



...that their
light may
always shine.

Light a candle for all children who have died.
2nd Sunday in December, 6:30 p.m.



www.TylerTCF.org

Volunteers wanted!

If you would like to help with the Candle Lighting set up, Saturday, the day before the event, take down, and anything in between, please call the TCF line at 903-422-0358. Thank you!

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

Skillern's Business Systems
1604 Grande Blvd., Tyler, TX 75703
903-561-5591 • www.skillerns.com

Please join us at 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762.
We hope to see you at our next meeting!

We need not walk alone.



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711




The
Compassionate
Friends

Supporting Family After a Child Dies



We need not walk alone.

Volume 19, Issue 9

Tyler, Texas

September 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.

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Septembling

Oh, The Before! You remember.

You remember how your heart could clutch at the pure joy of just being alive.

The gratefulness for the everyday day, the gratefulness for your children.

The work of the day, sports or band, homework and a bowl of Macaroni Surprise for supper—maybe in front of the TV.

Life as it should be: Good morning—I love you—Talk to you later—Easy listening—Easy life—Have a good day—Life is good—I love you—We'll talk tomorrow—Good night.

Turning in for the evening and going to bed secure in your heart that the next day would routinely go on as before. Because, Before, you could not know.

Maybe yours was older, or younger, or very, very young, or graduated, so close to friends, working, off to college, marrying, having children, traveling, driving away—have a great life! Don't forget to say your prayers. Be careful now. We're always with you!

Nothing taken for granted, you understand, just the living of life with no knowledge of the chilling life jolt that lay ahead. Not perfect, you know. But life was theirs, and yours. Hope, dreams and a reason to be joyously alive.

Oh, The Before!

And now once again it's September.

That little wild vine blooming purple on the front porch is back. It comes each year to tell me it's that time again. To remind me that Before, September, with its first fresh cool mornings of the year, was a beginning, not an ending. School starting, routine after disorganized summer. September, the early morning sun rays falling just a little differently because of the changing seasons to come. September, almost more like the beginning of the year than nearing the end, because of anticipation and planning: Halloween, Thanksgiving family time, Joy To The World and a Happy New Year not so far off. What a trick September played.

Oh, The Before!

Do you think and hope that, like the tenacious untended vine that grows every year in spite of it all, some September will bring the beginning of an After?

Carol Thompson
In memory of Sarah
9/2009
TCF Tyler, TX

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.

“And so we learn to live with it, to find shelter on exceptionally stormy days, to share space under an umbrella when we need support, and to allow moments on clear days to look up at the sky and know that, regardless of the weather, love will always shine bright.” —Robin Goddard

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**

The Childrens Park: www.childrensparktyler.org
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

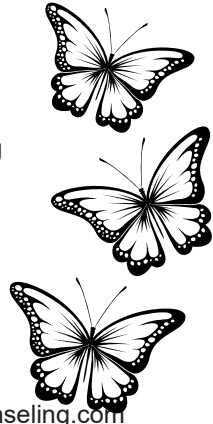
University of Texas at Tyler Psychology and Counseling and Training Clinic: 903-593-2348

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 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.

"Little by little, step by step, I learned that I didn't need to hang on to the death to remember the life. What a joyous discovery!" —Kittie Brown McGowin

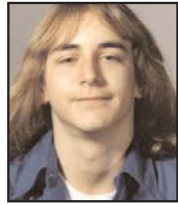
September Birthdays



Justin Dover



Chad Cavazos



Jon Lee Hardwick



Theresa Kay Talley



Tommy Gresham



Bobby Jack Stanley



Robert Attaway



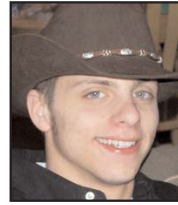
Shantrice Willingham



Autumn Dale Romine



Michael R. Peymon



Austin Cheek



Chase Cyrus Naquin



Gary Dean Arnold



Stacey Smith



Michael Toby Tobias



Ava Faith Knight



Betsi Marie Wyatt



Bill Bouslog



Joshua Jolley



Douglas Johnson, Jr.



Amanda Claire Miller



Leah Zucca



Aaron Willman



Chance Aaron Chandler



Samantha Johnson



Adam Thomas Pritchard



Joshua Washburn



Jake Schoonover



Lee Sammons



Kyle James Horn



Christopher Molnari



Lillian Oldham



Jiree Mobley



Melinda Orr



Tommy Gresham



Brooklynn Woods



Brian McDaniel



Colby Ivey



We need not walk alone.

"You don't heal from the loss of a loved one because time passes; you heal because of what you do with the time." —Carol Crandall

What Are We Waiting For?

My brother-in-law opened the bottom drawer of my sister's bureau and lifted out a tissue-wrapped package. "This," he said, "is not a slip. This is lingerie." He discarded the tissue and handed me the slip. It was exquisite: silk, handmade, and trimmed with a cobweb of lace. The price tag with an astronomical figure was still attached. "Jan bought it the first time we went to New York eight or nine years ago. She never wore it. She was saving it for a special occasion. Well, I guess this is the special occasion."

He took the slip from me and put it on the bed with the other clothes we were taking to the funeral home. His hands lingered on the soft material for a moment. He slammed the drawer shut and turned to me. "Don't ever save anything for a special occasion. Every day you're alive is a special occasion."

I remembered those words through the funeral and the days that followed when I helped him attend to all the sad chores that follow an unexpected death. I thought about them on the plane returning home. I thought about all the things she hadn't seen or heard or done. I thought about the things that she had done without realizing that they were special.

I still think about his words and how they've changed my life. I read more and dust less. I sit on the deck and admire the view without fussing about the weed in the garden. I spend more time with my family and friends and less time in committee meetings. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experience to savor, not endure. I try to recognize those moments now and cherish them. I don't save anything. We use our good china for every special event—such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or discovering the first camellia blossom. I wear my good blazer to the market if I feel like it. I don't save my good perfume for special parties. "Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing, hearing, or doing, I want to see, hear, and do it now.

I am not sure what my sister would have done had she known that she wouldn't be here for the tomorrows we all take for granted. I think she would have called family members and a few close friends. She might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. It's these little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited—angry because I put off seeing good friends, angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intend to write, angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband and daughter often enough how much I truly love them. I am trying not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives. Every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it's a special day.

Ann Wells, TCF Laguna Niguel, CA

Sarah Thompson

In loving memory of Sarah

by Carol Thompson



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Carol Thompson.

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.

"Each of us has the same opportunities now as we had before. We can permit time to simply pass, or we can work to mold its passage into constructive growth." —Don Hackett

September Anniversaries



Tim Cole



Cindy Dingler



Stephen Townsend



Cason Gimble



Jonathan Lee Daniel Sanders



Nathaniel Blake Dark



Stephanie Harris Reed



Amanda Stone



Mahlon Acres



Joshua Brandon "Josh" Wilcox



Michael Angelo Perez



Jennifer Booth Musick



Mary Jennifer Stone



Toni Wood



Joshua Malone



Ashlee Ann Davis



Cameron Weatherly



Robby Cano



Shantrice Willingham



Robert Attaway Jr.



Seth Henry Porter



A.J. Frazier



Cobin Frazier



Alec Heath Thigpen



Sarah Thompson



Jared Sheets



Ava Faith Knight



John Shade



D. Anriloten Bennett



Sarah Wheeler



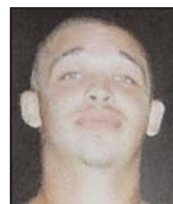
Doug Norton



Daniel Wayne Thornton



Randall Thornton, Jr.



Colton James Bain



Amber Drake



Keisha Knauss

Continued on next page.



We need not walk alone.

"Those who weep recover more quickly than those who smile." —Jean Giraudoux

September Anniversaries cont.



Daryn Keith Selman



Wayne Davis



Doug Bennett



Amanda Anderson



Derek Russell



James Rawls



Richard Allen Wilgus



Alec Heath Thigpen



Kevin Paul Elbert

"The world loves closure, loves a thing that can, as they say, be gotten through. This is why it comes as a great surprise to find that loss is forever, that two decades after the event there are those occasions when something in you cries out at the continual presence of an absence." —Anna Quindlen

Simple Steps Towards Healing

Acknowledge the loss; embrace and own the experience and the loss whatever you are feeling; allow yourself to experience all the emotions of grief; find ways to express your anger and pain in non-destructive ways; find support; build a support system of compassionate listeners; skip the self-judgment; let the judgment of others pass through you without damage; forgive yourself for whatever you believe you have done or not done; release the hurt, the anger and the guilt; be careful what you release; once released those things are gone forever; work towards healing; practice forgiving yourself for living; concentrate on your loved one's life, not the death; discover the person you are now; begin to release the hurt in search of hope; never, ever, ever forget your loved one lived.

Making Progress Through Grief

You know you're making progress through grief when; you don't always choke when you say your loved one's name; tears don't always well up in your eyes when you think of your loved one; the cause of death isn't the emphasis anymore; memories, for the most part, bring comfort not pain; you realize your plans don't include your loved one any more; you realize you are someone different; you can forgive yourself for living, when your loved one did not; your identity is no longer highlighted by the word Bereaved; you know that even though your loved one died, the love between you can never be destroyed; may love be what you remember most.

Darcie Sims

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Now taking donations for our **GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER** to be held at the meeting place on **Saturday, October 13, from 7 a.m. till noon.** Please consider donating items for us to sell and/or help us with set up/pricing, selling and clean-up after. Any item that isn't sold will be donated.

Call the TCF line at **903-422-0358**, or Cheri at **903-570-7017** to make arrangements to drop off donations.





We need not walk alone.

"Give sorrow words; the grief that does not speak whispers the o'er-fraught heart and bids it break." —William Shakespeare

Tomorrow Will Be Better

When my son died, I felt like there would be no tomorrow. I didn't want a tomorrow. I wanted yesterday with its promise of joy and perfection. I wanted my son to be alive. But he was gone.

Now, when life gets me down, I remember the joys of yesterday, think of all that I was given, take measure of all that still needs to be done, and I promise myself that tomorrow will be better because I will work very hard to make it better.

My grandmother often told me, "If you think you can, you're right. If you think you can't, you're right. What do you think?" As a child I thought this was strange. As an adult, I know it to be true.

Tomorrow will be better. Tomorrow I will, once again, tell my mind to stop the negative thoughts. And my mind will do exactly that, as I command my ship of grief.

Annette Mennen Baldwin, Forever remembering my son, Todd Mennen, TCF Katy, TX

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

In loving memory of
Sarah Thompson by
Carol Thompson



In loving memory of
Lori Jean Campbell
by **Pamela Johnson**



In loving memory of
Alex Conway by
Robert & Trisha Taylor



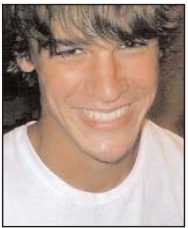
In loving memory of
Candice Lingle by
Mary Lingle



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




We need not walk alone.

"...practice forgiving yourself for living; concentrate on your loved one's life, not the death; discover the person you are now; begin to release the hurt in search of hope; never, ever, ever forget your loved one lived."
—Darcie Sims

It is Time to Forgive

[Author's Note: You may have read this article a few years ago, but I feel it is a good time to print it again. When we fail to forgive anyone, we block the flow of God's grace and mercy into our lives. Search your heart, and if you are harboring unforgiveness against anyone pray for the Lord to help you forgive them. It will free you more than you can imagine.]

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive your sins." [Mark 11:25]

This is a long time coming. I have been studying, learning and teaching the importance and the power of forgiveness for many years. There are few things more freeing than forgiveness, and as Christians, we know that God expects us to forgive others as we pray for Him to forgive us.

Every time I hear another lesson on forgiveness, I search my heart and soul to sincerely try and find anyone I have not forgiven in my life. For years I have thought that I had forgiven everyone that I believed had ever hurt me or wronged me in any way. This morning, as I heard yet another sermon on forgiveness, I realized that I have been harboring unforgiveness toward someone I don't even know or have ever met. I have repressed it so deeply that I haven't even really thought about it in years, and I now realize that it is a hindrance to my walk with my Lord. I am telling you about it now in hopes that it will prompt you to search your heart, and if you find any unforgiveness there you will be able to free yourself, too.

In 1988 my 16-year-old daughter, Stacey, died from injuries sustained in a car wreck. She was riding with some friends on their way to lunch from high school. It had been raining, and as they topped a hill a pickup was in the middle of the street and forced them off the road. They ran through a wooden fence, and a 2x6 struck Stacey in the head and face, causing fatal injuries. The driver of the truck that forced them off the road did not stop. No one was able to identify the driver, and to this day we do not know who it was. People that witnessed the accident knew it was a young person, a boy they think, but no one has ever told us who it was - and I think it best that I never knew.

As I write this, I cannot describe the feeling I have in the pit of my stomach. Some things about that day I simply cannot allow myself to dwell on, and I now realize that I have not permitted myself to think about the driver of that truck. In repressing those thoughts, I know I have never gone through the process of forgiving him or her, and I know God expects me to do it now. Why now and not sooner? I really don't know, but I imagine one reason is so I will write about it now in order for someone reading about it to find the healing that I know I will experience. I can think of no better reason, can you? As painful as it is to write about this, I have to tell you this: I feel a weight lifting off my shoulders and my heart at this very moment. I have needed this far too long. Someone reading this needs it just as much. If it is you, please don't miss what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. Allow Him to reveal to you whatever and whomever you have been harboring resentment towards, and pray for the strength to forgive them. We no longer have to live with the pain and the strain that unforgiveness causes. God want us to be free from it, and now is the time to let it go. Go to your Bible and study all that is written about forgiveness. If you still can't let it go, go to your Pastor or some strong Christian friend that you can talk to. Don't pass up this opportunity to receive the healing that the Lord has for you. I know it will make your life better.

One more thing: If by any chance the person who was driving that truck that September day in 1988 should read this article, please accept the forgiveness I am offering. If you have been suffering from feelings of guilt, I ask you to forgive yourself. I know it was an accident, and from the deepest part of my soul I pray for you to feel forgiveness and peace. If you do not know the Lord Jesus as your Savior, I pray that you would open your heart to Him. If you do know Him, I pray this brings you closer. God bless you.

For everyone else, if the Spirit has revealed anyone that you need to forgive, I pray that you will forgive them now. You will find supernatural peace and healing when you do. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." [Colossians 3:13]

Dr. Sam Smith, Butterfly Ministry, TCF Tyler, TX



We need not walk alone.

"Remember we all stumble, every one of us. That's why it's a comfort to go hand in hand." —Emily Kimbrough



We need not walk alone.

"If I am to wear this mourning cloak, Let it be made of the fabric of love, woven by the fine thread of memory. —Molly Furnia

Tissues, Tears & Treasures

A circle of chairs and boxes of tissues,
A roomful of tears and emotional issues.
Frightening at first, I did not want to enter
Into this strange group, and be in the center.

What I soon learned, as we sat side by side,
We were bound by the love of our children who died.
Each shattered heart,
desperately seeking a moment of peace,
from the pain and weeping.

So many things different, and yet all the same,
Hearts lost in a fog of loss and pain.
Those who have journeyed, much further than me,
Reached out in comfort, listened quietly.
Each shattered heart spoke, and the tissues were passed,
We never avoid speaking of the past.

This circle of friends, have found a bond,
And here I'm still known
As "Tony's Mom."
Slowly, I've found
I can reach out to others
Who are newly bereaved, fathers and mothers.
Strength I have found in this
Circle of chairs,
To grieve and to heal
And to show that we care.

Diane Barta, TCF Portland, OR

Benchmarks

Good bye would be too difficult,
Although I know you are gone.
Instead, I keep you in my heart
And your memory lives on.
I have redefined my purpose, son,
Since you are no longer here.
With your death I faced a choice
To die, exist or to live free.
My life has changed forever, child,
I'm redefined each week,
You would call these "benchmarks"
Of goals set and then achieved.
And so I set my benchmarks,
Achieving many, reshaping some..
But everything is different now
Except your mother's love.
Annette Mennen Baldwin

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

I wish That You Were Here

How very many times I've thought
"I wish that you were here,"
And felt that it would be so good
If only you were near.
I have to keep reminding myself
Of something I already know,
That in the ebb and flow of life
It was time for you to go.
I see the baby birds in Spring
And wish that you could hear them sing.
Yet, you are with the Lord of Life
Who created every living thing.
Savoring the fruits of summer, knowing I am blessed,
I'd like to share with you, the ones you liked the best.
Yet, you are with the Lord of the Harvest
Provider of all food and rest.
On Fall days or when I have something sad to share,
I feel alone and need to know you care.
Yet, you are with the Lord of All Comfort
Who hears my every prayer.
As I celebrate in Winter, with friends and family,
I wish you could hear the laughter and smile along with me.
Yet, I know you're with the Lord of Love
Safe at home in Heaven, for all eternity.
Thoughts of wishing you were here
Are becoming much more rare,
For as seasons pass I find
"I'm just wishing I were there."

Author unknown

You Did Not Die

You live in the beautiful wind that blows.
You live in the sound of birds that crow.

You live in the sun that shines so bright.
You live in the peaceful dark at night.

You live in a star I see in the sky.
You live in ocean waves that come in with the tide.

You live in the smell of flowers and grass.
You live in the summer that goes so fast.

You live in my heart that hurts so much.
You did not die, we only lost touch.

Shari Swirsky, TCF Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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 - rental 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.

Event reminders for parents:

- If anyone is interested in singing at the Candle Lighting in December or if you know of anyone who is blessed with musical talent, and would like to participate, please contact us.
- If you have a butterfly release sign, please put it out the end of April or first of May.
- If we are storing your butterfly sign, please contact us to pick it up the end of April or first of May so you can put it out at place of your choice.
- Pre-Registration is required every year to have your child's picture in the butterfly garden. (We are very sorry, but due to growth we need to know who will be attending.)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear TCF Members,

As always, we welcome volunteers to serve in any capacity within our group, including sending out birthday and anniversary cards each month.

It's only July, but before we know it, we'll be planning our Annual Candlelighting Ceremony for December.

If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer or steering committee member, please reach out to us. We'd love to have you aboard!

Sincerely,
Cheri & Trisha

