



**Monthly Group Meeting**

**Tyler Area Meeting**

Monday, April 20, 6:30 p.m.  
at Bridging The Gap on Hwy. 155 S.

**Jacksonville Meeting**

Tuesday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.  
at Sam Smith's office, 1401 E. Rusk

**Contact**

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P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

Chapter Leader .....Tina Loper

Chapter Leader.....Pat Settle

Newsletter/Web Site .....Mary Lingle

**Steering Committee:**

Sam Smith, Carol Johnson,  
Carol Thompson, Patricia Miller,  
Charisse Smith, Mary Ann Girard,  
Cheri Zucca, Mary Lingle,  
David & Teresa Terrell

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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**April Showers Bring May Flowers**

April is a month known for rain, which is a necessary component to bring out the flowers in May. It is a step that cannot be skipped or done away with. Although at times bleak and dreary, this rainy season is a time of rejuvenation for the ground and prepares the soil to be able to nourish the plant life that will soon come.

The death of a loved one creates a personal "rainy season" that lasts much longer than a single month. The days become figuratively dark and gloomy with menacing clouds hanging overhead. This too is a necessary component for personal healing. So many people I see grow (understandably) tired of their "rainy season," full of sudden outbursts of tears and thunderous pangs of pain. These emotional storms can not only come quickly, but may linger unmercilessly as well.

In April, with storms coming at the drop of a hat, I know that if I want to manage the amount I get wet, I need to stay prepared. I will keep an umbrella in my office, in the car, at home and with me wherever I go. Likewise those who are weathering "emotional storms" can also prepare themselves. Suggested supplies to keep on hand are many and may vary from person to person. First and foremost, keep tissues on you at all times. Grief is often unexpectedly triggered in the most inconvenient of places. For many, eating is completely thrown off balance. Keep a snack near you as well for times when you suddenly realize you have not eaten all day and feel like you may pass out. Also, it is nice to have something cold to drink to replenish yourself after having a "good" cry. In addition, keep a small notebook and pen handy and write down anything important that you need to remember. People who are grieving are supposed to have no memory when it comes to appointments or grocery lists. These things take a back seat (if that) to mentally reconstructing one's own life after a death.

As you continue to weather your own storms, remember that the tears you shed are not wasted. They are necessary and healing, preparing you for your coming springtime when the flowers bloom once again.

*Stephanie E. ~ El Paso, TX Chapter Newsletter (Reprinted from Tears To Hope Newsletter of the Amelia Center)*

**Yard Sale to Benefit TCF of Tyler**

**Our yard sale is scheduled to be held on April 18 and will be at the ETCL building on Hwy. 110 (next to Appearances).**

See Announcements on page 2 for details.

**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.*

“With the passing of years, I have learned that if I can hang on for just a little longer, these emotions—strong as they are—will pass and I can live again with the longing hidden deep inside my breast.” —*Shirley M.*

## 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.”

## Out of The Winter, Into Spring

In the dark of winter the skies are gray, the trees are bare, the grass is brown and all the world appears to be dead. Yet inside the branches of the barren trees are underneath the dormant grass, a silent happening is taking place. The seeds and juices of new life are moving within and underneath. It is a silent, slow process not seen with the eye until one day a tiny leaf bud appears on the tree branch and another and another. Little grass blades begin to emerge out of the brown and seemingly lifeless ground. Again and again the leaves appear and the grass grows and thickens and a new world has emerged. We see patches of beautiful flowers in variations of bright colors, the birds come and nest in the trees, butterflies flutter and we realize the miracle of a new season—Springtime. Out of the long cold winter, a transformation has occurred. A new world has happened. One that is fresh and full of promise of new life and miracle.

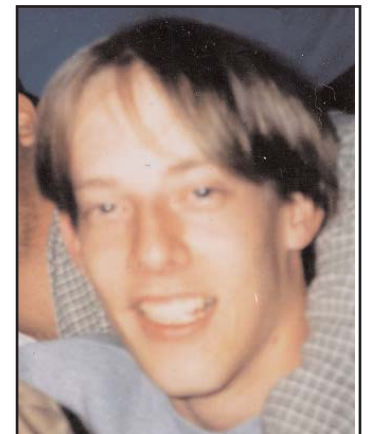
The grief process is much like this. We feel barren and alone. Our world is cold and gray and we do not feel alive inside. Yet all the while, the grief work taking place in each of us is a transforming process; new life is silently at work within our inner being bringing forth a new life as a new person in a new world. It is a world quite different than our old world, for we have survived through our suffering to our rebirth. No one ever said it would be easy. We cried. We hurt. We stumbled. We sometimes doubted and some of us cursed the darkness. Our grief season was long and hard but we told ourselves, “this too shall pass.” And so it did.

And finally the springtime of our soul was created. Darkness gave way to sunshine, the bitter cold gave way to warmth. Desolation gave way to hope and we let go and embraced the new season of our soul. A miracle has happened.

*Connie A. ~ TCF, Harvey County, KS*

[This month's printing of our newsletter sponsored by Victor & Margie Newman.](#)

**In honor & loving  
memory of  
Jeremy Newman  
4-15 ~ 1-10  
Son of Victor &  
Margie Newman**



[Call \(903\) 258-2547 to sponsor a monthly newsletter.](#)



*We need not walk alone.*

“As we got further into springtime, I found the right analogy for me is when the caterpillar left his cocoon to become a beautiful butterfly. This had to be the perfect analogy. I feel our children and siblings do not die, they have gone to a higher stage of development which is more than earth can offer. This is paramount in easing my pain about death.” —*Marie Hofmockel*

## Love Gifts



Sandra & Roger Perry in memory of Jeremy England

Lana Kaye Taylor in memory of Renee Seale

Beverly Weeks in memory of Bill Bouslog

Claudette Brown in memory of Terry

Phyllis & Dale in memory of Chad

Lisa Dunford in memory of Jonathan Sanders

Charles & Billie Bridges in memory of Cory Blackmon

Carol Thompson in memory of Sarah  
refreshments for the Tyler meeting

Janet Majors in memory of Melissa -  
refreshments for the assembly of the newsletter

Victor & Margie Newman in memory of Jeremy -  
sponsoring the April Newsletter

Sam Smith in memory of Stacey -  
use of his office for the Jacksonville meeting

Bridging The Gap Ministries -  
Tyler meeting location

David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy -  
use of a storage building

## Special Thanks!

Thanks to Don & Leslie Dixon for providing us with wooden butterflies for the release in memory of Austin.

Thanks to Carol Thompson and Cheri Zucca for providing public service announcements on behalf of TCF of Tyler. The PSAs will be broadcast on Gap Broadcasting stations. Also, thanks to Gap Broadcasting!

Thanks to the Olsen's for helping with the meeting we used to hold in Gun Barrel City.

Thanks to the following members who showed up to help assemble the February newsletter: Janet Majors, Carol Thompson, Charisse Smith, Tina Loper, Pat Settle

A special thanks to Claudette Brown, in memory of Terry Brown, for pledging a monthly donation. Claudette lives too far away to make it to the TCF meetings, but appreciates the newsletter and TCF events.

A special thanks to Dale & Phyllis Cavazos, in memory of Chad, for their regular donations to TCF of Tyler.

## Announcements

**Yard Sale Donations!** Our yard sale is scheduled to be held on April 18 and will be at the ETCL building on Hwy. 110 (next to Appearances). This sale is in conjunction with ETCL and proceeds will be shared. If you would like to help with, or donate items for this fundraiser, please contact us for drop off or pick up at (903) 258-2547. We especially need larger household items. Our share of the proceeds will help fund our Butterfly Release.

**Jacksonville TCF Meeting:** We are holding our first meeting on Tuesday, April 7, at 6:30 p.m. at Sam Smith's office, 1401 E. Rusk, Jacksonville. For more information, please call 903-258-2547 or email pdsettle@wmconnect.com or butterfly6@nctv.com.

**Steering Committee:** If you are interested in participating in our chapter by serving on the steering committee, please plan to attend a steering committee meeting in 2009. These are the remaining dates we will be meeting: April 13, July 13, Oct. 12 and Nov. 2. Call Pat Settle at (903) 570-8412 for more information.

**General Assembly:** Join us for the 4th Sunday of the month to assemble the newsletter and mail out cards. This is a nice time for fellowship while we help ourselves and others who have lost a child.

**Dave Maland will start a new GriefShare session** beginning Saturday, April 4th, running every Saturday through May 23rd, at 10 a.m. at First Christian Church, corner of Broadway and Loop 323. For further information or registration, contact Dave at 903-581-2524.

**We will be holding our 6th Annual Butterfly Release** on May 16 at the First Baptist Church South Campus. We are personalizing wood butterflies for an additional charge this year. If you want a butterfly designed specifically for your child, please let us know. Football, baseball, softball, cheerleading, dance, military, etc., are a few of the designs available. Personalized butterflies are \$20 and need to be paid for in advance. Live Monarch butterflies are available for \$10 each. You must place your order and prepay by May 10. If you are interested in donating refreshments this year, or would like to help with the set up, in honor and in loving memory of your child, please contact us at info@tylertcf.org, or call (903) 258-2547.

**Bonfire Sept. 26:** We will hold our 2nd Annual Bonfire at Carol Johnson's. Watch for details.

**Sam Smith and Scottie Garrison Performance:** Join us on Oct. 24th for music, dinner and fellowship. Donations are appreciated. More details to come.

**Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony Dec. 13:** Please consider volunteering this year.





*We need not walk alone.*

"Grief over the death of a child is the hardest work that most of us will ever do. While we all wish for the pain to stop, we need to remember that we grieve intensely because we loved intensely. It is unrealistic to expect that grief to ever totally go away, because the love we have for our child will never go away. Our grief is an act of love and is nothing for which we should be ashamed." —*Elaine Grier*

### April Birthdays



**Matthew Thomas Crooks**  
4-17 ~ 12-24  
Son of Sylvia Crooks



**Jarren Moser**  
4-28 ~ 5-31  
Son of  
Robert & Misty Hendrickson



**Jeremy Newman**  
4-15 ~ 1-10  
Son of Victor & Margie Newman



**Timothy Treadwell**  
4-1 ~ 11-23  
Son of Tammy Treadwell



**Christopher Loper**  
4-28 ~ 12-21  
Son of Tina Loper



**John Patrick Carnahan**  
4-17 ~ 10-13  
Son of Rod & Shirley Carnahan



**Brady Bryant**  
4-30 ~ 5-2  
Son of Windy & Bradley Bryant



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



**Tim Cole**  
4-15 ~ 9-15  
Son of Mary Miller



**Kaila McKinsey Payne**  
4-6 ~ 5-28  
Daughter of Keith Payne



**Ricky Edmiston**  
4-26 ~ 6-29  
Son of  
Woody & Barbara Edmiston



**James Lee Lary, II**  
4-20 ~ 10-30  
Son of  
Elgin L. Lary, Sr. & Ann Lary



**Cheryl Cook**  
4-25 ~ 12-10  
Daughter of  
Connie Graebner



**Kathy Robertson**  
4-23 ~ 10-23  
Daughter of  
Carolyn Love



**Margie Starkey**  
4-30 ~ 12-3  
Daughter of Betty Abbie



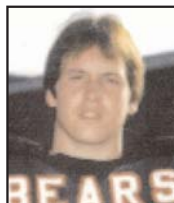
**Russell McGilvray**  
4-15 ~ 4-29  
Son of  
Fran McGilvray



**Deanna Holcomb**  
3-31 ~ 4-19  
Daughter of  
Pat Smith



**Allen Price**  
4-11 ~ 3-29  
Son of  
Deborah & Floyd Holcomb



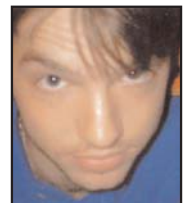
**Christopher Baggett**  
4-23 ~ 1-8  
Son of Anita Demby



**Joe Maland**  
4-2 ~ 8-17  
Son of MaryAnn Girard  
Son of Dave & Jeanelle Maland



**Jeremy Kersh**  
4-30 ~ 3-25  
Son of  
Brad & Debbie Kersh



**Joshua Walker**  
4-29 ~ 6-25  
Son of Crystal Walker





*We need not walk alone.*

"I have learned two lessons in my life: first, there are no sufficient literary, psychological or historical answers to human tragedy, only moral ones. Second, just as despair can come to one another only from other human beings, hope, too, can be given to one only by other human beings." —*Elie Wiesel*

### April Anniversaries



**Sarah Harvey**  
12-12 ~ 4-26  
Daughter of  
Brian Harvey & Lisa Kirley



**Jill Tompkins**  
11-3 ~ 4-24  
Daughter of Karen Tompkins



**Stephanie Carol Hester**  
5-9 ~ 4-2  
Daughter of  
Troy & Glenna Nicolls



**Bobby Knott**  
11-6 ~ 4-24  
Son of  
Bobby & Virginia Knott



**Shane McDade**  
2-17 ~ 4-12  
Son of Lajeania Culligan



**Jeremy Mark Lawler**  
10-25 ~ 4-19  
Son of Mark & Sue Lawler



**Chad Cavazos**  
9-24 ~ 4-20  
Son of Phyllis & Dale Cavazos



**Kody Maner**  
02-10 ~ 04-16  
Son of Lauri Maner



**Quinn Martin Muirhead**  
8-12 ~ 4-30  
Son of Alice Fiedler



**Christal Murphy**  
8-14 ~ 4-22  
Daughter of Debbie Johnson



**Deanna Holcomb**  
3-31 ~ 4-19  
Daughter of Pat Smith



**Joshua Carl Tucker**  
5-17 ~ 4-15  
Son of Judy C. Googins



**Lindsey Stewart**  
11-6 ~ 4-2  
Daughter of Stephanie Stewart



**Ron Mitchum**  
8-3 ~ 4-15  
Son of Glenda Mitchum



**Russell McGilvray**  
4-15 ~ 4-29  
Son of Fran McGilvray



**Jamye Marie Crawford**  
3-10 ~ 4-12  
Daughter of  
Judy & Robbie Crawford



**Zackery Browne**  
12-14 ~ 4-13  
Son of  
Tim & Kay Browne



**Heath Hopson**  
12-8 ~ 4-23  
Son of Karen Hopson



**Ashley Allison**  
8-3 ~ 4-12  
Daughter of  
Roger & Robin Allison



**Shanette Bland**  
8-9 ~ 4-29  
Daughter of  
Clarence Thomas





*We need not walk alone.*

“We want to let them lean on us in their time of pain, just as we had others before us who let us lean on them. It does come full circle.” —*Jackie W.*

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## For Grandparents: Grandparent Grief

For Bereaved Grandparents (an excerpt), by Margaret H. Gerner, MSW—The Forum, Jan-Mar '03

I am powerlessness. I am helplessness. I am frustration.  
I sit with her and I cry with her.  
She cries for her daughter and I cry for mine.  
I can't help her.  
I can't reach inside her and take her broken heart.  
I must watch her suffer day after day.  
I listen to her tell me over and over how she misses Emily, how she wants her back.  
I can't bring Emily back for her.  
I can't buy her an even better Emily than she had,  
Like I could buy her an even better toy when she was a child.  
I can't kiss the hurt and make it go away.  
I can't even kiss a small part of it away.  
There's no band-aid large enough to cover her bleeding heart.  
There was a time I could listen to her talk about a fickle boyfriend  
And tell her it would be okay, and know in my heart  
That in two weeks she wouldn't even think of him.  
Can I tell her it'll be okay in two years when I know it will be okay,  
That she will carry this pain of "what might have been"  
In her deepest heart for the rest of her life?  
I see this young woman, my child, who was once carefree  
And fun-loving and bubbling with life,  
Slumped in a chair with her eyes full of agony.  
Where is my power now? Where is my mother's bag of tricks that will make it all better?  
Why can't I join her in the aloneness of her grief?  
As tight as my arms wrap around her, I can't reach that aloneness.  
What can I give her to make her better?  
A cold, wet cloth will ease the swelling of her crying eyes, but it won't stop the reason for her tears.  
What treat will bring joy back to her? What prize will bring that happy child back?  
Where are the magic words to give her comfort? What chapter in Dr. Spock tells me how to do this?  
He has told me everything else I've needed to know. Where are the answers? I should have them. I'm the mother.  
I know that someday she'll find happiness again, that her life will have meaning again.  
I can hold out hope for her someday, but what about now? This minute? This hour? This day?  
I can give her my love and my prayers and my care and my concern. I could give her my life. But even that won't help.



## After The First Year

After the first year; the pain changes from a crushing weight to a wickedly sharp cutting edge. Time speeds up from a grinding plodding to a more normal routine. And sometimes you can forget, for a moment that your whole life was destroyed last year. After the first year; you start to remember the good times, and you can tell a funny story about your child and save the crying for later. But sometimes it seems like you're the only one left who mourns. "What's the matter with you anyway; it's been a whole year." After the first year; your child seems a little closer and yet still so far away. Miracle of miracles, you haven't forgotten how he walks, her voice, the shape of his head, or the solid warmth of her finger curving around yours. After the first year; your heart begins to thaw. You remember that you once loved your surviving children and you love them again. You remember that life use to hold joy, and you rediscover some small enjoyment in living. You learn to piece your life back together in a different pattern. After the first year; you pick up your burdens and go on. Amazingly, you've survived a blow more painful than anything you ever imagined. Even though you wished you could have died too, it slowly dawns on you that you must still live. Because after the first year, comes the second year.

*Liz Ford ~ TCF, Madison, WI*





*We need not walk alone.*

“Memories are good to have, to share and keep in my heart; just knowing that you’re still inside makes sure we’ll never part.” —*Collette Covington*

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## **So You Think You’re Losing Your Mind?**

By Mary C., Atlanta, GA

### **Because you need to go to the cemetery every day?**

There may be members of your family, or some friends or neighbors, who will imply that going to the cemetery every day is morbid and perpetuates your grief. Don't you believe them. What they don't understand is that we cry and think of our dead child whether we go to the cemetery or not. It comforts some to go every day, some only feel a need to go now and then, and still others never return to the cemetery after the funeral. How often you go has nothing to do with the intensity of your grief, it is just another example of how differently we all react. You know how you feel, and that is what is really important. As you recover, you may find the need to visit your child's grave site is diminished. As this happens, don't be hesitant to make changes in your routine without guilt. Do what you need to do and don't worry how it may appear to someone else.

### **Because you can't look at your child's pictures yet?**

This is one area where there doesn't seem to be a middle ground; either you take great comfort in having pictures surrounding you, or you don't want any on display at all. There is nothing wrong with either reaction. If pictures are a problem for you, time may be the answer. A few special pictures may then offer comfort. Trouble may arise when there are conflicting needs within a family. It is important that a parent who needs the pictures on display understands that those same pictures cause pain for another. It in no way connotes not caring or wanting to forget. It is, rather, just the opposite; the pain is there because there is so much love and caring. Try to be flexible in those areas of direct conflict.

### **Because you keep seeing someone who reminds you of your child?**

Well, many of us do. You may even find yourself following along behind—just to make sure! The impulse may be to take them home with you. It may be all a part of denial process, but I suspect it is just because we miss them so much.

### **Because you find yourself thinking that it would be easier to join your child in death than to go through the pain of living without them?**

We often hear this from lots of bereaved parents. They get so tired of the hurt. It frightens the parents that they are entertaining suicidal thoughts, but it must be a normal reaction for some to consider this as an alternative. Many parents, as they talk, are quick to agree that they are too responsible to really consider this as an answer. There are people who love and need them. They realize they could not purposefully put someone they love through the very hell they are seeking to escape. They are able to realize that it is not an answer.

### **Because you find yourself going over and over in your mind what you imagine your child felt or thought as they faced death?**

This seems to be a particularly bad problem for those whose children died accidentally or as a result of suicide or murder. You may feel it is almost a compulsion at times to try and picture and imagine the thoughts and feelings your child may have had. It really is a universal problem and you may have more trouble putting this one aside. You will, as a rule, get better about it and later on it will not occupy your thoughts as much as in the beginning. It is normal. Some find it helpful to find out from anyone connected, or who may have witnessed the death, as much information as possible. Others have no desire to know the details. It is an old story, but we all do it differently and the way that fills your need is right for you. Just know that it is normal to have it on your mind.

### **Because you find yourself reading the obituaries since your child died — searching for names and ages of others who have died too young?**

Well, if this is a sign you are losing your mind, you have lots of company. Some are drawn to the obituaries. Is it because we seek to know that we are not alone in this seemingly endless maze? That there are others out there who know the horror of losing a child and we need to identify with them? Not everybody has this need, but many do. It may be bothersome to your spouse because they may feel it is a sign of abnormal grief and is morbid. It isn't for some. You may do it for a time but eventually most people stop having the need. Don't worry about it.





*We need not walk alone.*

“We wish you the gift of flight, like the butterfly, whenever the time is right for you. We wish you the lifting of grief, with time, and the filling of your wings.”

—Mary Austin

## **Fleeting Pictures**

Fleeting pictures cross my mind  
Your smile imprinted on my heart  
So very long since I heard your voice...  
You would be 21 today.

What would you do, where would we celebrate?  
The early piercing agony of losing you is different  
Replaced by a yearning so deep, and a longing so strong  
To hold you in my arms,  
Cradle your head on my chest  
And whisper  
“Happy birthday my darlin',  
I miss you.”

Benjamin , March 1

*Charisse Smith ~ TCF, Tyler, TX*

## **Acceptance**

by Gwen Flowers

It isn't letting go. It's going on.  
It isn't only shadows, and it isn't only dawn.  
It isn't getting through it, it's letting it come through me.  
Not living in the darkness, though the darkness I can see.  
It's living with the sorrow but finding memories sweet.  
It's knowing that it takes both sides to make it all complete.  
It's soaking up the sunshine along with the rain.  
It's learning to let laughter live side by side with pain.  
It's knowing that the years won't change a love that's real.  
Or take away the joy you brought, or the sorrow that I feel.  
It's knowing tears and laughter can live on the same face.  
And your impression in my heart can never be erased.

## **You Think**

You think it won't happen to you, but it does.  
You think your life could never be this way, but it is.  
You think you should have recognized  
that he was dying, but you didn't.  
You think your grief is so huge  
that you'll forget to breathe, but you don't.  
You think the sun will forget to come up, but it doesn't.  
You think the tears will stop coming, but they don't.  
You think you can't handle the pain, but you do.  
You think you'll lose hope, but you don't.  
You think you'll never be happy again, but you will.  
You think you'll be alone forever, but you won't.  
You think that you'll never laugh again, but you do.  
You think you can't live without them, but you learn how.

*Angelia K. ~ TCF Chapter, Seattle, King County*

## **If I had one wish**

If I had a wish, or two or three  
they would have to be wishes  
I would have to see  
come from deep  
deep in my soul,  
the depths of which  
only one I have told.

My first wish I know would be  
for God to allow a visit to me  
from my daughter, my angel  
from heaven above  
my girl who was taken  
but was so full of love.

She has a little boy  
my grandson you see  
he mourns for her so  
but lets few people see  
So young and so brave  
he goes day to day  
but at night as he slumbers  
he whimpers away

I hear him and my heart breaks  
for nobody knows  
how much pain he shows  
Not even to himself would he show  
such emotion  
such pride and independence  
does he have,  
my grandson.

So my wish would be one, two or three  
for a visit from her to my daughter,  
grandson and me.

I miss you very much—Love Mom

*Lovingly submitted by Michele L.  
in memory of her daughter, Kristen*

## **Renewal**

In the first warm days of springtime when the winter chill is through, each waking thought and closing prayer begins and ends with you. Like the daffodil and crocus that survive the bitter snow, my soul is gently lifted up and is warmed by sunlight's glow. It's a time of fresh renewal, a beginning, not an end. And, oh how much I miss you, my daughter and my friend. So I'll take the warmth of springtime and hold it close to me, to help me through the winter storms till your face once more I'll see.

*Priscilla Kenney TCF, Northshore/Boston, MA*



# The Compassionate Friends of Tyler

P.O. Box 9714  
Tyler, TX 75711

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

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

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Death Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cause of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check any of following that apply.

Please continue sending the newsletter.

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

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

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

I am enclosing a memorial to support The Compassionate Friends in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make check payable to TCF

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

## Please use this gift for:

TCF Newsletter  Butterfly Release  Candle Lighting  TCF Events  Other \_\_\_\_\_

The continuation of this chapter's work depends on donations. If you have not taken the opportunity to give a donation in memory of your child please consider taking this time to give a gift that will help reach out to other newly bereaved parents.

We must have your written permission on file to use your child's name and/or picture in the newsletter, Web site, Candle Lighting Ceremony or any other TCF event. Permission may be withdrawn at any time by written request. This information is used to maintain our Chapter Database. It is confidential and is only utilized for Chapter activities such as the newsletter.

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

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



**"I don't think you ever stop giving. I really don't. I think it's an on-going process. And it's not just about being able to write a check. It's being able to touch somebody's life." —Oprah Winfrey**



# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

P.O. Box 9714  
Tyler, Texas 75711



*We need not walk alone.*



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