



The Compassionate Friends

Supporting Family After a Child Dies



We need not walk alone.



www.TylerTCF.org

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

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: We have a NEW meeting location!
Please join us at 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762.
We hope to see you at our next meeting!

Volume 19, Issue 2

Tyler, Texas

February 2018

Monthly Group Meeting
Tyler Area Meeting
17555 Hwy. 155 S.
(off Loop 49) Flint, TX 75762

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

Co-Chapter Leaders:
Cheri Zucca & Trish Mann Taylor
Secretary: Trish Mann Taylor
Newsletter/Website: Mary Lingle
Tyler Meeting Facilitators:
Leslie & Don Dixon

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

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

The Meeting Agenda

6:30 p.m. - Meeting will begin with refreshments followed by announcement of birthdays and anniversaries and reading of the Credo. We will then have open discussion.

8:00 p.m. - Meeting will close by recognizing our childrens' names. Feel free to visit after the meeting or check out books from our library.

In This Issue...

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Welcome | 2 |
| Grief Resources | 2 |
| Announcements | 3 |
| Birthdays | 4-5 |
| Valentine Memories | 5 |
| Grief and Issues | 5 |
| Anniversaries | 6 |
| Newsletter Sponsors | 7 |
| Donations | 8 |
| In Dad's Lap | 8 |
| The Many Questions Asked by Those Who Are Grieving | 9 |
| Love Letter to My Compassionate Friends | 9 |
| The Healing Power of Love & Grace ~ from Woundedness to a New Wholeness | 9 |
| Poems | 10 |

Strange Words Welcome New Members

I am always amazed at the instant empathy we each feel as new members come to their first meeting. We have the strangest welcome for these parents: "We are so sorry you have to be here."

In other organizations the questions are probing: where did you go to school, where do you work, where do you live? All designed to "size up" the newcomer, put him or her in the proper perspective of a neatly ordered world. For us, this information is meaningless. We know the world isn't neat and orderly; we discovered that when we lost our children. We care about you, the newly bereaved parent, whose life was tossed into a cosmic blender when your child died. We care because we are you. We have been here a while, in this purgatory of pain. We have learned to live our lives in a different way, to place value on understanding and hope, the intangibles of the purest meanings of life. We have learned to value each other, to reach out and talk, to wait patiently during the silences needed to form thoughts. We listen intently as you quietly say your child's name, tell your child's story, speak of your heartbreak.

Yes, this is a different kind of welcome. But it is the most deeply sincere welcome we will ever receive. We are kindred souls, you and I. Each of us lives in the "after death" world of losing our child. Each of us has learned gradually that the hope we have attained has made life better, lessened the pain, moderated the isolation, tears, emotional devastation and pure mayhem that once overtook us. Each of us has learned this slowly, in our own time and in our own way.

Each month new parents who have suffered the most horrific loss that a human can endure are welcomed into our group. We reach out, we listen with our hearts and we remember.

*Annette Mennen Baldwin, In memory of my son, Todd Mennen
TCF, Katy, TX, June 2006*

Be Set Free

Express your tears and your pain. In order to move on, you cannot push down and pocket your emotions; they must be fully communicated for you to heal.

"Everyone cries," "Everyone sheds tears." Some people do it on the outside, but some are only capable of doing it on the inside. From a health perspective, the shedding of tears is very beneficial to physical well-being.

"The people who are unable or haven't developed the capacity to cry are carrying a heavier load of emotion that can actually contribute to some physical difficulties. I don't think you should ever apologize for your tears because you never apologize for something that is a gift from God."

Pull out your emotions. Face the pain head-on. Mourn loudly. Weep bitterly. Be set free.

Dr. H. Norman Wright

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.



Tyler, Texas 75711
P.O. Box 9714

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS





We need not walk alone.

"No matter what loss it is that you are grieving—remember—you are not alone." —Anonymous

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

Children Are A Gift Foundation: www.childrenareagift.com
Glory Babies meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Alison house next to The Children's Park of Tyler: www.glorybabies.com

GriefShare: www.griefshare.org

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

The Hospice of East Texas: www.hospiceofeasttexas.org

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

Survivors of Suicide: www.allianceofhope.org

Samaritan Counseling of Tyler: www.scctyler.org

Tyler Counseling & Assessment, LLP: www.tyler-counseling.com

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

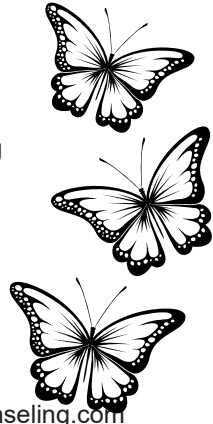
University of Texas at Tyler Psychology and Counseling and Training Clinic: 903-593-2348

The Cope Foundation: www.copefoundation.org

Grief Camps for Kids: www.moyerfoundation.org/programs

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

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



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



The Compassionate Friends of Tyler

P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, TX 75711

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

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

Your Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Birth Date: _____ Death Date: _____ Cause of Death: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please check any of following that apply:

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

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

Please update my mailing address: _____

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

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

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

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



We need not walk alone.

"Each month new parents who have suffered the most horrific loss that a human can endure are welcomed into our group. We reach out, we listen with our hearts and we remember." —Annette Mennen Baldwin

February Birthdays



Justin Clakley



Michelle "Missy" Green



Craig Howell



Jayson La'Drake Austin



Dylan Corey



Colleen Herriage



Caleb Scott Jones



Shane McDade



Jason Brown



Christopher Bullock



Walter Dale "Skipper" Winningham



Kody Maner



Sean Smith



Mary Jennifer Stone



Alexandria Conway



Justin Goodman



Chasen Sean Shirley



Cynthia Harper



John Andy Terrell



Cheryl Heerdt



Robert Ryan White



Ty Foster Mabry



Jeremiah Barker



T.J. Anderson



Ijuan Deshaun Simms



Candice Lingle



Karen Lowe



Scarlet Lynne Smith



James Arthur Jenkins



Roger Lee Rush



David Matthew (Matt) Morris



Natalie Whitehead



Steve Short



James Snyman



Kayla Denise Wager



Caleb Cecil Luther

Continued on next page.



We need not walk alone.

"Death plays no favorites it seems. We are all vulnerable, and most losses hurt to the core of our being." —Anonymous

The Many Questions Asked by Those Who Are Grieving

As I wandered in amongst the graves, I found myself saying out loud, "How do people do this?" It just rolled off my tongue. Then I rephrased it and said, "How do we (or I) do this?"

Indeed how do we do this business of saying goodbye, of leaving this earth and of releasing our loved ones who have left way too soon? With these questions the experience of death and dying pours out a raft of other questions.

How do we handle the pain that feels so final?
How do we even breathe or put one step in front of the other?
How do we put our loved one in the ground?
How do we handle the helplessness that loss and death leaves behind?
How do we find our way through the changes and shifts that take place?
How do we learn to move forward when our hearts want to just stay?
How do we learn to love again...to open again to life?
And the age-old question to which there is no answer..."Why?"

Bev Swanson, Author, Grief Connection Letter

Love Letter to My Compassionate Friends

This is my love letter to you on Valentine's Day. When Sarah died I thought my heart would never again feel anything except pain. I was so overwhelmed with grief. My thoughts and feelings were only on my own tragedy. And then I met you.

You shared your sorrow and your tears with me. I learned of your loss, your life, your children now gone. And my heart was broken for you—my weary heart, that I thought would never care about anyone else ever again.

When you shared the hurting, vulnerable, intimate core of yourself with me, my heart was revived. When you trusted me to know your precious child and your bruised love for this one who was the delight of your heart, my exhausted soul was encouraged. Your words comfort me. Your hugs strengthen me. Your tears quench my thirst.

As I see you heal, I know that I also become whole again. When I hear you laugh, I trust that lightness will one day return to my heart. Thank you for being my compassionate friend. I love you.

Linda M., TCF Medford, OR

The Healing Power of Love & Grace ~ from Woundedness to a New Wholeness

The healing process is just that—a process. And if we give ourselves permission to fully experience that process, intense emotions and all, we may open a pathway for love and grace to enter our 'fractured hearts' and to create the hope and possibility of reconnecting our inner world. That reconnection may give us the courage to move forward from our woundedness to a new and different level of wholeness—a wholeness that allows us to go out into the world and be the instruments of love and light we are all destined to be.

*Deb Lee Gould, Director, FOD Family Support Group
(Excerpt from www.FODSupport.org/loveandgrace.htm)*





We need not walk alone.

"And Compassionate Friends is just full of teachers. Do they have all the answers? Maybe not. But they are there for you, and sometimes, that's what you need the most." —Sharon Peymon

February Anniversaries



Josh Chambers



Austin Dixon



Lori Campbell



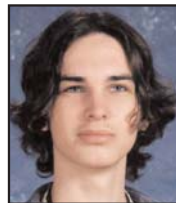
Cheryl Heerd



Richard Heerd



Jackie Heerd



Ryszard Spakovsky



Tiffany Johnston



Darell Bolton



Andrea Young



Austin Arvizo



Brandon Krpec



Michael Schmidt



James Brady Langston



Jasmine Dezereah Pruitt



Chance Aaron Chandler



Roger Lee Rush



Carly Smith



John Wallace



Adam Thomas Pritchard



Jayson La'Drake Austin



Karrie Voyles



Craig Howell



Kammon Gebo



Joel Tucker



Shelby Williams



Lucy Beerline



Kaleb Mize



Luciano Tessaro



Knox Knight

Our condolences to Pam Pickett on the passing of her brother, Allen Pickett.



Our condolences to Carol Thompson on the passing of her mother, Doris Paar.



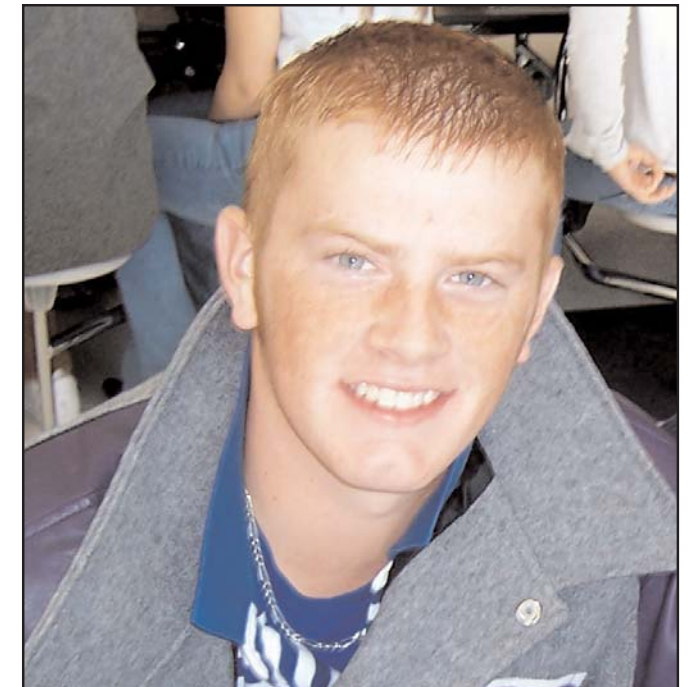
We need not walk alone.

"The wondrous thing we all do is give each other unconditional support. We are named appropriately. We are the compassionate friends." —Jean L.

Austin Dixon

In loving memory of
Austin

by Don & Leslie Dixon



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Don & Leslie Dixon.

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

Alex Conway

In loving memory
of Alex

"Your light continues to
shine in our hearts."

by Robert & Trish Taylor



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Robert & Trish Taylor.

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



We need not walk alone.

"As I see you heal, I know that I also become whole again. When I hear you laugh, I trust that lightness will one day return to my heart. Thank you for being my compassionate friend. I love you." —Linda M.

In Dad's Lap












Why does that phrase have so much meaning now? It used to be pretty simple. When I could find the time (not as often as I would have liked), my lap was a neat place to hold my young son for a few moments of special time together. Now—no son! Different use of the lap! Problems in Daddy's lap. (Thank God a 7-year-old daughter is there too, sometimes!) Being male becomes a more difficult task. How can I properly help those who are dependent on me—or can I admit to myself and others that this is one thing Daddy can't fix, like my son's broken toys? Is it "manly" to cry in public? Or do I care about "manly" now? It seems like so much garbage when my future has a hole in it.

I feel depressed too. My wife's suffering aggravates my own, which makes me angry at her for spoiling my attempts at coping. Maybe I should issue a household edict that "Richy's name or the subject of his death are OFF LIMITS around me." That should fix it! Except that my wife still looks at me, and I know what's on her mind.

Also, I keep thinking about it—and wish I had a better outlet for myself. Certainly not work, or sports, or—God forbid—a shrink (think of my image); I need someone who's been there. My wife suggests we try The Compassionate Friends—maybe so! After the first time, I know it's not for me. After all, where are all the men? Obviously, they don't need it, right? Anyway, I go to TCF a few more times as it is one of the few unselfish things I do supportively for my wife, and my being there helps her. And when she's better, I'm better. PRESTO—we're both getting stronger again and still together and communicating. Also, I listen to some of the other TCF members, and the message I get is that their "men," by and large, are denying themselves the privilege of grieving, and are destroying their own marriages by forcing their wives to grieve quietly or not at all around them. That's manly dumb in my book, and self-destructive too. So some men don't like groups—okay. But my solution is actually having results (for real), and I'm not suppressing the problem. My family and I will be scarred but not walking wounded. My particular masculine viewpoint is nothing special, except that I'm willing to share it in this newsletter.

Chuck Armstrong, TCF Pikes Peak, CO

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

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>In loving memory of Christopher Jeffers Forzano by Barbara & John Zimmerman</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Candice Lingle by Mary Lingle</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Sarah Thompson by Carol Thompson</p>  |
| <p>In loving memory of Chris O'Leary by Merri Walsh</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Alex Conway by Robert & Trisha Taylor</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Andy Terrell by David & Teresa Terrell</p>  |
| <p>In loving memory of Christopher Loper by Tina Loper</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Leah Zucca by Jim & Cheri Zucca</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Chad Cavazos by Dale Cavazos</p>  |
| <p>In loving memory of Jared Sheets by Carol & Shane Johnson</p>  | <p>In loving memory of Stephanie Settle by Danny & Pat Settle</p>  | |



We need not walk alone.

"February—Let this cool and gentle month of the heart remind you not only of lost treasure but also of riches (past and present) in your life." —Sascha

February Birthdays Cont.



Aceyn Richards



Candace Beggs



Justin McIntyre



Jessica Spence



Timothy Andrew Wild



LaDerrius Darden

Valentine Memories

The talk about Valentine's Day memories in today's online sharing really hit home for me. This morning I tackled an activity I've kept putting off since our son, Lance, died in November 1999. I decided to pack all the odds and ends in Lance's room into boxes. As I handled all the things that had been important to him, I found it so emotional and the memories (and the tears) just overpowered me. I picked up one of his favorite books, one I'd read to him a jillion times and saw something sticking out at the top like a bookmark. I turned it over and it was a photograph that just clutched at my heart and reminded me again of all the joy Lance brought to us and others in his short life.

Lance was born with cerebral palsy and it affected his entire body. But the glorious thing is that it never hampered his spirit or the happiness and joy with which he moved through the world. The picture I found was taken the year Lance was selected as Valentine King at his school. My wife, Beverly, and I went to the Valentine Ball that evening. Lance was in a wheelchair and could not stand or walk. But, oh how he wanted to dance like the others. Finally, Bev and I took him out of his chair and held him under the arms as he "danced" with the Valentine Queen. The look on his face was one I'll never forget—pure joy, pure delight, blazing with energy. Lance stomped his feet up and down with the music, moved his arms back and forth and filled that room with laughter. Of course, he didn't want to stop and we danced ruts in the floor before it was all over. Beverly and I were worn out, but he was still raring to go with every song. That evening is still one of my fondest memories among all those I treasure about Lance.

I'm so glad we were willing to go through all that physical exertion to make it possible for him to dance. I believe that if I could open a window to heaven right now, he'd still be dancing. Thanks for letting me share.

Harold Hopkins, TCF Lawrenceville, GA

Grief and Issues

The deepest, most painful thing that unites us and allows us to understand each other is the fact that at least one of our children has died. This shared pain brings us close together, and as we listen to each other, we do understand the shock, the raw pain, the memories that both hurt and comfort, the inability to sleep, or eat, or get enough energy together to do the yard work, or the housework. We understand the anger, the guilt, the loss of hope, and the memory lapses. So many symptoms of the deep grief that assaults our being when a precious child of any age dies are common to all of us. Our hearts are broken; at times, they seize with an actual pain. Our future with our child is gone. We will never know what they would have become. We have become foreigners, or aliens in a strange land. We know we will never be the same as we were before our loss. And it takes each of us a different amount of time to decide to live again, to know we will survive. We share so much that we wish we didn't have in common.

Jean L., TCF Pasco County

Join us for crafts and more!

Carol Johnson will facilitate craft fun, February 24, 2018, starting at 10:30 a.m. at our meeting place. Light snacks will be provided. Bring your creative ideas or just attend for the fellowship. We are planning to have a journaling workshop soon! Watch for details. If anyone is interested in holding a grief share workshop, we would love to accommodate at our nice meeting place.





We need not walk alone.

"In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love." —Mother Theresa

A Child Of Mine (To All Parents)

Edgar Guest

I will lend you, for a little time,
A child of mine, He said.
For you to love the while he lives,
And mourn for when he's dead.
It may be six or seven years,
Or twenty-two or three.
But will you, till I call him back,
Take care of him for Me?
He'll bring his charms to gladden you,
And should his stay be brief.
You'll have his lovely memories,
As solace for your grief.
I cannot promise he will stay,
Since all from earth return.
But there are lessons taught down there,
I want this child to learn.
I've looked the wide world over,
In search for teachers true.
And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes,
I have selected you.
Now will you give him all your love,
Nor think the labour vain.
Nor hate me when I come
To take him home again?
I fancied that I heard them say,
'Dear Lord, Thy will be done!'
For all the joys Thy child shall bring,
The risk of grief we'll run.
We'll shelter him with tenderness,
We'll love him while we may,
And for the happiness we've known,
Forever grateful stay.
But should the angels call for him,
Much sooner than we've planned.
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes,
And try to understand.

There's A Valentine Waiting For You

There's a valentine waiting for you,
That's different from all the others.
It's there every month at our meetings
Of heartbroken fathers and mothers.
Its envelope is made of caring
The glue of understanding seals it tight.
This non-judgmental group who've "been there"
Help to take away your fear and fright.

So, come join with us together,
Read your loving message printed clear.
In not only this month's valentine,
But all those throughout the year.

Mary C., Lawrence, GA; from Bereaved Parents USA

A Valentine of Love

Author Unknown

As long as I can dream,
As long as I can think,
As long as I can have memory...
I will love you.

As long as I have eyes to see
And ears to hear,
And lips to speak...
I will love you.

As long as I have a heart to feel,
A soul stirring within me,
An imagination to hold you...
I will love you.

As long as there is time,
As long as there is love,
As long as I have breath
To speak your name...
I will love you.

Because I love you more than anything in the world.

Death is nothing at all

I have only slipped away into the next room
I am I and you are you
Whatever we were to each other
That we are still
Call me by my old familiar name
Speak to me in the easy way you always used
Put no difference into your tone
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow
Laugh as we always laughed
At the little jokes we always enjoyed together
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was
Let it be spoken without effort
Without the ghost of a shadow in it
Life means all that it ever meant
It is the same as it ever was
There is absolute unbroken continuity
What is death but a negligible accident?
Why should I be out of mind
Because I am out of sight?
I am waiting for you for an interval
Somewhere very near
Just around the corner
All is well.
Nothing is past; nothing is lost
One brief moment and all will be as it was before
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when
we meet again!

Canon Henry Scott-Holland, 1847-1918,
Canon of St Paul's Cathedral



We need not walk alone.

"I had to accept the reality that I would never be the same person, that some part of my heart, perhaps the best part, had been cut out and buried with my sons. What was left? Now there was a question worth contemplating."
—Gordon Livingston, MD

Love Gifts



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

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

- Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O'Leary - rent
- Carol & Shane Johnson in memory of Jared Sheets - rent
- Danny & Pat Settle in memory of Stephanie - rent
- Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah - rent
- Robert & Trisha Taylor in memory of Alex Conway - rent
- Barbara Barton in memory of Lindsey - rent
- Dale & Phyllis Cavazos in memory of Chad - newsletter
- Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper in memory of Christopher - TCF Phone
- David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy - use of a storage building

See more love gifts on page 7.



Newsletter Submissions

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

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

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

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

Sign up for email notifications of events and to be notified when the newsletter is posted online at: www.tylertcf.org

Announcements

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

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

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

We welcome volunteers to serve in any capacity within our group, including sending out birthday and anniversary cards each month, setting up the monthly meeting and help with our annual events.

If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer and/or steering committee member, please reach out to us. We'd love to have you aboard and we're sure you'll experience some healing in this capacity.

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!

Butterfly Release 2018

If you would like to help with the Butterfly Release in May, please call the TCF line at 903-422-0358. Thank you!

