



# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



*We need not walk alone.*

**Volume 16, Issue 5**

**Tyler, Texas**

**May 2015**

## Monthly Group Meeting

### Tyler Area Meeting

3rd Monday of Each Month  
1901 Rickety Ln., Tyler

### Contact

Phone: (903) 258-2547

www.TylerTCF.org • info@TylerTCF.org  
P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

Chapter Leader .....Tina Loper  
Secretary .....Pat Settle  
Newsletter/Web Site .....Mary Lingle  
Tyler Meeting Facilitators: Leslie & Don Dixon

Steering Committee: Pat Settle, Sam Smith, David & Teresa Terrell, Carol Johnson, Mary Lingle, Lisa Schoonover, Cheri Zucca, Ellen Jenkins, Pam Pickett, Don & Leslie Dixon, Janet Majors, Margaret Hall, Robin Mitchell, Jancy Lovelace, Stuart Gilpin, MaryAnn Girard, Trisha Mann Taylor

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 2015 Compassionate Friends Butterfly Release set for Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m. The setting for this uplifting and peaceful event will be the Sharon Shrine Temple located on Highway 31 East.**

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.

Silent auction items are being collected. If something catches your eye that you think those attending would enjoy bidding on, please consider donating. For donation information, please email us at info@tylertcf.org.

The Butterfly Release begins at 1 p.m. that Saturday but volunteers are needed and welcomed for either set-up work the Friday evening before, or beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday the day of the release. Please contact us at 903-258-2547 if you want to volunteer.

Enjoying refreshments and visiting with TCF friends and family after the butterflies are released is a special part of the day. If you would like to donate any finger food—cookies, chips/dips, small sandwiches, pickles, olives, cheese cubes, fruit chunks or veggies—any of your special favorites—please contact Carol Thompson at 903-539-0458! Cake will be served and bottled iced water will be available.

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

**See page 6 for information about sponsoring a sign with your child's name on it.**

## 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.



*We need not walk alone.*

“Those of us who have survived many years have learned that over the long run, the human mind chooses to recall only the best of memories—the happy ones, the humorous ones, the sentimental ones—and we learn that even the pain of unhappy memories diminishes.” —*Shirley Ottman*

## 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**

**Children Are A Gift Foundation:** [www.childrenareagift.com](http://www.childrenareagift.com)

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

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

**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 the second Thursday of each month from 6-7 p.m.



Join us for dinner at the  
Jalapeño Tree on the Loop in Tyler.

We will meet every 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.



*We need not walk alone.*

“As we walk through this grief of losing our children, we owe no explanations. Our love for our dead children lingers, and in that love is a goodness and purity that allows us to gently be ourselves.” —Annette Mennen Baldwin

## 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 on their Birthday and Anniversary dates.)**

Victor & Margie Newman in memory of Jeremy - rent

Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O'Leary - rent

Martha Lewis in memory of Burke - rent

Carol Thompson in memory of Sarah - rent

Carol & Shane Johnson in memory of Jared Sheets - rent

Danny & Pat Settle in memory of Stephanie - rent

Claudette Brown in memory of Terry Wayne - rent

Sue Roberts in memory of Jake Schoonover - 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 -  
use of a storage building

**See more love gifts on page 6.**



## 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](mailto: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 903-258-2547. 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 Tina or Pat so that we may email you announcements and updates about TCF of Tyler. Tina's email: [lilbluebutterfly6@gmail.com](mailto:lilbluebutterfly6@gmail.com) ~ Pat's email: [beachbum2201@gmail.com](mailto:beachbum2201@gmail.com)

**Save the date! The 38th National  
Compassionate Friends Conference will be  
July 10-12, 2015 in Dallas.**

## Announcements

**Tyler TCF Meeting:** The meeting in Tyler is held on the third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at 1901 Rickety Lane in Tyler. For more information, please call 903-258-2547.

**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.

**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 Carol King at [carol.king@madd.org](mailto:carol.king@madd.org).

**Looking forward:** Dallas will host the Compassionate Friends National Conference in 2015. Our regional coordinators, Joan and Bill Campbell, are looking for volunteers who would like to help with this event. You can contact Joan and Bill at 972-935-0673 to let them know of your interest in participating. They are planning a great two-day conference and welcome help from all Texas chapters. This is a great opportunity to help others who are grieving and grow through your own grief as well! You can check the national Compassionate Friends website [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org) for conference event planning details.

**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](http://www.compassionatefriends.org) for dates and times.

### TCF of Tyler Memorial Quilt

If you would like to have your child's photo included on a TCF memorial quilt, please mail a \$25 donation to P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, TX 75711. For more information contact us at (903) 258-2547, or email us at [info@TylerTCF.org](mailto:info@TylerTCF.org). Thanks to Teresa and David Terrell for donating their talent and time on these beautiful quilts which are displayed in our meeting room and special events.

*Our condolences to the family  
of TCF parents Cheri & Jim  
Zucca on the loss of her father,  
Gary Johnston.*



**Visit us online at [www.tylertcf.org](http://www.tylertcf.org)**





*We need not walk alone.*

"From this tangle of emotions, one truth emerged: As long as I choose to embrace the miracles around me, my heart will dance. Whether in the slow dance of grief or skipping to the beat as I cuddle and coo with grandbabies yet to come, hope and joy will emerge in the rhythms of the dance." —*JoAnne Rademacher*

### May Birthdays



**Jamie Allen**



**Donna Mae Morales**



**Boston Kade Porter**



**Caleb Herrera**



**Joshua Carl Tucker**



**Sara Ann Plocheck**



**Tami Kay Brown Roberts**



**Stephanie Harris Reed**



**Randall Scott McDaniel**



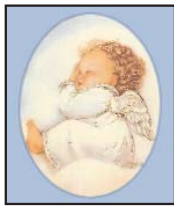
**Blythe Madison Harper**



**Colton Denney**



**Mahlon Acres**



**Brian David Stewart**



**Shanna Marie Redmond**



**Justin Bloxom**



**Austin Arvizo**



**Dustin Dewayne Bruce**



**Blake Alexander King**



**Jared Sheets**



**Michael Angelo Perez**



**Shane Odening**



**Stephanie Carol Hester**



**Kody Dale Hughes**



**Aaron Sullender**



**Gabe Levi Hunt**



**Payton Nicole Herrington**



**Lance Alan Massey**



**Derek Brown**



**Andrew Weldon Braswell**



**Terry Brendon Reed Pettit**



**Cashley Sha'Rae Jackson**



**Coby Deese**



**Joshua Wilson**



**Jerry Owen Edwards, Jr.**



**Todd Andrew Thompson**



**Matthew Lehw**



*We need not walk alone.*

"Perhaps laughter is also the beginning of Nature's way of mending, of healing us." —*Dave Ziv*

### May Birthdays Cont.



Vanessa Wilcox



Crystal Cudd



Cheyenne Lackey

"Hope is the feeling that the feeling you have isn't permanent." —*Jean Kerr*

### May Anniversaries



Brady Bryant



Daniel Anderson



Blake Owens



Brandon Weatherly



Kaila McKinsey Payne



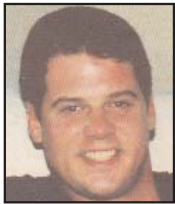
Ryan Goff



Colleen Herriage



Samantha Johnson



Brad (BJ) Huggins



Justin Clakley



Joshua Jolley



Patrick Pinkerton



Kenny Ivy



Donna Morales



Kendrick Clark



Jon Lee Hardwick



Alexander Fleming



ShiAnn Renee Robinson



Stephanie Settle



Marshall Charles Donahue



Leslie Eugene Robb



Jarren Moser



Kimberly Pryor



Colton Denney



Terry Wayne Brown



Leah Zucca



Melissa Elaine Majors



Tiffeny Sue Hightower



Andrew Weldon Braswell



Tommy Ford





*We need not walk alone.*

"That's what Compassionate Friends do—they help to bring our children into our lives even though our children are no longer alive. For a few hours each month, our children return to us." —Annette Mennen Baldwin

### May Anniversaries Cont.



Marcos Lopez



Derek Miller



Jerry Owen Edwards, Jr.



Natalie Whitehead



Jasmine Elizabeth Thomas



Chase Cyrus Naquin



Ana Dannel Franklin



Crystal Cudd



Kara Belanger



Dwayne Russell



Alyssa Howerton



Pablo Salinas

### Hope Shines Bright Deep In The Heart

Dallas will host the Compassionate Friends National Conference in July, 2015. Our regional coordinators, Joan and Bill Campbell, are looking for volunteers who would like to help with this event. You can contact Joan and Bill at 972-935-0673 to let them know of your interest in participating.

In loving memory of  
**Stacey Smith**  
by Sam Smith



In loving memory of  
**Cheyenne Ramirez**  
by Billy & Jana  
Titsworth



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

In loving memory of  
**Sheila Nolen** by  
Wanda & Doyle  
Boyette



In loving memory of  
**Nannette Ray** in  
memory of Alec  
Thigpen



In loving memory of  
**Jared Sheets**  
by Jim & Linda  
Crawford



**3rd Annual  
For The Love of Alex...  
Stop Texting and Driving**  
race will be held at Lonestar  
Speedway on Sunday May 10, 2015.  
Races begin at 5 p.m.



### TCF Walking Group

Come join us for a walk, a stroll, a jog!  
Walking and talking is great therapy!

**When:** Second Sat. of the Month, 9 a.m.

**Where:** Rose Rudman Trail—meet at the  
park pavilion off Shiloh Rd.

**Who:** Everyone is invited to join—there  
will be someone walking at your pace!





*We need not walk alone.*

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace and a soul generated by love.”  
—Coretta Scott King

## The Compassionate Friends is for Sharing

Many people may think that meetings of The Compassionate Friends consist of bereaved people who sit and cry most of the evening, but that is certainly a misconception. It is normal to shed tears as we talk about our child’s death, and we would expect a newly bereaved person to cry. We understand that completely. But we don’t just sit and cry. Would you believe that most of the time we spend in our sharing group circle we may enjoy hearing others’ stories about their children, or even sharing our own? Our meetings are usually about our memories, our questions and also telling what has helped us to cope with it all. We all have ideas that we share with others in the hope that they may reach a point of “good memories” instead of bad memories of the child’s death.

A support group should be very comforting and welcoming to those who attend and should always have non-judgmental members. We are less concerned at how the child died (even though we do care) and we are more concerned that we be there for the parents, siblings or grandparents who need us. They have a desire to talk and share about their loved one. We want to let them lean on us in their time of pain, just as we had others before us who let us lean on them. It does come full circle.

*Jackie Wesley ~ TCF, East Central Indiana & Miami-Whitewater Chapters*

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

### Butterfly Release Sign Sponsors

*Deadline to order Butterfly Release sign is May 1.*

Don & Leslie Dixon for Austin  
Jim & Cheri Zucca for Leah  
Tina Loper for Christopher  
Danny & Pat Settle for Steph  
Sam Smith for Stacey  
Margie & Victor Newman for Jeremy  
Charlotte Nelson for Wade  
Melissa Love for Payton  
Carol Thompson for Sarah  
Greg & MaryAnn Girard for Joe Maland

Lana Kaye Taylor for Renee Seale  
Marlena Howerton for Alyssa  
Lee & Barbara Barton for Lindsey  
Carol Johnson for Jared  
Mary Delaney for Ryan  
Linda Porter for Seth  
Lisa Schoonover for Jake  
Trish Taylor for Alex Conway  
Janet Majors for Melissa  
Mary Lingle for Candice

Dennis & Vicki Johnson for Samantha  
Lori Symes Anderson for Emily Ellis  
Stephanie McLean for Dex  
Kim Yates for Ashton  
Donald & Annette Meyers for Randy  
Kimberly Blessington for Randy Meyers  
Martha Lewis for Burke  
Charisse Smith for Ben  
Thomas & Rebecca Jenkins for James  
Ted & Tammy Saul for Brooke Wallace

To sponsor a Butterfly Release Sign with your child's name on it there will be a one-time fee of \$60 per sign. If you want the sign with your child's name placed at a particular business or location, written permission must be obtained by you from that business and sent to the TCF office to keep on file. The sign will be placed at that location about a month prior to the release and taken down the week after by a representative of TCF and remain the property of TCF Tyler to reuse yearly.

Make checks payable to Tyler TCF and in the memo location please note who the sign(s) is/are for.



The Compassionate Friend's of Tyler  
**Butterfly Release**  
Release a butterfly for all children who have died.  
**3rd Saturday in May**  
www.TylerTCF.org • 903-258-2547  
In Loving Memory of  
**STEPHANIE SETTLE**





*We need not walk alone.*

“Sorrow is not forever—love is!” —*Michael A. Simpson*

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## Gone too Soon

As I think about Mother’s Day this year I become very nostalgic. Every spring during my elementary school days, I looked forward to the day the order form for our plants for Mother’s Day came from our local florist. I always ordered pansies for my mom, the ones with purple and yellow or yellow and brown. I could hardly wait for the delivery day to come, so that I could present them to my mother. She always received them with much surprise and appreciation, as if it were a gift she had never received before or even expected.

As a child, Mother’s Day was an important occasion to my family. My dad always insisted we wear the traditional carnations: white if one’s mother was deceased, red if still living. He would make a special trip to the florist to purchase them. We would attend church, and then drive to a nearby city for lunch.

I remember clearly my first Mother’s Day being “the mom.” Our Anna was only about three weeks old, so I had a very limited idea of what it really meant to be “the mom.” But I do remember being treated like a queen and enjoying every minute of it.

Over the next several years as we raised our two daughters, my husband continued to affirm the women of our family. On Mother’s Day he always bought roses for each of his girls. Anna would get a yellow one. Debbie would get a peach-colored one. The red roses were for me. When the girls were young I would receive and treasure their hand-made cards. As they grew into young adults, their choices in purchased cards were just as significant. Every year as Mother’s Day approached, we looked forward again to spending the day together as a family. We would attend church, go out for my favorite brunch, have lots of conversation, fill our bellies to the max, laugh until we cried, be silly, make memories. That was before...

Then the unthinkable happened. Our daughter, Anna, died. How could those special days of love and togetherness, laughter and fun become among the most dreaded days a mother must face? How could those days that we had once anticipated with joy and excitement bring such unbelievable heartache and confusion, loneliness and tears?

During those first few years we were simply lost. This was new, undesired, and certainly not requested, territory that we had been forced to enter. What were we supposed to do? How were we supposed to act? I just wanted to run away or stay in bed with the sheets over my head. The traditions we had come to love and enjoy became intensely painful. It became an impossible task to attend church services or go out for brunch. Seeing families enjoying their togetherness pierced my heart with an endless ache. My tear-filled eyes burned at the thought of being surrounded by “intact” families. Feelings of anger and resentment overwhelmed my heart. On the inside I wanted to lash out at all those mothers and fathers who were surrounded by all of their children and those sisters and brothers who had no clue what it would be like to lose a sibling. As the day drew to a close I felt tremendous relief that it was over. Exhausted, I would lay silently with my head on my pillow as quiet tears lulled me to sleep.

The feelings that I have shared are not uncommon in the early years of grief with those who have experienced the death of a child, grandchild or sibling. If you or someone you care about has experienced the death of a child, I offer some suggestions from those who have been there to help you do to make it through this time.

- Realize this day is full of potential for a multitude of feelings to sneak up on you and catch you by surprise.
- Especially during those early years, do whatever works for you. This may be a time of being in “survival mode.” Trying to please everyone else can cause undo stress.
- If you have surviving children who want to honor you, communicate your feelings to them. Let them know that while you are grieving the death of their brother or sister, you still love them.
- Try to keep things simple and uncomplicated.
- Visit the cemetery.
- You may choose to pretend the day just does not exist and do something completely unrelated to Mother’s Day. Clean the house, take a nap, get out of town. One of my Compassionate Friends spends Mother’s Day at Home Depot. No one bothers her there or mentions Mother’s Day.
- Have a good cry. If you have trouble crying, just stop by a card shop and read a card or two. Maybe even buy the card that you believe your child would give you.
- Go to the recycle bin and break glass into the proper receptacle.
- Know that the days before the holiday may be worse than the actual day.

As with all holidays, be reassured that what you do this year does not have to be what you do next year. As my Compassionate Friends and I have found, with proper grief work over time, the intensity of our feelings has softened. This will happen for you, as well. In the meantime, be gentle with yourself. And remember, “you need not walk alone.”

*Paula Funk ~ TCF, Safe Harbor, Petoskey, MI*







*We need not walk alone.*

"I asked for comfort and strength to face what I must face and You answered me—maybe not the way I wanted, but You always answered me."  
—*Judy Dickey*

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## Letting Go

Recently I received an award for volunteering in the community. I was honored to receive it. Some of the people in my life mentioned that it looked like I had "let go" of the pain of losing my child. "Let go?" Of course, they don't understand.

But when the award was mentioned at our monthly Compassionate Friends meeting, a bereaved mother made an interesting observation that touched my heart and reminded me why I need this special group to keep me centered and balanced.

"I remember that article you read to us last Mother's Day—the one your son wrote about how proud he was of you," she said. "Wouldn't it be great to put that article in our memory book with the newspaper article about your award? He was right about you. He was proud of you."

What a great idea! What a wonderful way to bring my son into my life even though he is no longer on this plane. That's what Compassionate Friends do—they help to bring our children into our lives even though our children are no longer alive. For a few hours each month, our children return to us. We're proud parents who can share our children's stories and keep our children in our lives—without explaining why we won't be "letting go."

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

## Measured Doses

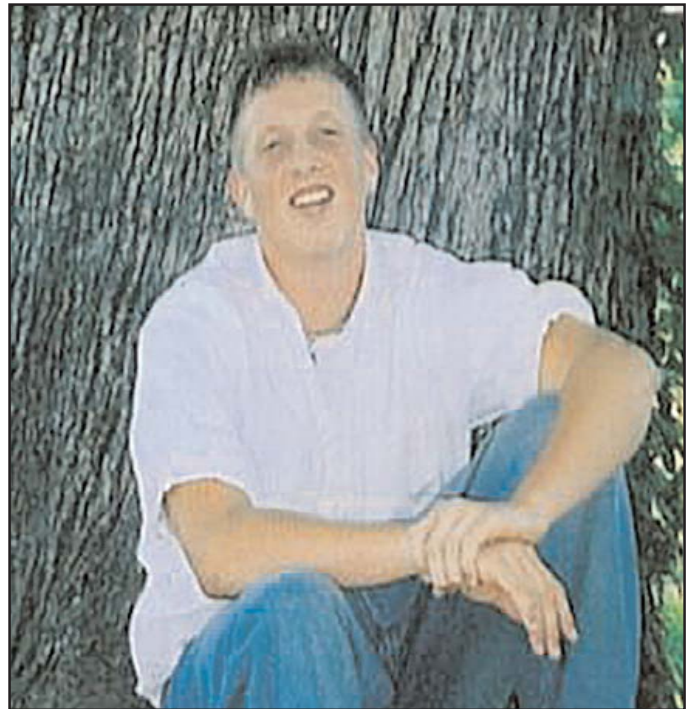
I know that we may distract ourselves with work or other activities, take our grief in measured doses, and postpone our journey to regain some strength, but it is a journey that will still lie ahead. Darcy Sims talked about grief that, after over twenty-five years is still just "under the surface" ready to make its appearance at any time. As time goes on we become better able to manage the grief and place it in that spot when we need to.

*Rick Mirabile*

**Jared Sheets**

**In Loving Memory  
of Jared**

**Carol & Shane  
Johnson**



**This month's printing of our newsletter sponsored by Carol & Shane Johnson.  
Call (903) 258-2547 to sponsor a monthly newsletter.**



# The Compassionate Friends of Tyler Butterfly Release

Release a butterfly for all  
children who have died.

Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m.

[www.TylerTCF.org](http://www.TylerTCF.org) • 903-258-2547



**THE  
COMPASSIONATE  
FRIENDS**

Please join us for our 11th Annual Butterfly Release on May 16 at 1:00 p.m. The setting for this uplifting and peaceful event will be the Sharon Shrine Temple located on Highway 31 East. Live Monarch butterflies are available for \$10 each. Please contact us at (903) 258-2547 for more information.

*Offering Support and Understanding to Families Who Have Experienced the Death of a Child*

# 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](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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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





[www.TylerTCF.org](http://www.TylerTCF.org)

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