



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



We need not walk alone.

Volume 13, Issue 7

Tyler, Texas

July 2012

Monthly Group Meeting

Tyler Area Meeting

Monday, July 16, 6:30 p.m.
3600 Old Bullard Rd., Bldg. 1,
Ste. 101B, Tyler

Jacksonville Meeting

Tuesday, July 3, 6:30 p.m.

Sam Smith's office, 1401 E. Rusk

Lufkin/Nacogdoches Area Meeting

Thursday, July 19, 6:30 p.m.

Southside Baptist Church
1615 Tulane Drive in Lufkin

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, Lisa Schoonover

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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The Street Where I Used to Live

The street brought back so many memories of my early youth, a time when I had the world and my life in front of me. The possibilities were endless and dreams made up my day. On my drive to the "Memorial Walk" today I was unconscious of my surroundings until I came to that street.

First I passed the house where I lived when I was five. I saw the house as it is now and then saw it as it was then. It had been painted white with brown trim when I lived there. The front door was open and I was visited by memories of me and my squealing sisters as we went through our Easter baskets on Easter morning. I felt the breeze brought in by the attic fan. My place in the family was security to me and gave me freedom to wonder about my future. The idea of "friends" was introduced to me when I lived there and I loved the idea. My first friends were made on that street. I felt companionship and kinship with another person besides my family and I was excited as the world would be full of friends. But, I didn't know...

A little further down on my right I came to my elementary school. I immediately saw myself walking across the street to school with my brown lunchbox in hand, the lunch box that always smelled like mayonnaise and bologna. Boy, I loved that lunchbox and what it represented, lunchtime and independence. I was seven. Life was good. But, I didn't know...

The next memory that came to mind was of me riding my banana seat bicycle with my little dachshund dog, Schultz, running along beside me as I pedaled my weekends away around the playground of the school. I was 12 and was about to enter Jr. High School and my teenage years. Wow! I was on my way and would conquer the world and all it had to offer. Schultz and I would stop my bike and lie in the grass gazing up at the clouds and dream of life. One time I remember we even asked each other the question (well, I asked and he listened) "Will we remember this?" Funny thing—I do. But I didn't know...

The next landmark was the ball field where I played hundreds of games from the time I was 10 to 18. I loved the feel of the ball in my hand and the sound of it hitting the leather glove. I was good at the game and I felt good while playing. It was one of my gifts. I knew there would be many gifts in my life and I was anxious to discover them. As I passed the ball field I could smell the corndogs and popcorn. I could remember the cleats that fit me snugly and made me feel strong and sure. I had life by the horns and was going someplace. I had a confidence in myself and felt that I was in control of my life and anything was possible. Good things were waiting for me. But, I didn't know...

Finally I came to the end of the street and back to reality where my destiny awaited and I would meet the others in our group of "Compassionate Friends," my new friends, where we would walk to remember our children. The children we lost. I wonder if it was a good thing that "I didn't know."

*Dana Rogers, TCF Galveston County, TX
In Memory of my son, Rick*

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.

"I stay on the lookout for butterflies, for every time I see one it renews my faith and reminds me that my daughter is in heaven." —Dr. Sam Smith

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 of Tyler, Texas
<http://www.tylertcf.org>

Compassionate Friends (national home page)
Also offers grief support for **siblings** and **grandparents**
<http://www.compassionatefriends.org>

Children Are A Gift Foundation
<http://www.childrenareagift.com>

GriefShare
<http://www.griefshare.org>

MADD East Texas (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)
<http://www.madd.org/local-offices/tx/east-texas>

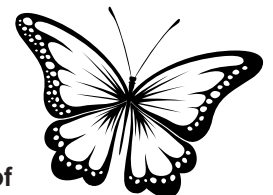
Smith County Victim Services Division
<http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html>

The Hospice of East Texas
<http://www.hospiceofeasttexas.org>

**The University of Texas at Tyler
Psychology and Counseling Training Clinic**
Located at the Bethesda Health Clinic
409 W. Ferguson
Tyler, Texas 75702
903-592-2348

Touched by Suicide (local)
<http://www.touchedbysuicideeasttexas.org>

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



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!

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





We need not walk alone.

“Hope isn’t a place or a thing. Hope isn’t the absence of pain, fear or sadness. Hope is the possibility of renewed joy. It is the memory of love given and received. Hope is you and me and the person next to you and across the room, down the street and in your dreams.” —*Darcie D. Sims, Ph.D.*

Love Gifts



Dan & Cece Brotten in memory of Missy Rogers

Barbara Wallace in memory of John

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

Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O’Leary

Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah

Martha Lewis in memory of Burke

Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper

in memory of Christopher

Carol & Shane Johnson & Touched By Suicide

in memory of Jared Sheets



Thanks to the following people who make a MONTHLY LOVE GIFT 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

A service project for Tyler and Jacksonville Compassionate Friends is in the works!

We will serve breakfast/brunch foods for hospice family members coming, going and staying at The Hospice of East Texas on Saturday, July 28. We plan to meet at 10 a.m. that morning to set everything up in the kitchen. Volunteer coordinator Cynthia Ellington will notify the family members and hospice staff ahead of time that breakfast will be served. Each of you is welcome to participate in this project in memory of our precious children. Suggestions are breakfast casseroles (sausage, bacon, ham or hash brown casseroles, or a sweet casserole such as French toast casserole), breakfast pastries, rolls, muffins, doughnuts, juice, fresh fruit—anything that you like to cook and serve for breakfast or brunch. Please bring all food in disposable pans that can be left at Hospice! There is a microwave available so food can be heated when someone is hungry and feels like eating. East Texas Hospice is located at 411 University Blvd. in Tyler. Please call Carol Thompson at 903-539-0458 with questions.

Announcements

Tyler TCF Meeting: The meeting in Tyler is held on the third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at 3600 Old Bullard Rd., Bldg. 1, Ste. 101B in Tyler. For more information, please call 903-258-2547 or email beachbum2201@gmail.com or lilbluebutterfly6@gmail.com.

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 beachbum2201@gmail.com or lilbluebutterfly6@gmail.com, or call 903-258-2547.

Lufkin/Nacogdoches Area TCF Meeting: The meeting for the Lufkin and Nacogdoches area is held on the third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at the Southside Baptist Church, 1615 Tulane Dr. in Lufkin across from the LiveWell Fitness. Contact Bill Ottesen at 936-634-6422 or Lauri Maner at 936-854-2002. You may also email them at CompassionateFriends4lufkinnac@yahoo.com.

The Touched by Suicide meeting is held the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the same, new location as TCF, 3600 Old Bullard Rd., Bldg. 1, Ste. 101B in Tyler. Anyone who has lost someone they love to suicide is welcome to attend this peer support group. For more info please call 903-330-0678 or visit www.touchedbysuicideeasttexas.org.

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! For more information about our next meeting, call 903-258-2547.

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.

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 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: Please notify us if any of your information is incorrect.





We need not walk alone.

"The common denominator that all of us share is the need to find a precious flicker of hope which we can nurture and coax to a radiant glow. We all find it in different ways and at different times on our grief journey."

—Annette Mennen Baldwin

July Birthdays



Morgan Finley Lambeth
7-29-06 ~ 7-29-06
Daughter of
John & Nicole Lambeth



Robert Lynn McMahan
7-18-72 ~ 3-6-92
Son of
Dana Wright



William Jeffrey Stack
7-6-65 ~ 6-22-11
Son of
Robyn Stack



Melissa Elaine Majors
7-14-80 ~ 5-8-08
Daughter of Janet Majors
Daughter of Greg Majors



Shiloh Paisleigh Gray
7-28-06 ~ 7-28-06
Daughter of Jody
& Elizabeth Gray



Justin Corey Modisette
7-24-84 ~ 6-10-10
Son of
Linda Modisette



Madeline Joy Kearney
7-15-86 ~ 10-6-05
Daughter of
Melody Burnett Kearney



Cobin Frazier
7-2-07 ~ 9-18-09
Son of
Leslee Frazier



Terry Wayne Brown
7-13-69 ~ 5-27-03
Son of Claudette Brown
Son of Melton Brown



Grant Williams
7-8-10 ~ 7-8-10
Son of Clay &
Tammie Williams



Cameron Weatherly
7-3-78 ~ 9-25-07
Son of Ike &
Diana Weatherly



Lester "Bubba" Chase
7-20-70 ~ 6-27-95
Son of
Debbie Chase



Andrew Moreno
7-25-05 ~ 7-29-05
Grandson of
Tawna Andrews



Ryan Delaney
7-10-80 ~ 7-20-03
Son of Mary Delaney



John Shade
7-9-86 ~ 9-29-08
Son of
Julie Clifton



Ashton Wayne Yates
7-9-91 ~ 12-6-11
Son of Kim Yates



Josh Chambers
7-20-73 ~ 2-18-07
Son of Joan Curtis



Laura Wilkinson
7-16-90 ~ 3-7-08
Daughter of
Peggy Cunningham



Kyle Beck
7-21-89 ~ 6-23-05
Son of
Angela Yates



Lindsey Peyton Goen
7-2-02 ~ 12-18-03
Daughter of
Robin & Joe Goen



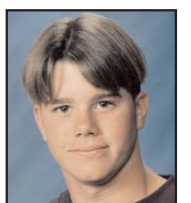
Carly Smith
7-14-88 ~ 2-1-11
Daughter of
Beth Page



John Wallace
7-1-80 ~ 2-2-99
Son of
Barbara Wallace



Adrian Hampton
7-31-86 ~ 7-22-07
Son of Michael &
Julie Brosang



James Fincke
7-15-80 ~ 12-25-99
Son of Sara Fincke



James Wilkinson
7-6-67 ~ 3-9-06
Son of Bill &
Betty Wilkinson



Jaime Arellano, Jr.
7-31-92 ~ 8-27-05
Son of Marie Arellano



Christopher Mize
7-11-91 ~ 7-27-08
Son of Edith Mize



Felicia Hobbs
7-19-61 ~ 12-1-09
Daughter of
Muriel Rogers



J.L. Adams
7-6-85 ~ 10-26-08
Nephew of Vicki Adams



Nathan Spataro
7-6-87 ~ 6-19-09
Son of Becky Hicks

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We need not walk alone.

"The loss of an only child is neither greater nor less than the loss of one of many children. However, the loss of an only child is experienced differently. It is different because you lose your parenthood, which is such a large part of the life of any parent." —*Bill Snapp*

July Birthdays (cont.)



Tommy Ford
7-12-90 ~ 5-29-11
Son of Corine &
Tom Peacock



Evan Blake Alexander
7-22-80 ~ 8-20-11
Son of Richard &
Shay Persinger



Alex King
7-22-92 ~ 8-21-11
Son of
DeeAnn King



Darrell Lynn Sallas, II
7-30-79 ~ 8-30-11
Son of Debra
Robinson



Darrell Bolton
7-21-61 ~ 2-22-03
Son of Debra
Robinson



Brad (BJ) Huggins
7-27-72 ~ 5-21-11
Son of Sue
Langdon

July Anniversaries



Jamie Allen
5-24-75 ~ 7-8-01
Son of Cindy Allen



George Washington Shaw, III
10-18-78 ~ 7-3-05
Son of
Bobbie Williams



Adrian Hampton
7-31-86 ~ 7-22-07
Son of Michael
& Julie Brosang



Brian Christopher Harris
6-8-72 ~ 7-29-99
Son of Jolyn &
Richard Harris



Shanna Marie Redmond
5-5-85 ~ 7-30-94
Daughter of
Patricia Miller



Ryan Delaney
7-10-80 ~ 7-20-03
Son of
Mary Delaney



Grant Williams
7-8-10 ~ 7-8-10
Son of Clay &
Tammie Williams



Adam Grabill
3-6-74 ~ 7-23-83
Son of Beth Jones



Matt Mears
6-7-83 ~ 7-16-06
Son of Norma & Kerry Mears
Husband of Ashley Mears



Brian St. Clair
4-24-60 ~ 7-26-97
Son of
Janet St. Clair



Kathy Jo Tumminello
3-19-59 ~ 7-20-04
Sister of
Susie Gorman



Renee Seale
12-21-63 ~ 7-13-90
Daughter of
Lana Kaye Taylor



Caleb Scott Jones
2-27-86 ~ 7-24-03
Son of
LeeAnn Colwell



James Permenter
4-2-79 ~ 7-12-09
Son of Shirley Hall



Dex Bailey McLean
12-18-87 ~ 7-4-08
Son of Charles &
Chanda McLean



Walter Dale "Skipper"
2-23-68 ~ 7-2-85
Son of
Lucy Winningham



Christopher Mize
7-11-91 ~ 7-27-08
Son of Edith Mize



Lisa Marie Tutt
3-20-87 ~ 7-30-04
Daughter of
Steve & Sherri Tutt



**Chandler James
"Jimmy" Brazell**
6-4-92 ~ 7-31-11
Son of Chuck &
Rhonda Brazell



James E. Abbie, Jr.
1-31-60 ~ 7-15-91
Son of
Bettie Abbie



Shiloh Paisliegh Gray
7-28-06 ~ 7-28-06
Daughter of Jody
& Elizabeth Gray



Morgan Finley Lambeth
7-29-06 ~ 7-29-06
Daughter of John
& Nicole Lambeth



Ben Smith
3-1-88 ~ 7-21-06
Son of Charisse Smith
Son of Doug Smith



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We need not walk alone.

"One of the benefits mentioned most often of Compassionate Friends, whether it's by attending the meetings, using the available listeners by phone or through the newsletter, is hearing that your feelings are not unusual after all."
—Carolyn Reineke

July Anniversaries (cont.)



Andrew Moreno
7-25-05 ~ 7-29-05
Grandson of
Tawna Andrews



Allison Carson
10-29-92 ~ 7-5-93
Granddaughter of
Phil & Ann Brown



Brian David Stewart
5-16-56 ~ 7-8-56
Son of Melton
& Joyce Stewart



Missy Rogers
11-25-63 ~ 7-21-07
Daughter of
CeCe & Dan Brotton



Chasen Shirley
2-13-82 ~ 7-3-06
Son of
Debbie Shirley



Timothy Allen Hawkins
6-30-78 ~ 7-7-78
Son of Bill &
Linda Hawkins



Herby Parr
4-19-61 ~ 7-30-09
Son of Sandy &
Herbert Parr



Kody Dale Hughes
5-5-89 ~ 7-30-10
Son of Sue Hughes
& Howard Hughes



Shane Odening
5-23-88 ~ 7-3-11
Son of Janet
S. Francis



Lance Alan Massey
5-16-80 ~ 7-16-05
Son of
Cindy Massey



Scott Bradshaw
3-26-69 ~ 7-19-06
Son of Bud
Bradshaw



Graham Gill
2-19-84 ~ 7-25-10
Son of Pat Gill



Erika Reyes
6-8-77 ~ 7-27-05
Daughter of Sheila
Whittington Steel



Sara Ann Plocheck
5-21-80 ~ 7-11-11
Daughter of Marla
Plocheck

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



Vacations

Vacation time can be painful for bereaved parents. Caught up with normal demands of making a living or keeping a household going, we have less time to think than we do on vacations, especially the "take it easy" kind-at a hideaway, tucked away somewhere.

In the summers following Tricia's death, I found vacations could bring a special kind of pain. We avoided going to places where we had vacationed with her. At one time, I thought Williamsburg might be off my list forever since we had a very happy time together there. I tried it one summer three years later and found that she walked the cobbled streets with me. Now that nine years have passed and the pain has eased, maybe the happy memories we shared in Williamsburg can heighten the pleasure of another visit there.

For the first few years after Tricia's death, we found fast-paced vacations at places we had never been before, to be the best. The stimulation of new experiences in new places with new people refreshed us and sent us home more ready to pick up our grief work. That is not to say when we did something or saw something that Tricia would have enjoyed, we didn't mention her. We did, but it seemed less painful than at home.

One caution: Do allow enough time for sleep; otherwise, an exhausted body can depress you.

We've said it many times: YOU HAVE TO FIND YOUR OWN WAY, YOUR OWN PEACE. Let vacation time be another try at that; but do give yourself a break in choosing the time and locale where that can best be accomplished. Don't be afraid of change-it can help with your re-evaluation of life.

Elizabeth Estes ~ TCF, Augusta, GA





We need not walk alone.

"Thinking back to the beginning of this tragic event in our lives, I should have sought counseling from a grief therapist. My wife and I both should have done this. I truly believe this would have helped us develop better coping skills. At that time I didn't think private counseling would help. I was wrong." —*Albert Tapia*

Why the Butterfly?

For members of The Compassionate Friends, the butterfly has a deeply profound significance. If you see someone wearing a butterfly necklace, or brooch, or tee shirt, or see a butterfly sticker on their car, you may be in the presence of a TCF member. The Compassionate Friends adopted the butterfly as its symbol years ago, and I cannot think of anything that symbolizes what TCF stands for any better.

"The Butterfly has long symbolized a renewal of life. The caterpillar signifies life here on earth; the cocoon signifies death; and the butterfly signifies the emergence of the dead into a new, beautiful and more liberated existence. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross movingly tells of seeing butterflies drawn all over the walls of the children's dormitories in the concentration camps. Since children are intuitive, she concludes that these children knew their fate and were leaving a message. The Compassionate Friends adopted the butterfly as a symbol of hope that our children are living in another dimension with greater beauty and freedom, which is a comforting thought to many of us." [Taken from a TCF web site]

On a personal level, the butterfly has had special meaning to me for many years. My daughter, Stacey died at 16 in 1988. Several years later, when my daughter, Kathryn, was about 5, I wrote a song I titled "Master's Butterfly." I was talking to Kathryn one day about Stacey, about life and death, and about the way the butterfly symbolizes new life. Years earlier I had seen this phrase, "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls a butterfly." As I talked to Kathryn about butterflies and that enlightening phrase, the idea for the song came to me.

I was performing quite a bit at the time, and I began to sing the song at various venues. It became a popular request with audiences. I then began a music ministry in honor of Stacey that I called The Butterfly Ministry, and I recorded a CD of 11 original songs. I used "Master's Butterfly" for the title cut.

A TCF chapter had just been formed in Tyler, Texas, about 30 miles from our home in Jacksonville. Someone with the group had heard "Master's Butterfly" and asked me to sing at their first candle lighting service. I had never heard of The Compassionate Friends. I was happy to hear about this group and thrilled to get to sing for them. Imagine my joy when I discovered that the symbol for TCF was the butterfly. I had no doubt that the Lord has brought us together.

That was the year 2000. I have been singing for the candle lighting service, and later the annual Butterfly Release, ever since. My relationship with the wonderful people of TCF has inspired me to write many other songs about dealing with the loss of a child, including the inspiration and healing power of butterflies. The comfort and peace I have found through this group has been immeasurable, and I praise God for leading me to them.

I stay on the lookout for butterflies, for every time I see one it renews my faith and reminds me that my daughter is in heaven. I know I will see her again. I am a Christian, and I equate the death, burial and resurrection of Christ to the metamorphosis of the caterpillar to a butterfly. The caterpillar represents earthly life. The cocoon represents the tomb. The butterfly symbolizes Christ's resurrected body. Death—resurrection—new life is the promise for all believers. My prayer for all who have lost a child is that they will find peace in knowing that their child is a new creature in paradise, waiting for them to join them there.

Every time that I see another butterfly
My spirit is reminded that in Christ we never die
That delicate little creature, so lovely and so free
Is our Father's say of saying, "That is how we are to be"
And I know we are His butterflies
Always know you are His butterfly

Dr. Sam Smith, Butterfly Ministry
ssmithkate@aol.com





We need not walk alone.

“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*

For My Daughter

I love you now, as I so loved you then
your Spirit is with me forever
When you were born all of heaven sang out
Joyous that we were together

Your eyes twinkled bright as a billion stars
Your lashes brushed sweet angel's kisses
As you snuggled so warmly against my neck
So serenely, you gave me such bliss

As I stroked your head, very gently My Dear
Your hair felt as soft as down feathers
Your fingers, so tiny, wove tightly with mine
Rainbow's end couldn't give me more treasure

I remember you now, I'll remember you when
every day and each night begins
You're a part of my soul, every beat of my heart
I promise, My Darling, Amen

*Karinelyn Paul
Broomfield, CO*

In Memory of my daughter, Katrina

God's Plan - Matthew Moyers

A little boy was announced to be coming soon
A baby brother for Madi and Macy, he'd be
Getting ready to come into this world
Screaming and kicking, a happy baby boy we'd see

He's God's blessing and plan
An angel boy to help us along
Clearly seen, in a vision so bright
To help us through hard times, not yet in sight

The day came and Matthew arrived
So strong, healthy, and pink
We trailed him right into ICU
Just to say, "Matthew we love you"

Now let me tell you the story
Matthew helped Dawson survive
And kept MeMaw and PawPaw young
It was God's Wisdom, sending this son

Matthew was brought in and out of our lives
For reasons of good, and some never known
We worried and prayed that someday
He'd be allowed back in our homes

Then finding some resolution
Visitations were again allowed
With the miracle of Matthew back in our lives
He made us happy, and Oh so proud

Macy and Loral rose up to heaven
When Matthew was just two years old
But, he was a big boy, so wise beyond his age
He held others up, with the courage he displayed

Matthew suffers the loss of his sister Macy
And sometime speaks of his cousin Loral
No way, will he try to take their place
He lights up our lives, when with tears on our face

Now Matthew is six years old
So deeply bonded with love in our hearts
Doing life's purpose in a world so vast
He just seems to be growing up so fast

Matthew is strong, smart, and wise
He has all it takes
To be the leader of people
Maybe the President, of the United States

Just watch, this boy will be a great man
Thinking of yesterday, living for today,
He's preparing for tomorrow
Just watch him swinging away

Matthew is truly a blessing from Heaven
Standing so tall in the midst of our love
A Son, a Grandson, a Brother, God sent him to be
He was sent here to help us all, just watch and you'll see

*Matthew's Pawpaw
Donald Moyers
TCF Galveston County, TX
In Memory of Macy and Loral*

“When your mind cannot find an answer,
open your heart and ask for peace.” —*sascha*

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

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