



www.TylerTCF.org

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: Our newsletters are now posted online at TylerTCF.org. Please review our form on page 11 regarding your options on receiveing our newsletter. We will continue to send a printed version to anyone who does not have access to the Internet.

We need not walk alone.



P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



The Compassionate Friends

Supporting Family After a Child Dies



We need not walk alone.

Volume 18, Issue 3

Tyler, Texas

March 2017

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

Co-Chapter Leaders.....
Cheri Zucca & Trish Mann Taylor
SecretaryTrish Mann Taylor
Newsletter/WebsiteMary Lingle
Tyler Meeting Facilitators: Leslie & Don Dixon

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

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...

Table with 2 columns: Topic and Page Number. Topics include Welcome, Grief Resources, Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, The Wake-Up Call, Donations, Choosing Life, Newsletter Sponsor, Grief's Array of Emotions, Self Help, and Poems.

Butterfly Release

Butterflies will be released in memory of all our children at the 2017 Compassionate Friends Butterfly Release set for Saturday, May 20 at 1 p.m.

The setting for this uplifting and peaceful event will be at The Children's Park, corner of Dobbs and Broadway in Tyler. Volunteers are needed at 8 a.m. on Saturday for setup and after the program for take down. We hope you'll join us for refreshments after the ceremony.

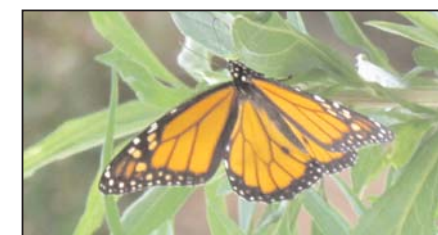
No silent auction will be held this year, rather will be selling raffle tickets for your chance to win one of many beautiful plants.

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.

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

Photos from Previous Butterfly Releases



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.

“For you, I hold out the hope that soon your days will be just a bit better, your sorrow a little lighter, your tears healing, your friends strengthening and your memories filled more with the good times and less with the unhappiness of your grief.” —Dory Rooker

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

GriefShare: www.griefshare.org

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

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.

"Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. Love still stands when all else has fallen."
—Author unknown

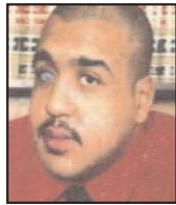
March Birthdays



Roozbeh Arianpour



Michael Schmidt



Gary R. Gribble



Tiffany Sue Hightower



Joshua "Josh" Wilcox



Colton Allen France



Lisa Tutt



Randy Joe Cannon, Jr.



Andrea Young



Wadiya Adnan Bdah



Amanda Kay Stone



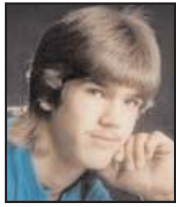
Ben Smith



Toni Wood



Jodi Lynn Attaway



Scott Bradshaw



Danielle Celeste Yura



Cathy Key



Adam Grabill



Charles Bryan Meadows



Kenny Ivy



Noah Boone Bridges



Jackson Huse



Jill Rozell



Jana Lauren Shearer



Kathy Jo Tumminello



Brandon Krpec



Jamye Marie Crawford



Sally Ryan Snodgrass



Deanna Holcomb



Makenzie Shyanne



Tommy Jack Burchfield



Robby Cano



Zi'lain Cummings



Daniel Thomas Khirallah



Ashley Elizabeth King



Rachel Wilder

Continued on next page.



We need not walk alone.

"To spare oneself from grief at all cost can be achieved only at the price of total detachment, which excludes the ability to experience happiness."
—Erich Fromm

Grief's Array of Emotions

by Carrie Kears

I think the most frustrating thing about grief is that it is more than just sadness or the persistent feeling of emptiness I feel. Grief spans a wide array of feelings and emotions including, but not limited to sorrow, anger, jealousy, and helplessness. Lately, I have been struggling with coming to grips with my life as it continues along a path I would never have imagined. If Carl were still alive, I imagine he would be married and I would be an aunt to his children. He would have been there for my wedding and would be anxiously awaiting, along with my parents, the arrival of his future nieces and nephews. He would have been a great uncle. He was always great with kids and reveled in the part of himself which never grew up; the same trait which inexplicably drew kids to him.

Losing a brother is not just losing a companion, a best friend, a confidant, someone to pave the way for a little sister as she follows eagerly behind. When Carl died I not only lost those things, but I lost the future we would have had. I wish I would have had a chance to see how great he would have been with the children I hope to someday have. I wish I would have had the chance to see his sparkle, his amazing smile passed on to his children. But my reality is that these things will never come to pass. As each year turns into the next I struggle to reconcile the life I had imagined with the life I live today. It's hard to keep moving forward when I no longer have a big brother to do things first so I know, more or less, what to expect.

Maybe dealing with Carl's death and the loss of the future I had imagined would be easier if grief were merely a matter of dealing with the ensuing sadness. However, as my life continues to move forward I come across new struggles. I find myself getting jealous of my husband of three months, relationship with his brother and angry at him for having one when mine is gone. Is it rational? No, but grief isn't always rational. I can't fault him for having a close relationship with his brother, nor can I fault him for Carl's death. I have no real reason to be angry with him when he is on the phone with his brother. I can't be angry with him because it's not me. No matter how much I wish, it will never be me again. I have no real reason to be jealous of his niece and nephew and the relationship he has with them. It is not his fault that I will never hold my brother's children.

It isn't fair for me to take my anger out on him or brood silently while he continues to nurture relationships with his family. I know, too well, the importance of family. One of the things I love most about him is that he is very close to his family and places great importance on maintaining strong familial ties. But, my grief inevitably creeps in and weaves its way through our relationship. Not only do I have to deal with my grief, but I have to be careful in how I channel it, if I want to have a successful marriage. Yet, even as I try to channel my grief, more anger creeps in because I have to concentrate harder on my actions because I am grieving my brother's death—and that doesn't feel very fair either.

I try to tell my husband and try to help him understand when I am feeling angry or jealous because he has something I long to have, but I am afraid. I fear that there will come a day when I tell him the reason I am acting irrationally is because I am struggling with my grief and he sees my explanation merely as an excuse or something I should learn to control. I fear he will tire of being patient with me, or expect that one day I won't cry "over nothing" or that one day I won't feel sad on the Fourth of July because it was one of Carl's favorite holidays.

Is my fear irrational, or am I assuming he will react to me the way others in the past have reacted? I guess I am bound to find out sooner or later. Just as I learn to live with my grief I will have to learn how to manage my grief while maintaining a marriage. I sure wish grief was just about feeling sad. No, I really wish I didn't have to deal with it all.

Carrie's brother, Carl Pueschel, died January 19, 1996

Self Help

For many of us, the monthly meeting of our Compassionate Friends Group is the only real healing time we give to ourselves. Helping ourselves on a daily basis is critical to our journey in the grieving process. Many of us find solace in books. Others find it in movies, music, time with friends, meditation or intense spiritual conviction. Each day we should take some time to center ourselves, to find a place of peace. If you haven't already done so, start with a quiet time of reflection and search your soul for the key to your own solace. There will still be bad, even terrible, days. The effort to help ourselves begins with knowing ourselves and finding the unique activity that soothes our broken hearts for just a little while.

Annette M.B., TCF Katy, TX (In Memory of her son, Todd, July 24, 2005)





We need not walk alone.

"Truly this is a time when the kindest thing you can do for yourself is allow yourself to feel the normal symptoms of grief. Running and hiding doesn't work, but patience does." —*Mary Cleckley*

The Wake-Up Call

The bride (my daughter Nina's best friend) was radiant; the groom nervous but excited; the flower girl and ring bearer adorable; the parents' shedding joyful tears; the weather near perfect—by appearances to all involved, it looked like the ideal wedding; all was progressing smoothly, things were coming together as planned.

Not a thing looked out of place—that is, to most everyone present; that is, to everyone but me, the mother of a forever 15-year-old beautiful brunette with a dazzling smile. This mother who tried desperately to mask her quivering lip, ignore the lump in her throat and knot in her stomach, yet lost that battle to a flood of tears that streamed down her face relentlessly. This mother who watched the bridesmaids as they proceeded down the aisle, longing to see the face of someone who should have been physically present, yet knowing the impossibility—that Nina, though should be if her life were not cut short, would not be in the procession. She was relegated to a small mention at the back of the program along with the couple's grandparents: "Here with us in spirit..."

I weathered the reception until it came time for the wedding party to take to the dance floor. They all had a particular dance and a song that apparently was their group of friend's "song." They all participated in this dance and song loudly with obvious delight. I watched and realized that this was something Nina who had died eight years earlier, had never been a part of—it was as if a hand had reached down and plucked her out of the loop. At that very moment I have never felt so profoundly Nina's nonexistence in the lives of her friends.

The few years following Nina's death, her friends (while they were still high-school students) were still closely connected to her. Since then they have graduated from college, now many have married or are on the career track. Some even have children of their own. A lot of time and a lot of distance and events have taken place in that time frame. And all of it without Nina's physical presence; to them now a distant memory.

After a night of insomnia and much self-analysis, I came to some conclusions, that I hope will help those of you who may find yourself in a similar situation someday.

The wedding really became a wake-up call for me. A lot of realizations became clear. Though others (even some bereaved parents included) seemed to understand that this would be the outcome and had forewarned me—I was blind to it.

They seemed to grasp the inevitable; that is, that though Nina was paramount in my thoughts, no one else could possibly be able to think of her with the same magnitude as I. In my desperation that she not be forgotten I seemed to delude myself into believing that that should be the case for everyone. As all bereaved parents are aware, one of our greatest fears is that our children will be forgotten. But after this wedding and the opinions voiced by others who know, I think this needs to be amended. That though we, as their parents, remember our children in much more visible and personal ways (such as memorial gardens and scholarships, remembrance services and balloon releases, photo buttons and pictures here, there and everywhere, and speak of them often, with laughter and tears), that others may do their remembering in much more subtle and private ways. That though we do not always see it outwardly, as we might prefer, they remember internally, carried forever in their minds and their hearts.

Life marches on. We are thankful (and, if truth be told, maybe a little envious) that our children's friends are happy or in love or successful and would want nothing else for them. But when all is said and done, even with our most valiant efforts at managing the milestones of graduations and marriages and grandchildren, and more – all of those major happenings we will never experience with our child - no matter the amount of time that goes by, their absence still hurts. We love them and always will with every fiber of our being. How could it not?

I write this not to sadden anyone; I tell you of my experience so that if or when it happens to you somewhere in your grief journey you will perhaps see it in a different, less painful light. I know that I will try to remember this when I don't hear from her friends for a long time (or maybe not at all). But when I go to her grave site and see a bouquet of her favorite daisies, I know were left by her best friend, or a note written in the journal I leave there written by a classmate that I never even met, that they haven't forgotten; that Nina had an impact on their lives and that they continue to and always will remember, but in their own way.

With gentle thoughts,

Cathy Seehuetter, TCF St. Paul, MN



We need not walk alone.

"I don't think of him every day; I think of him every hour of every day."
—*Gregory Peck, in an interview many years after his son's death*

March Anniversaries Cont.



Dana Regester



Micah Elmore



Cheyenne Lackey



Kappy Lane Kolb



Colton Allen
France



Blythe Madison
Harper



Kyle James
Horn

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

In loving memory of
Lindsey Barton by
Barbara Barton



In loving memory of
Alex Conway by
**Robert & Trisha
Taylor**



In loving memory of
Andy Terrell by
**David & Teresa
Terrell**



In loving memory of
Chris O'Leary by
Merri Walsh



In loving memory of
Leah Zucca by
Jim & Cheri Zucca



In loving memory of
Chad Cavazos by
Dale Cavazos



In loving memory of
Christopher Loper
by **Tina Loper**



In loving memory of
Jared Sheets by
**Carol & Shane
Johnson**



In loving memory of
Stephanie Settle by
Danny & Pat Settle



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





We need not walk alone.

"This winter of your life will pass, as all seasons do. Stay in your season of Winterness as long as need be, for everything you feel is appropriate. There is no right way to grieve. There is just your way. It will take as long as it takes."
—Rusty Berkus

Choosing Life

"It will never be the same. Never." As a bereaved parent, you have often heard or said these words to express grief's profound feelings of sorrow and disorientation. Your life has suddenly taken an unexpected course that appears both uncharted and endless. Bewildered, you vainly search for pathways back to your former life, until you confront the reality that there is no way back. Your child is dead forever. It is then that you may say, "...never the same."

This is the aspect of grief that Simon Stephens calls "The Valley of the Shadow." It is that very long time between the death of your child and your reinvestment in life. Between. It is not supposed to be a permanent resting place. Although some people do take up residence in the valley, it is a transition from the death of your child to life with renewed purpose.

The key to this transition is yourself. You must choose between life and the valley. You and only you can decide. And you must make that decision again and again, each day.

Giving in to the hopelessness of the valley is tempting. Choosing to move on toward life requires a great deal of work. You must struggle with the pain of grief in order to resolve it. It is a daily struggle full of tears, anger, guilt and self-doubt, but it is the only alternative to surrendering yourself to the valley.

Little by little you choose to move on. Little by little you progress toward the other side of the valley. It takes a very long time, far longer than your friends or relatives suspected. Far longer than you had believed—even prayed—that it would be. When one day you find yourself able to do more than choose merely to live but also how to live, you will know you are leaving the valley of the shadow. There will still be more work to do, more struggle and choosing. The valley, however, stretches behind rather than in front of you.


When you have resolved your grief by reinvesting in life, you will be able to realize that nothing is ever "the same." Life is change. We would not have it be otherwise, for that is the valley of the shadow. Change has the promise of beginning and the excitement of discovery.

Life is never the same. Life is change. Choose life!

Marcia F. Alig, TCF Mercer Area Chapter, NJ

Joseph Watson

**In loving memory
of Joseph
Judy Watson**



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Judy Watson.

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.

"Our goal is to not be the forgotten mourners that we sometimes are, but to walk together to face our tomorrows as surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends." —TCF Sibling's Credo

March Birthdays Cont.



Dustyn Blake Sandifer



Timothy Andrew Lever



Doug Bennett



Joseph Richard Watson, Jr.



Jeff Maurer

March Anniversaries



Neil Defenbaugh



Tyler Roberts



Kayla Smith



Amanda Valadez



Jeremy Kersh



Cory Blackmon



Allen Price



Robert McMahon



Gary Dean Arnold



Noah Boone Bridges



Randall Scott McDaniel



Jackson Huse



Leo Cook



Phillip Kuhn



Joshua Andrews



Joshua Washburn



Trey LePelley



Laura Wilkinson



David Matthew (Matt) Morris



James Wilkinson



Douglas Johnson



Wadiya Adnan Bdah



Rowdy Cunningham



Rico Gonzalez



Maryn McIntire



Irish Faye Haggerty



Jessica Spence



Dylan Prichard



Daniel Thomas Khirallah



Justin Bloxom





We need not walk alone.

"Grief is universal; at the same time it is extremely personal. Heal in your own way." —Earl Grollman

I Am Spring

I am the beginning.
I am budding promise.
I spill cleansing tears of life
from cloudy vessels
creating muddy puddles
where single cell creatures abide
and splashing children play.

I am new green growth.
I softly flow from winter's barren hand.
On gentle breeze I fly – embracing sorrow.
With compassion, we feather nests
where winged voices sing winter-spring duets.
As frozen ice transforms to playful stream
I whisper truth – life is change.

I am spring.
I bless long, dark wintry days.
I crown mankind's pain
with starry skies
in deepest night
lighting solitary paths from sorrow to joy
as the wheel of life turns 'round and 'round.

By Carol Clum

(Written after attending a workshop presented by John Fox, author of Finding What You Didn't Lose and Poetic Medicine.)

I Don't Know Why

I don't know why.
I'll never know why.
I don't have to know why.
I don't like it.

I don't have to like it.
What I have to do is make a choice about my living.
What I do want to do is accept it and go on living.
The choice is mine.

I can go on living, valuing every moment
in a way I never did before,
or I can be destroyed by it and,
in turn, destroy others.

I thought I was immortal.
That my family and my children were also.
That tragedy happened only to others.
But I know now that life is tenuous
and valuable.

So I am choosing to go on living,
making the most of the time I have,
valuing my family and friends
in a way never possible before.

From the book, My Son, My Son, by Iris Bolton, whose son Mitch died by suicide.

Wish You Were Here

By Steve Tutt, TCF Tyler, TX

You'd be nineteen if you were here
But why you're gone still isn't clear.
Your things are still all in your room
As if you'd be returning soon.
Spongebob waits there by the door.
Your shoes are still there on the floor.
Your friends are all young women now.
They're working jobs or college bound.
Sometimes we see them and they say
We miss her so, wish she had stayed.
Your boyfriend's in the Army too
And by the way, he still loves you.
You thought his love was not so true
And that some other girl he'd choose.
But near two years have passed on by
Still to your grave he goes to cry.
Your niece and nephews miss you too,
And talk of the things you used to do.
Your Mother's going to be alright
And doesn't cry so much at night.
She puts the flowers on your grave,
And scrapbook pictures tries to save.
And me, I'm still the same old Dad,
The same old routine like I had.
I work real hard to make a way
To pay some bills and pass the day.
I'm not as funny as before
My world's not happy anymore.
I don't let on the pain I feel
But deep inside the hurt is real.
Time passes by year after year,
Life goes on with seldom a tear.
One wish I have, a wish so clear
My wish most of all, I wish you were here.

—Dad

Those We Love

Those we love remain with us,
for love itself lives on.
And cherished memories never fade
because a loved one's gone.
Those we love can never be
more than a thought apart.
For as long as there is memory,
they'll live on in our heart.

Mary Alice Ramish



We need not walk alone.

"Closure? I don't think so; acceptance, yes; peace, yes; hope, definitely; but putting a period behind the final sentence and closing the book on it? No! Life and love are much too complex for that. The story does not end; instead it awaits the next chapter." —Amy Florian

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
- 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 903-258-2547. 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 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

Tyler TCF Meeting: The meeting in Tyler is held on the third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at 1901 Ricketty 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! Steering meetings are every third Thursday at 11:45 a.m. at Fuzzy Taco Shop (working lunch) located at 1871 Troup Hwy., Tyler, TX 75709.

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 OPPORTUNITY!

Dear TCF Members,

NEW! We are looking for a new meeting place. Needs to have a small storage area and a large enough room for at least 10–15 people. Must have a bathroom, be in Tyler and have low rent.

As always, we welcome volunteers to serve in any capacity within our group, including sending out birthday and anniversary cards each month. We would like to get two people per month, as it's getting to be a lot for one person to do.

Sincerely,
Cheri & Trisha

Join us for our Annual Butterfly Release in May!

