



**Monthly Group Meeting**

**Tyler Area Meeting**

Tuesday, August 19, 6:30 p.m.  
707 W. Houston St., Tyler

**Athens Area Meeting**

198 & Manning St., Gun Barrel City  
Tuesday, August 5, 6:30 p.m.

**Contact**

Phone: (903) 258-2547

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

Chapter Leader .....Tina Loper

Chapter Co-Leader.....Pat Settle

Newsletter/Web Site .....Mary Lingle

**Steering Committee:**

Tina Loper, Pat Settle, Sam Smith,

Mary Ann Girard, Carol Johnson,

Carol Thompson, Patricia Miller,

David & Teresa Terrell,

Charisse Smith, Mary Lingle

Jim & Karen Roach, Regional  
Coordinators, (817) 244-0116

TCF National: (877) 969-0010  
www.compassionatefriends.org

**The Meeting Agenda**

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

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

**In This Issue...**

Welcome .....	2
Grief & Vacation Time .....	2
For Austin .....	2
Love Gifts/Announcements .....	3
Birthdays .....	4
The Day the Earth Stopped Spinning ....	4
Anniversaries .....	5
I Won't 'Should' on Myself .....	5
Summer Memories .....	6
Grief is Like a Jigsaw Puzzle.....	6
The Gate to Tomorrow .....	7
Starting Over Again.....	7
Poems .....	8

**Summer Time, Vacation Time, Family Time**

I'll bet you never dreamed that there would ever be a time in your life when you would not welcome vacation from work...and the day-to-day hassles of routine living. It's probably a shocker to you that the slow pace of summer, cookouts, softball games, etc., are now a nightmare. Everywhere we go, there are kids out of school enjoying their leisure time, and our bodies jolt as we search for our own absent child who enjoyed this time of the year with a passion!

Surrounded by summer fun, a bereaved parent needs only look around and there are painful memories at every corner. When we are faced with all the living, loving happy families with their children, the anger boils within and we feel very cheated. And this year we are afraid to go back to the beach cottage we've visited every year, or to the favorite mountain retreat where we laid around for a week and relaxed, or the amusement park where the kids had to ride every ride and see every attraction, no matter what the temperature was. Yes, fear of our memories, fear of too much time to think, fear of too many kids, fear of bursting inside from our pain...all of these feelings are part of the first few years of summer vacations for bereaved parents.

It's been nine years now for me, and I need to tell you that it will get easier, but I found that for the first few years I needed to consciously change some of my routines in order to deal with my fears. I could not visit the same places we had visited when Todd was with us. We tried new experiences in new places with new people. That isn't to say there weren't some down-times; however, the faster paced vacations worked better for us. I could not allow myself too much time to think. I enjoy those weekends away now, but for the first few summers I had to dig in the yard, repaint lawn furniture, rearrange the garage, and the multitude of busy projects we'd been putting off for the lack of time. That was a better vacation for me than forcing myself to go somewhere and feel miserable.

You've read it a hundred different times, you have to find your own way and your own peace—leave yourself room to escape if it becomes necessary. If you can find any enjoyment and relaxation, relish it...you deserve it, and it does not mean you don't care. It simply means you are healing Now I walk down the beach and enjoy the solitude, or laugh when I see a toddler, or listen to the joy of kids laughing, and it warms my heart. Yes I miss him, but I know he enjoyed every minute of this season, and I know that's what he'd want for me...and thank God, I can do it once more!

**Reflections in Sand & Time**

I looked across the lake, then onto the sand, wishing I was still standing there holding your small hand. Sand castles, buckets and shovels flashed into my mind, as I remembered all those precious memories you left behind. Tiny footprints took me many, many years back in time, but of those I looked at—yours I couldn't find. But as I stood there going so far back in the sand, I almost could feel you holding my hand.

*Linda T. ~ TCF, York, PA*

**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.*

“Why not ask me? I hear it again and again, one friend asked another how I've been. How hard, really, would it be to pick up the phone and just ask me?”  
—Genessee Bourdeau Gentry

## 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 (always the third Tuesday 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 & Vacation Time

Vacation time, like holidays, can be especially painful for bereaved parents. Vacations, especially the “take it easy” kind which release the mind to think, are sometimes very hard. For the few years, you may find fast-paced vacations to be best. Places you have never been before, new experiences, new places, new people may refresh you and prepare you to pick up your grief work when you return. Our memories do travel with us, but somehow they seem less painful than at home. Remember to allow enough time for rest—an exhausted body will often lead to depression.

Some couples have even found an occasional separate vacation or weekend to be helpful. Allow space, since you are not grieving at the same rate. When you go alone, you do not take your mate’s memories, only your own. It can be a time of sorting out and straightening priorities. The bottom line is, you must find your own way. Don’t be afraid of change.

*Leona D. ~ TCF, Amarillo, TX*

## For Austin

It has been five years  
and I still can't watch videos of you,

Your Mom cries herself to sleep every night  
and she thinks I don't know.  
But I cry in the car when I'm alone and people can't see.

Why did you leave us alone in this place two, not three?  
You were our miracle child after so may losses.  
Our hopes were so high, did you start to despair?

We wish every day that you were still here,  
Our heart wants only to see you again,  
living over your last day with our each living breath.

*Bill Wilson ~ TCF, Glendale, AZ*

**This month's printing of our newsletter sponsored by Jim & Linda Crawford.**

**In loving memory  
of Jared Sheets  
5-14-87 ~ 9-27-05**

**Jim & Linda Crawford,  
Grandparents**



**Call (903) 258-2547 to sponsor a monthly newsletter.**



*We need not walk alone.*

“We have many relationships in our lives, but the unique nature of the parent-child relationship is so special, so deep, so life changing, that we endure and even embrace the pain because we had, for that time in our lives, a relationship of pure love and pure joy with our child.” —Annette Mennen Baldwin

## Love Gifts



Regina Taylor in memory of Renee Seale

Janet & Greg Majors in memory of Melissa

Dale & Phyliss Cavazos in memory of Chad

Tim Minatrea in memory of Tosha

Dan & Cece Brotton in memory of Missy Rogers

Claudette Brown in memory of Terry

Gail Voyles in memory of Cason Gimble

Richard & Jolyn Harris in memory of Brian

Jim & Linda Crawford in memory of Jared Sheets -  
August newsletter sponsor

Jerry & Judy Olson in memory of Kim Pryor -  
refreshments & meeting place for the Athen's meeting

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

College-Bound Solutions for allowing TCF of Tyler  
to use their facilities as our meeting place -  
in memory of Nathaniel Peter Bolom

## Special Thanks!

**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.**

## Newsletter Submissions

TCF Tyler welcomes all submissions to our newsletter. Send articles, poetry, love messages and scanned photos to:

TCF Tyler • 5401 Hollytree Drive, 1204 • Tyler, Texas 75703  
Or e-mail text and photos to: [info@TylerTCF.org](mailto:info@TylerTCF.org)

We reserve the right to edit for space and/or content. Deadline for submissions is the 5th day 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: Please notify us if any of your information is incorrect.

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

## Announcements

**BSCENE Magazine highlights TCF of Tyler:** Thanks to Veronica Terres, Sr. Associate Editor of *BSCENE Magazine*, for furthering TCF of Tyler's awareness in our communities, with an article in their July/August 2008 edition. Look for the article, You Need Not Walk Alone; Just Cause. *BSCENE Magazine*, a free publication, is available at area businesses and may be viewed online at [www.bsccenemag.com](http://www.bsccenemag.com).

**Athen's Area Meeting:** The Tyler TCF meeting is held in the Athen's area the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. **Directions:** The church is located on 198 and Manning Street, Mabank, TX, near Gun Barrel City. On Manning street you can only turn one way. There is also an Eye Center on the corner. You will see the church behind the liquor store and there is an Italian restaurant across the street from where you turn. If you need directions or would like to carpool to the meeting, call Pat at (903) 570-8412 or the TCF cellphone at (903) 258-2547.

**Yard Sale Donations!** If you would like to help with, or donate items for our fundraising yard sale, please contact us for drop off or pick up at (903) 258-2547. We especially need larger household items, volunteers to take on this project, and suggestions for a good location.

**Email Addresses:** If we do not have your email address or it has changed, please email it to Tina or Pat so that we may email you announcements and updates about TCF of Tyler. Tina's email: [butterfly6@nctv.com](mailto:butterfly6@nctv.com) ~ Pat's email: [pdsettle@wmconnect.com](mailto:pdsettle@wmconnect.com)

**Bonfire September 27, 2008:** We will have a bonfire at Carol Johnson's home in September. More details to come.

**Our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony is Dec. 14, 2008** and will be held at the New Life Worship Center on Hwy. 69. Please consider volunteering to help read a poem, set up the stage, coordinate volunteers, etc.

**Sponsor a Newsletter!** If you would like to sponsor a monthly newsletter by contributing funds, or by copying at your business or organization, please call (903) 258-2547. Businesses, church groups, organizations or individuals are welcome. We will highlight your sponsorship with an ad or photo and text.

**Thank you for your generous donations to TCF of Tyler. These 'love gifts' allow us to provide our local chapter with special events, the TCF Newsletter, our Web site and more!**







*We need not walk alone.*

"It is okay to be angry, and it is important to express, not suppress, anger. Suppressed anger can result in deep depression. It is also all right to be angry with God. He is forgiving and understands our emotions. He would rather have us be angry with Him than shut Him out." —Penny A. Blaze

### August Birthdays



**Brennen Applegate**  
8-10-69 ~ 1-22-01

Son of C.R. & Kathryn Applegate



**Gena Forest**  
8-22-62 ~ 12-9-98

Daughter of Joice Bass



**Rowdy Cunningham**  
8-10-02 ~ 3-7-08

Son of  
Peggy Cunningham



**Melissa Elaine Majors**  
7-14-80 ~ 5-8-08

Daughter of Janet Majors



**Crystal Greene**  
8-6-82 ~ 11-13-01

Niece of Audrey & Claude Mapps



**Tosha Nichole Minatrea**  
8-11-82 ~ 12-30-99

Daughter of Tim Minatrea



**Ron Mitchum**  
8-3-70 ~ 4-15-00

Son of Glenda Mitchum



**Christal Murphy**  
8-14-72 ~ 4-22-03

Daughter of Debbie Johnson



**Scottie Baker**  
8-3-86 ~ 11-29-04

Son of Steve Baker  
Son of Julie Baker



**Quinn Martin Muirhead**  
8-12-82 ~ 4-30-05

Son of Alice Fiedler



**Lori Campbell**  
8-27-78 ~ 2-28-00

Daughter of Pam Johnson



**Calan Cameron Decker  
McKeethan**  
8-10-00 ~ 11-29-01

Son of Mary Decker

Editor's Note: We missed Melissa's photo in the July newsletter.

### The Day the Earth Stopped Spinning

When I lost my child, the earth ceased to spin. The moon will not rise, the tide won't come in. The sun insists on having its way, Blasting its rays and rising each day. Another day comes, my child is not here; Another day comes, I live my worst fear.

Each morning I wake with the same painful thought; Why am I here when my sweet child is not? All moments that pass, I question this fate; While other lives carry on, I sit and I wait.

I wait for an answer, for some reason why... Praying for it to be me that could die. Through my sorrow and grief, I have made a life choice; To keep my son's memory alive and give him a voice.

I share stories of my son, and the man he would be; A boy who lived life and was a hero to me. Who would grow up and make the world a better place. Who would save the seas and the oceans from the human race.

When I lost my child, the earth ceased to spin. But the moon still must rise and the tide must come in. And since the sun insists on having its way, I will live in my child's memory each and every day.

*Kim Turner in memory of Matthew Beard, 1/20/85 – 12/29/06*

**We have a special birthday basket at our meetings for members to choose an item during the month of their child's birthday.**



*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

### August Anniversaries



**Michael Holdway**  
6-18-52 ~ 8-3-93

Spouse of Kathy Dowdy Holdway



**Justin Dover**  
9-14-89 ~ 8-15-02  
Son of Stacey Dover



**Austin Hague Cheek**  
9-2-87 ~ 8-3-07  
Son of Tracey Bales

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



**Jill Marie Rozell**  
3-14-84 ~ 8-2-02  
Daughter of Peggy & Terry Rozell



**Shannon Scheffler**  
12-21-70 ~ 8-22-03  
Daughter of Dolly Mobley

### I Won't 'Should' on Myself

SHOULD—I will not SHOULD on myself today! I won't let others SHOULD on me today either! Immediately after my daughter Julie, died, I was bombarded on all sides with lots of SHOULD!

"You SHOULD keep a stiff upper lip and be strong for the rest of the family."

"You SHOULD not dwell on it."

"You SHOULD just accept it as God's will. He knows best. You SHOULD not cry about it."

"Julie left a 22 month-old daughter. You SHOULD live for Autumn."

"You have three other children. You SHOULD live for them."

"You SHOULD not keep her paintings and photographs out in plain sight as a constant reminder."

"Above all, you SHOULD keep busy. If you kept as busy as I do, you wouldn't have any trouble sleeping. You SHOULD work in the yard, work in the garden, work in the house, but keep busy!"

"You SHOULD go back to work."

"It was fate. It was supposed to happen. You SHOULD just accept her death and try to forget about it."

"There are many deaths everyday. You SHOULD think about all the people killed in wars, earthquakes, floods, airplane crashes, and all kinds of natural disasters and accidents."

"You SHOULD think about Rose Kennedy, who has lost three sons. And Anne Lindberg, whose baby son was kidnapped and murdered. They survived."

"You SHOULD not say such things; you SHOULD not even think them."



**Joe Maland**  
4-2-83 ~ 8-17-05  
Son of Mary Ann Girard  
Son of Dave & Jeanelle Maland



**Cathy Key**  
3-26 ~ 8-19-05  
Daughter of Cindy Murray



**Jaime Arellano, Jr.**  
7-31-92 ~ 8-27-05  
Son of Marie Arellano



**Tiffany LeAnn Tanner**  
12-2-94 ~ 8-24-05  
Daughter of Kathy LeAnn Tanner



**Boston Kade Porter**  
5-27-05 ~ 8-12-06  
Son of Kim Porter



**Erik Scott McKinney**  
11-26-86 ~ 8-16-06  
Daughter of Kathy McKinney

*by Jean Corley Lacy*



*We need not walk alone.*

“Those who weep recover more quickly than those who smile.” —*Jean Giraudoux*

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## Summer Memories

Summertime is a happy time for most people in this country: vacations, holidays, family reunions, relaxed days at the pool, evenings in the backyard talking with family and friends, the smell of a fresh rain, the long days, the cooling nights, fresh mown grass and flowers that bloom profusely.

Despite Houston's heat, summer has become a treasured time for me. My son was a child of summer. Born in May, he loved the summer sun on his face and the wind in his hair as he first rode a tricycle, then a bicycle, then drove a car. Those were wonderful times for him. The summer solstice on June 21 was a favorite day for us both. Since the summer solstice is the longest day of the year, Todd particularly loved to watch the sunrise and sunset. I found myself doing that again this year. As I looked at the sun directly overhead at noon (1:00 pm DST), I made the comment that this is the one perfectly balanced day of the year. Later as I watched a beautiful solstice sunset, I remarked to my husband about the light...the gorgeous light. I was seeing Todd in that light. He was laughing, chasing lightening bugs, running and spinning and turning, filled with the joy of summer. He was happy.

I listened to the neighbors' children playing, and I thought about all the wonderful summer days I had spent with my son. I am thankful that I had that time. I am thankful that my child was a son of summer. He found much joy in nature, in the outdoors, in activities that took him out of the ordinary and into the sublime.

That's how it is for bereaved parents. We eventually come to a place where we realize that our joyful memories have overtaken the pain of the loss of our child to death. We wouldn't trade the time we shared with our children for anything or any other experience. We have many relationships in our lives, but the unique nature of the parent-child relationship is so special, so deep, so life changing, that we endure and even embrace the pain because we had, for that time in our lives, a relationship of pure love and pure joy with our child. There is no way to measure the depth, width or volume of a parent's love. It exceeds every other human relationship. Yes, we miss them terribly. We weep silently into our pillows at night. We light candles, take flowers to the cemetery, wear their favorite colors, treasure pictures of our children and keep them forever in our hearts. This is a big part of life for every bereaved parent.

Somehow, on the summer solstice, I felt my child's presence in the light of the day and the beautiful rose color of the solstice sunset. I could hear his voice, see his smile and feel his emotions. Peace slips into our hearts in extraordinary ways.

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

## Grief is Like a Jigsaw Puzzle

Grief is a smorgasbord where you go down the line picking a little of this and a little of that.

Grief is like a jigsaw puzzle, some people get all the edge pieces together first and work from the outside in. Others dump everything out on the table at once and dive right into the middle. Some never open the box at all, they just look at the picture on the lid and wonder why what's inside doesn't match or make sense.

You meet a lot of people when you start a jigsaw puzzle. Some are full of advice, or they may try to make the puzzle look the way it ought to be instead of the way it is.

But, once in a while, you meet someone who shares their own finished puzzle and helps you make sense of yours. Then you find it is not as hard as before. Some of the pieces fit together more easily, and you sigh with relief—and remember.

*From Suicide Bereavement Support, SW Washington & NW Oregon, July 1998*





*We need not walk alone.*

“Eventually we can relive our memories with real joy, grateful for them and even more appreciative of the time we had together. If you are in the midst of painful memories at the moment, take heart that it will not always be so.”  
—*Shirley Ottman*

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## The Gate to Tomorrow

There is a gate that each of us has unknowingly passed through. This gate opens only one way...once we have passed through this gate we cannot return to the other side. Each of us stepped through the gate at a different time and in a different way. This gate opens to the world of parents whose children have died; it is their gate to every tomorrow.

There is no other place that compares with life in this world beyond the gate; there is no sorrow like the sorrow inside the gate. The numbing pain and perpetual agony we experience when first stepping through this gate are so overwhelming that we often don't immediately realize that there will be no return. But we will never return to life before the gate.

The new world inside the gate is populated with friends who are strangers and strangers who are friends.

Our perspective on life has changed forever. Few of our friends from life before the gate will linger with us now; these people are now the strangers. Our pain is all encompassing; they have lives to live, things to do, plans to make, happiness to capture. We are no longer part of their picture. Rare is the friend who stands by us inside the gate...stands by us until one of us dies and leaves the world inside the gate.

The strangers who are now friends live inside the gate with us. Some have just come through the gate; others have been here a long, long time. But these strangers who are now friends share our experience; they understand our need to talk about our children, each life and each death. They applaud our tiny advances toward acceptance and serenity and peace. Although we can never go back to life before the gate, we now have our compassionate friends...once strangers but now kindred souls who share our lives and our world.

Life will not be the same again, yet life can be good again. Inside the gate we will each find ourselves with the help of our compassionate friends. They know our child's name better than they know our name. And that's how we want it to be... remember our children.

Remember with us.

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

## Starting Over Again

As parents, how many times have we told our children to try, try again? "You can do it, just start over," we'd say, be it a coloring book not kept within the lines, learning to tie shoes, school assignments, or later, other difficulties that life brings.

Little did we think that this well-meaning advice we gave out of love for our children's well-being would be the words that we must follow. Hang on. Don't give up. Try again, and start over. All this now applies to us. Had the situation been reversed, we would not have wanted our children to live out the rest of their lives in pain, and unable to go on. We would have wanted them to continue, not in constant sorrow, but with hope for renewal and better days ahead.

As we have said to them—they would be throwing it right back to us—it is a hard road that you must travel, but you can do it. What you wanted for me, I want for you. Do what you have to, to find your way out of the dark tunnel, and when you fail, pick yourself up and start over again. You can do it. What we wanted for our children is no less than they would want for us. If we could hear them, right now, they would be saying: LIVE, for life is not a moment. LOVE, for that is what really matters. GO ON, for we shall be together again, someday.

*Mary Ann L. ~ TCF, Gloucester County, NJ*







*We need not walk alone.*

"The bottom line is that we are not invincible or perfect; we are only human. We did the best that we could with what we had to deal with at the time. Our children know this; they love and forgive us for our own humanness and associated imperfections, and I believe would want us to forgive ourselves as well."  
—Cathy L. Seehuetter

## To My Sister

Today was one of those days, a day without you.  
When you're gone the clouds turn the sky gray.

I cried and cried until dawn, because you weren't there to  
catch them, my tears ran dry.  
It's just not fair i need you here, why did you have to die?

I am just a teenage girl in a teenage world, just a girl who  
needs you in her world.  
But instead of finding you when i needed you i found you on  
the floor, gone forevermore.

After 3 years without a sister, I had a nightmare.  
You told me not to be sad, but its not fair it makes me mad.  
Make-up, lies, boys, all the way to the drama, been there  
done that is what you would say.

So I wait, and i try, but i confess like a child,  
I need you here, i need you now.



So have fun with your wings, just  
remember after three years it still stings.  
*Stormie Thoene, in memory of Erica Smith  
TCF, Tyler, TX*

## Gone Too Soon

Like a comet blazing across the evening sky,  
Gone too soon.

Like a rainbow fading in the twinkling of an eye,  
Gone too soon.

Shiny and sparkly and splendidly bright...  
Here one day, Gone one night.

Like the loss of sunshine on a cloudy afternoon,  
Gone too soon.

Like a castle built on a sandy beach,  
Gone too soon.

Like a perfect flower that is just beyond your reach,  
Gone too soon.

Born to amuse, to inspire, to delight....  
Here one day, Gone one night.

Like a sunset dying with the rising of the moon,  
Gone too soon...Gone too soon.

*From Suicide Bereavement Support,  
SW Washington & NW Oregon, July 1998*

## Love's Lasting Touch

Don't weep for me when I'm gone,  
Because I'll always be there.  
My spirit will exist in all the earth,  
In the water, trees, and air.

You'll hear me say, "I love you,"  
In the whisper of a breeze.  
You'll know that I'm beside you,  
With the rustling of the leaves.

You'll feel my arms caress you,  
In the warmth of each sunrise.  
The moon will be my goodnight kiss,  
The stars my watchful eyes.

Your life will be my legacy,  
Your memories my epitaph.  
These ties will bind us together,  
Till we meet on heaven's path.

I'll not ever desert you,  
We'll never be far apart.  
I'll live within you always,  
Nestled deep inside your heart.

*Jacquelyn M. Comeaux  
©1994 Reprinted by permission of author  
In Loving Memory of My Angels...  
Michelle, Jerry & Danny*

## Eight Tsunamis

Imagine  
eight tsunamis,  
crossing the same place  
overlapping  
overwhelming  
obliterating  
force and power  
unleashed in destruction  
aftermath:  
decimation  
the experience  
of my daughter's death.

*Katrina Son ~ TCF, Medford, OR*



# 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.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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)