Carter

"You are so strong"

Empty words
That don't touch the reality
That my life has become.
Walking through fog
Incredible pain
Searching for the beloved face
I crave to see
The voice that I strain to hear over the noises
Of people who have no idea
Of what the world has lost

Charisse Smith, TCF Tyler, TX

Benchmarks

Good bye would be too difficult, Although I know you are gone. Instead, I keep you in my heart And your memory lives on. I have redefined my purpose, son, Since you are no longer here. With your death I faced a choice To die, exist or to live free. My life has changed forever, child, I'm redefined each week. You would call these "benchmarks" Of goals set and then achieved. And so I set my benchmarks, Achieving many, reshaping some.. But everything is different now Except your mother's love.

Annette Mennen Baldwin In memory of my son, Todd Mennen TCF Katv. TX

Empty Places

I drove the old way yesterday. It'd been a while, vou see. And there, without a warning, the pain washed over me. I drove the old way yesterday and sadness came on strong, taken back by so much feeling, since you've been gone so long. Places seem to lie in wait to summon up the tears, to say remember yesterday, those days when you were here. Places where you laughed and played are places where I cry. These places hold the memories that will live as long as I.

In memory of Lori Gentry, 2-2 ~ 6-28 Genesse Gentry, TCF Marin County, CA

As Long As I Can

As long as I can I will look at this world for both of us.

As long as I can I will laugh with the birds,

I will sing with the flowers,

I will pray to the stars, for both of us.

Sascha



"It takes a lot of grief before our days can have more good hours than bad. But it does come. Most of us can not even imagine that progress in our early grief. Eventually, we can make peace with our loss and our painful memories become warm treasures. Even though we always think of our child daily, it is with thankfulness that they were a part of our lives." —*Marie Hofmockel*

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

Robert & Trisha Taylor in memory of Alex Conway - rent
Barbara Barton in memory of Lindsey - rent

Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah - 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

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 you have a butterfly release sign, please put it out the end of April or first of May.
- If we are storing your butterlfy 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.)
- 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.

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 voluteer or steering committee member, please reach out to us. We'd love to have you aboard!

Sincerely, Cheri & Trisha

The Compassionate Friends

Tyler, Texas

The Compassionate Friends

Tyler, Texas

The Compassionate Friends