



Monthly Group Meeting

Tyler Area Meeting

Monday, Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m.
12949 C.R. 42 (McDougle Rd.)

Jacksonville Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 1, 6:30 p.m.
Sam Smith's office, 1401 E. Rusk

Lufkin Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Southside Baptist Church, 1615
Tulane Drive

Contact

Phone: (903) 258-2547
www.TylerTCF.org • info@TylerTCF.org
P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

Chapter LeaderTina Loper
Meeting Facilitators Tyler
Don & Leslie Dixon, Cheri Zucca
Meeting Facilitators Lufkin
Sherri Tutt, Lauri Maner
Newsletter/Web SiteMary Lingle
Steering Committee: Sam Smith,
Carol Johnson, Carol Thompson,
Mary Ann Girard, Cheri Zucca, Mary
Lingle, David & Teresa Terrell, Janet
Majors, Don & Leslie Dixon, Kathy
McKinney, Margie Newman, Pat Settle

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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There's a New Man in Town

My son is dead. The moment I was told my son died in an auto accident, there was a new man in town. The old man would find a way to fit "it" or at least make "it" better. The new man couldn't fix a thing. Oh, he could make arrangements, settle accounts, acknowledge condolences as though he were really there, but the new man was far off, living in a protective shell hardened by disbelief and shock. Yes, he did things, but he didn't feel in the old ways, he was far off being reborn. My wife's grief would bring the new man back, at least for a little while. There was no fixing her, just acknowledgement of the hurt and pain and helplessness we both felt. I was there for her as she was there for me and we bonded in our grief at depths we did not know existed. My son did not die to make our marriage better or worse and his death did not change what it fundamentally was and is. There is however a new level where we meet to hurt and heal together.

When a baby is born there are pain and tears followed by profound joy. If the baby dies before his parents, there are pain and tears and a longing for peace. No man can anticipate the number of tears that will flow during his rebirth. The half-hour drive to work each morning was a time of nothing but tears and pain and guardian angels to provide safety for myself and those around me. The new man was every bit the good driver the old man was, but he wasn't there, he was far off being reborn in those unstoppable tears. Peace was nowhere to be found.

I am not going into detail into the many ways I think I have changed. Believe me, I have changed and so have you fellow bereaved father. I cannot believe my son died to make me a better man. I do believe that my son's death shocked me into holding dear all that was always precious to me with the new knowledge that "it" can all end in an instant, and neither the old man nor the new man can ever fix "it." The protective shell is fading away and real peace is finding its way into my heart and soul. But the shell will never be completely gone and the peace will never blend into complacency. We are new men with new priorities and new things to do. This does not mean we abandon all that was of the old man, the newness is in our attitudes and understanding and acceptance of vulnerability.

Dave Simone, Bereaved Father, Tampa FL

Amanda's Party of 3

On the 6th anniversary of our daughter Amanda's passing, her father, sister and I met at a restaurant for brunch. When the host asked for our name, I, unthinkingly, said: "Amanda." As we sat waiting for our table, we heard over the loud speaker, "AMANDA'S PARTY OF 3." We laughed with a few tears, and it was truly Amanda's party. I think I will make a tradition of saying Amanda's name when we go out on her special days from now on.

Cecile Noland ~ TCF, Marin Co., CA

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.

“Most of us know that our deceased children would want us to go on. Through our grief, we can grow and become more understanding, loving and compassionate and aware of the real values in life.” —Margaret Gerner

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.”

February

When February comes, there is finally an end in sight to the long winter. Sometimes melting snow reveals the green tips of an early crocus or even an exquisite blossom itself, a soft flower of hope invading a harsh landscape of graying snow, biting wind and an ominous sky—a small promise of new life to come.

My heart, grieving for my son who died, was like that image of winter. For somehow, even during the darkest, coldest moments, an unexpected sign of hope would intrude. And as the hours and the days and months dragged on, my heart finally learned once again to be open to the promise of new life. Painful memories melted into loving ones. Life that seemed forever dormant once again sprang forth from my heart. In living hopefully and lovingly, the seasons of the heart can change. The living memories of your special child, like the flower in the snow, can be the beginning of the end of winter.

TCF Chapter Newsletter ~ Portland, OR

On Valentine

There'll be no chocolate red-heart box
Like your Daddy used to buy;
No cookie heart or "daughter card"
Or heart-shaped pizza pie.

Looking through your things I hope for signs
That we're not so far apart.
On Valentine I hope you know
That now you ARE my heart.

*Carol Thompson
In Memory of Sarah in 2011*

This month's printing of our newsletter sponsored by Lisa Schoonover.

**In loving memory of
Jake Schoonover
9-15 ~ 10-29
son of
Lisa Schoonover**



Call (903) 258-2547 to sponsor a monthly newsletter.



We need not walk alone.

“Is this not our goal, to heal, to find strength to love both yesterday and today? Our children have been the richest part of our lives and today should reflect the grace of that love in all that we are today.” —Don Hackett

Love Gifts



Sue Roberts in memory of Jake Schoonover

Tim & Kay Brown in memory of Zachery

Martha Lewis in memory of Burke

Robert & Janice Moch in memory of Ava Faith Knight

Mary & Erin Lingle in memory of Candice

Lisa Schoonover in memory of Jake -
sponsoring a newsletter



Thanks to the following members who have made a rent donation for our meeting place this month:

Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah
Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O’Leary
Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper
in memory of Christopher

Danny, Pat & Stephen Settle in memory of Steph
Don & Leslie Dixon in memory of Austin

Thank you to the following members who have made a contribution for an entire month’s rent for our meeting place. We appreciate this generous donation.

Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O’Leary
Carol Thompson in memory of Sarah Thompson

Special Thanks!

Thanks to the following people who make a monthly contribution to TCF of Tyler:

Claudette Brown in memory of Terry Wayne
Dale & Phyllis Cavazos in memory of Chad
Sam Smith in memory of Stacey -
use of his office for the Jacksonville meeting
David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy -
use of a storage building

Thanks to all who helped with the assembly of last month’s newsletter. We appreciate all our volunteers!

Lack’s Yearly Contest

TCF of Tyler won the first-place award of \$200 at the Lack’s Tree Decoration and Food Donation contest again this year.

The Texas-based furniture store has closed its doors for good, so this was the last opportunity to participate in the contest. TCF of Tyler appreciates Lack’s community support over the years and we wish them well.

Announcements

Tyler TCF Meeting: The meeting in Tyler is held on the third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at 12949 County Road 42 (McDougle Rd.). For more information, please email pdsettle@wmconnect.com or butterfly6@nctv.com, or call 903-258-2547.

Jacksonville TCF Meeting: The meeting in Jacksonville is held on the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at Sam Smith’s office, 1401 E. Rusk, Jacksonville. For more information, please email pdsettle@wmconnect.com or butterfly6@nctv.com, or call 903-258-2547.

Lufkin TCF Meeting: Join us at the Lufkin meeting held at 6:30 p.m. every 3rd Thursday of the month at Southside Baptist Church, 1615 Tulane Drive, Lufkin, TX 75901. For more information, contact Lauri Maner at 936-854-2002 or Sherri Tutt at 936-404-9517.

The Touched by Suicide meeting is held the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is held at Avail Solutions, 1116 E Travis in Tyler (small white frame duplex converted into offices). Anyone who has lost someone they love to suicide is welcome to attend this peer support group. For more information please call 903-330-0678 or visit www.touchedbysuicideeasttexas.org.

Save the Date! If you are interested in participating in our chapter by serving on the steering committee, please plan to attend a steering committee meeting, held at our meeting location at 6 p.m., the following dates: Feb. 2, April 6, June 1, Aug. 3, Oct. 5 and Dec. 7.

General Assembly: Join us each month to assemble the newsletter and mail out cards. We hope to get some new volunteers to help with this monthly project. Call 903-258-2547 for details.

MADD Heart meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at the MADD office, 215 Winchester Dr. Ste., 100, Tyler, TX 75701. For more info call 888-665-6233 or email Melissa at melissa.granberry@madd.org.

New Database: Please bear with us as we transition to a new computer system. If any information regarding your child is incorrect, please email butterfly6@nctv.com or cheriz708@yahoo.com or call 903-258-2547 so that we can correct immediately. Thank you!

Newsletter Submissions: TCF Tyler welcomes all submissions to our newsletter. Send articles, poetry, love messages and scanned photos to: TCF Tyler, 5401 Hollytree Drive, 1204, Tyler, Texas 75703. Or e-mail text and photos to: info@TylerTCF.org



We need not walk alone.

"I would say to those who mourn—look upon each day that comes as a challenge, a test of courage. The pain will come in waves, some days worse than others, for no apparent reason. Accept the pain. Do not suppress it. Never attempt to hide grief from yourself." —*Daphne DuMaurier*

February Birthdays



Justin Clakley
2-25 ~ 5-15
Son of Teri Clakley



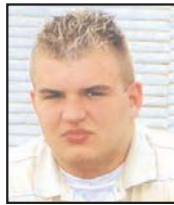
Michelle "Missy" Green
2-09 ~ 1-30
Daughter of Elena Glasscock



Dylan Corey
2-21 ~ 1-24
Son of Christy Corey



Colleen Herriage
2-23 ~ 5-14
Daughter of Ruth Herriage



Caleb Scott Jones
2-27 ~ 7-24
Son of Lee Ann Colwell



Shane McDade
2-17 ~ 4-12
Son of Gina McDade Culligan



Walter Dale "Skipper" Winningham
2-23 ~ 7-02
Son of Lucy Winningham



Kody Maner
2-10 ~ 4-16
Son of Lauri Maner



Sean Smith
2-2 ~ 10-27
Son of Randy & Judy Smith



Mary Jennifer Stone
2-22 ~ 9-21
Daughter of Dick & Denise Stone



Chasen Sean Shirley
2-13 ~ 7-3
Son of Debbie Shirley



Cynthia Harper
2-27 ~ 11-16
Daughter of Jackie & Roland Young



John Andy Terrell
2-11 ~ 11-25
Son of David & Teresa Terrell



Cheryl Heerd
2-22 ~ 2-22
Granddaughter of Larry Batte



Robert Ryan White
2-26 ~ 10-1
Son of Bethany White



Jeremiah Barker
2-11 ~ 6-17
Son of Betty Fiederlein



T.J. Anderson
2-8 ~ 10-5
Son of Ron & Mona Anderson



Ijuan Deshaun Simms
2-20 ~ 11-7
Son of Sharon Simms



Candice Lingle
2-21 ~ 11-8
Daughter of Mary Lingle



Karen Lowe
2-13 ~ 12-5
Daughter of Muriel Rogers



James Arthur Jenkins
2-16 ~ 8-19
Son of Becky & Eddie Jenkins



Roger Lee Rush
2-14 ~ 2-14
Son of C.R. & Judy Rush





We need not walk alone.

"To all of you hurting people who have never attended a TCF meeting, I urge you to give it a try. Attend two or three meetings and see if some of the 'magic' doesn't rub off on you. What have you got to lose? You can't hurt any worse than you already have." —Steve Perez

February Anniversaries



Cheryl Heerdt
2-22 ~ 2-22
Granddaughter of Larry Batte



Richard Heerdt
10-31 ~ 2-22
Grandson of Larry Batte



Josh Chambers
7-20 ~ 2-18
Son of Joan Curtis



Austin Dixon
10-20 ~ 2-19
Son of Don & Leslie Dixon



Jackie Heerdt
6-30 ~ 2-22
Daughter of Larry Batte



Darell Bolton
7-21 ~ 2-22
Brother of Kathey Bolton-Polk



Lori Campbell
8-27 ~ 2-28
Daughter of Pam Johnson



Andrea Young
3-15 ~ 2-1
Daughter of
Roland & Jackie Young



Ryszard Spakovsky
12-2 ~ 2-20
Sherrell & Greg Smith, Foreign
Exchange Parents



Tiffany Johnston
12-29 ~ 2-20
Daughter of
Sherrell & Greg Smith



Austin Arvizo
5-14 ~ 2-9
Son of
Vincent & Paula Arvizo



Brandon Krpec
3-27 ~ 2-11
Son of Larry & Debby Krpec



Michael Schmidt
3-11 ~ 2-10
Son of Patricia Jeffery



James Brady Langston
10-13 ~ 2-15
Son of Jamie Langston Dacus



Roger Lee Rush
2-14 ~ 2-14
Son of C.R. & Judy Rush

Please share your stories, poems or love messages for inclusion in our newsletter.



John Wallace
7-1 ~ 2-2
Son of Barbara Wallace



Adam Thomas Pritchard
9-21 ~ 2-21
Son of
Thomas & Ginger Pritchard

Notice about Newsletter Birthdays & Anniversaries
We are following the new guidelines from TCF National regarding the publishing of our children's birthdays and anniversaries. While we will leave the year intact on our printed copy, we will remove the year on the online copy. Thanks for your understanding while we comply for privacy reasons.





We need not walk alone.

“You must trust in yourself that you will recover from this grief.”
—Author unknown

Gratitude—The Key to Happiness

I am convinced that the real key to happiness is gratitude. I did not come upon this insight. I learned it from Dennis Prager, a wonderful and gifted man who is both author and talk-show host for KNBC radio in Los Angeles. I give him all the credit. But I have thought a lot about this idea after my son, Mark, died five years ago tomorrow.

At first I was offended by people who smiled or even laughed during Compassionate Friends meetings. These were the people who seemed to have somehow re-entered the land of the living. How dare they greet each other with hugs. How dare they laugh. How dare they appear normal when their children have died. But over the last seven years I have learned three valuable lessons:

- Life goes on and we must too. Gradually the pain eases and the warm memories replace the sadness. Gradually we return to life. One day we find that it is 11:00 in the morning and we have not thought about our child yet. At first we feel guilt. But then we also realize we are going forward. We will never forget. But we decide that the loss of our child will not be the all-consuming factor in our life. We choose to enjoy friends again. We choose to go out to dinner again. We choose to laugh again. I am convinced that this is what our children would want for us. The pain does not bring our child back. It only makes us miserable without end.
- Become grateful for what we have, not focused on what we have lost. I see people in our chapter meetings who have gone through "every parent's nightmare" and want no part of life again. But, I ask that these compassionate friends also think about the ways they have been blessed, as well as hurt. In my experience, most people have more to be thankful for than they realize: health, other children, a loving family, a career they enjoy, financial security, life in a free country, a faith that works for them, a true best friend, a spouse whom they love. Nobody has it all. But compared to most of the world, we have a lot.
- The life we now lead will be better than it would have been. That does not make our child's death a good thing. It just means that our child's life mattered, and it has changed us forever. It means that in some small way the world will be better because our child lived, and we are the ones who can make it so. We have a new sense of priorities. We don't "sweat the small stuff." We know what matters because we know what is irreplaceable. And we know how deeply other people hurt because we, too, have been there. We "know how they feel." And when our life is different and better because our child lived, then that child is never forgotten. Each of us would do anything in the world to go back in time, but we can't. It is up to us now to go forward, and we can.

Richard Edler, TCF, South Bay LA Chapter

As published in We Need Not Walk Alone, 1999 Anniversary Issue

Happy Birthday

We do it all the time, send good wishes and thoughts to those we love who are separated from us. It may be across town, across the state, across the world or in another time. We cannot help thinking about them and sending them our love. It is only natural. We may do it by card, by telephone, by email, or just by thought. If we are separated by time, instead of distance, thought is the only way to send our love. To those who have never experienced the death of a child, it may seem morbid or like a waste of money to celebrate one's child's birthday. Those same people probably think nothing abnormal about visiting the grave of a favorite relative (mother, father, etc.). These are considered acts of love, and for me, (at least one way; maybe one of these days, two-ways) with a sorely missed and loved daughter. So, whatever anyone else may think, I will continue to celebrate my Sarah's birthday. I will do so by releasing balloons, planting a rose bush, making a donation to organizations that either she participated in or that I believe are helpful in some ways to foster understanding, love and tolerance. In doing so, I tell her one more time, I love you, Sarah, Happy Birthday.

Printed with permission from "Where Are All The Butterflies?" R.D. Cayer, Bereaved Father, Denton TX





We need not walk alone.

"This is now the heart I must learn to live with. Starting all over because it is nothing like what it was since the moment I heard my sweet boy Douglas passed away. Days and months pass and I can't say how I live from one day to the next—they just keep happening." —*Janella Otell*

Death of a Special Needs Child

The death of a special needs child is perhaps one of the most complicated to mourn and heal from. If you are or have been the parent of a child with exceptional needs, whether mild or severe, you know that you are by necessity far more involved in that child's life than you are with a normally functioning child. Whether it means therapy appointments, school meetings, medical appointments, counseling appointments or all of the above and more, parenting the child who has special needs takes time, commitment, and intense personal involvement in every aspect of the child's life. I can remember periods of time when I had some child-related appointment every single weekday of the month. There is little time for a personal life—taking a bath becomes a luxury!

The stresses of parenting are greater, as well. If the child has a mild disability and "looks normal," it may be difficult to explain to others why the child nevertheless needs extra assistance, extra attention, or special accommodations. If the child is obviously severely disabled, the reactions of others can be wearing, along with the physical work of caring for the child long after his or her peers have run out the door on their own.

However, most every parent will also tell you that nurturing a child whose tiniest gain is a huge triumph has changed their whole perspective on life, making them slow down, appreciate the small things, and given them huge rewards out of all proportion to the work, time, and love they have invested. If you are such a parent, you have been witness to courage, strength, patience and endurance that make every moment invested worthwhile, and have discovered in yourself new levels of love and commitment that you never would have thought possible. You have not only sustained a fragile life, but have watched it blossom under your tender care. Your child has revealed to you your full potential, just as your care has allowed your child to reach his or her own full promise.

The death of such a precious and unique child, whether in infancy or adulthood or somewhere in between, is nothing less than the death of a huge part of the parent's life, as well. Because of the extent of the child's need, your child has likely become the center of your world—the reason for getting up in the morning, the catalyst for the creativity and problem-solving of every day, and a huge source of love and satisfaction, as the parent remains the central figure in the child's life, often for decades. You are not only devastated with grief at the loss of your child, but have also lost your vocation in life, the central part of every day's activities, the source of unconditional love, and the one who most appreciated and accepted you. All the experience and knowledge that you had acquired over the months or years now seems irrelevant, and you may feel yourself irrelevant, as well.

Often your friends have become chiefly those in the special needs community, a place where you no longer "fit." Much as other special needs parents want to empathize and continue to include you, unless they have also lost a child, it is an awkward situation. In addition, the responses of others to your child's death may seem entirely inappropriate. When my son suddenly died at age 13, a man said to me, "Maybe it was a blessing in disguise—or not even in disguise." He was referring to the fact that my son had had some social struggles through his life, and had life-long medical issues. This was a man who was devoting considerable time to care for his 90-year-old mother. Two weeks after my son's death I was asked, "Are you over it yet?" The hurt in these remarks, to me, was the realization that people apparently had not considered the life of my son of equal value to the life of a "normal" person.

People also may assume that it is a "relief" not to have to care for the child any longer. They may convey their feelings that the child was suffering, that there was no "quality of life," or that the child is now released from a restrictive existence. These assumptions are an affront to the parent who has devoted a lifetime, their child's lifetime if not their own, to providing the best care, the least suffering, and the most joy that was possible. Be assured that your child was unique, precious, and infinitely valuable, for as long as he or she lived. Often the most obscure lives have the greatest impact; we will never know the full influence of our child's life on others until eternity, but we can guess, from the impact that they had on our own lives, that theirs were lives of purpose that no other life on earth could have replace.

Excerpts/Carol A. Ranney, Family Grief & Bereavement Examiner





We need not walk alone.

“We each move forward toward hope at a different rate and in a different way. This is not about meeting the expectations of others; this is a personal journey toward peace and hope. It is your journey.” —*Annette Mennen Baldwin*

A Special Valentine

A touch of your hand
 a smile on your face
 another time, another place.
 You were my girl
 I was your mom
 together we met
 the world head on.
 Death cannot dim
 the memories so fine
 your place is there
 this world is mine.
 But you will always be
 MY SPECIAL VALENTINE

Arlene Burroughs, TCF Pikes Peak, CO

More Advanced Grievers

We are "down the road" grievers and learning how to cope,
 just helping all the "new ones" and giving them some hope.

The pain of loss is devastating,
 can we ever smile and mend?

We've been taught that by listening,
 we somehow gain a friend.

There's no easy way or shortcut around our complex grief.

By reaching out to others, we again restore belief.

It's like we climbed a mountain
 and the journey has been long,

remembering yet going on, sometimes not a pretty song.

The Compassionate Friends are always there
 as a beginning and an end.

Steering committee members guide the chapter,
 facilitators lend help within sharing groups,
 panels, workshops, too.

Don't ever think there's nothing that anyone can do.

So summer, winter, fall or spring, the years will surely pass.

Use the courage of your child to somehow fill your glass.

Think of your beloved and what his legacy would see.

Reinvest your goals in life, and an
 advanced griever you will be.

By Lionel Chaiken

Submitted by Norma Foote ~ TCF, El Paso, TX

Frost

On a cold winter's day
 Frost etches a beautiful artistry
 On every thing it touches, every blade of grass
 It glitters and sparkles and for moments
 Before the sun comes out and the masterpiece evaporates
 Before our eyes we stand mesmerized
 cherishing the wondrous sight
 Like frost our children were only here for a brief moment
 But while they were here
 Whether it was moments in the womb
 Days, months or many years
 They etched their beautiful artistry of love
 On our hearts and lives and all of those they touched.
 Unlike frost what they etched is forever
 It is something that we can cherish and hold onto always
 We stand here tonight lighting a candle to remember children
 We will never forget
 Their light their spirit their artistry lives on
 And like the flame of the candle gives
 warmth on a cold winter's night
 And light in the darkness
 The love our children gave us still remains
 It keeps us warm when the cold winds of grief blow
 It lights our way through the darkness
 and loneliness that we feel
 And it gives us hope.

*Julie Short, In loving memory of Kyra
 2007 S/E TCF Candle Lighting Ceremony*

Our Valentine Cookies

This Valentine's Day cookies won't taste so good this year.
 I stirred in the sugar, but you were not here.
 Frosting—pink on the tip of your nose.
 Days spun too swiftly—my biggest woe.
 Did the time have to come so very soon?
 My heart would dance and I would sing
 To feel you tug at my apron strings.
 But instead I'll toil with the rolling pin,
 And rely on my mind's eye for your silly grin.
 When the heart shapes are baked, mine will still ache.
 But I'll always love you—for goodness sake!

Sacramento Chapter of "Friends for Survival" newsletter

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.

Please continue sending the newsletter.

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

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)

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 Other _____

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.

(Signature) Date: _____

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



"I don't think you ever stop giving. I really don't. I think it's an on-going process. And it's not just about being able to write a check. It's being able to touch somebody's life." —Oprah Winfrey



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS[®]

P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711



We need not walk alone.



www.TylerTCF.org