



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



We need not walk alone.

Volume 14, Issue 11

Tyler, Texas

November 2013

Monthly Group Meeting Tyler Area Meeting

Monday, November 18, 6:30 p.m.
New Location! 1901 Rickety Ln., Tyler

Contact

Phone: (903) 258-2547
www.TylerTCF.org • info@TylerTCF.org
P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

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SecretaryPat Settle
Newsletter/Web SiteMary Lingle
Tyler Meeting Facilitators: Leslie &
Don Dixon

Steering Committee: Pat Settle,
Mary Lingle, Sam Smith, Trisha
Taylor, Carol Thompson, Carol
Johnson, Cheri Zucca, Bill & Linda
Hawkins, Don & Leslie Dixon, David
& Teresa Terrell, Janet Majors, Lisa
Schoonover, Margie Newman, Mary
Ann Girard, Stuart Gilpin

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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Thanksgiving

You may ask, "What do I have to be thankful for now that my child is dead?" After the death of a child, where is the joy in a day off from work? What pleasure can we derive from sitting around a table when someone is missing, and an uttered prayer of thanksgiving echoes hollow in our hearts?

Maybe we have been concentrating on the loss which has brought the overwhelming sorrow of death, and have forgotten the complete joy of life. When I remember laughing brown eyes, a mischievous grin, a scraped knee that Mommy could fix, a new word learned, even the memory of the realization that I had a baby boy, I have a great deal to be thankful for. I had 1 1/2 years of a dream come true, and I'm truly thankful I had my child.

Sure, the agony of grief, the anguish of losing my precious child to death, the torture of wanting to see that child grow and mature and the pain of never knowing, rips me up.

There is no Thanksgiving in entertaining these thoughts, so this month I am going to concentrate on the Living of my child, the Life that brought me so much joy. In this I am thankful that Evan was born, thankful that he lived, thankful that even for those short 30 months—I lived them too. Even so, as he lived once, I live now and want a productive life.

I am thankful I have come that far in my grief work to know I want to live and remember the good times without sorrow. And, I am thankful for my husband, who stood by me during the rough times. The husband who is the father of the child of our love. In him I have found my child, in our marriage I have found love, and that love taught us how to love that child. I am also thankful for you, my real friends-Compassionate Friends.

Edie Kaplan, TCF Ft. Lauderdale, FL ~ In Memory of my son, Evan

TCF Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony



Our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony will be Dec. 8, 2013 at Crossroads Community Church, 13730 Hwy 155 South, Tyler. The service begins at 6:30 p.m. This year canned food for the food pantry at our host church will be collected at the Candle Lighting. We will also collect new toys for the Trinity Mother Frances Isaiah Moa Toy Trolley. This is a great way to meet and get to know the

members of The Compassionate Friends. Getting involved will likely help you as well as the other members! Everyone is needed and welcomed! Please consider bringing a finger food of your choice. We need everything from sandwiches and chips to sweets and drinks. Your contribution will be appreciated and enjoyed on this special evening. If you would like to help with the Candle Lighting set up, take down and anything in between, please call the TCF line at 903-258-2547. Thank you!

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.

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

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to those who attended their first TCF meeting last month.

We deeply regret the circumstances that brought you to our TCF Chapter. The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, not-for-profit, self-help organization that offers support and understanding to families who have experienced the death of a child. You are cordially invited to attend our monthly meeting (held the third Monday of the month). The meeting is open to everyone and free of charge. You are free to talk, cry or to sit in silence; we respect the individuality of mourning. Comments shared in the meetings remain confidential.

Our chapter is operated entirely by volunteers dedicated to furthering the work of TCF. Your voluntary, tax deductible donations honor your loved one(s) in a meaningful way by enabling us to print and mail this newsletter and meet other expenses involved in reaching out to other grieving families (100% of funds are used for this outreach). Donations, along with the name of the person being honored, may be sent to:

The Compassionate Friends of Tyler
P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711

To Our New Members

Coming to your first meeting is the hardest thing to do. But, you have nothing to lose and much to gain. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not TCF will work for you. The second, third or fourth meeting might be the time you will find the right person—or just the right words spoken that will help you in your grief work.

To Our Old Members

We need your encouragement and support. You are the string that ties our group together and the glue that makes it stick. Each meeting we have new parents. Think back—what would it have been like for you if there had not been any “oldies” to welcome you, share your grief and encourage you? It was from them you heard, “Your pain will not always be this bad; it really does get softer.”

Grief Resources

Note: Some resources are based on individual opinion and experience and are not officially endorsed by the organization. The hope is that you may find a grief resource helpful to you and your family. We will continue to build on our resources column. Please let us know of any of your personal recommendations. Thank you.

Compassionate Friends (national home page)

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

<http://www.compassionatefriends.org>

Children Are A Gift Foundation

<http://www.childrenareagift.com>

GriefShare

<http://www.griefshare.org>

MADD East Texas (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)

<http://www.madd.org/local-offices/tx/east-texas>

Smith County Victim Services Division

<http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html>

The Hospice of East Texas

<http://www.hospiceofeasttexas.org>

The University of Texas at Tyler Psychology and Counseling Training Clinic

Located at the Bethesda Health Clinic

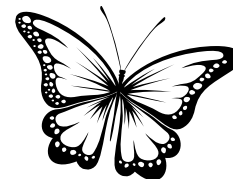
409 W. Ferguson

Tyler, Texas 75702

903-592-2348

Victim Services Division - Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Online Resource Directory

<http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs>



“When your mind cannot find an answer,
open your heart and ask for peace.” —sascha



We are selling T-shirts for our Annual Candle Lighting. The back side includes the following quote: "Who then can so softly bind up the wound of another as he who has felt the same wound himself?" –Thomas Jefferson

Small, Medium and Large shirts are \$20 each and XXL are \$22 each.

Please send us an email at info@tylertcf.org to place your order.

You may pick up your shirt at the Candle Lighting or at a monthly meeting.





We need not walk alone.

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

Love Gifts



Dan & Cece Brotton in memory of Missy Rogers
Mary & Erin Lingle in memory of Candice



Thanks to the following members who have made a rent donation for our meeting place this month:

Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O’Leary
Martha Lewis in memory of Burke
Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper
in memory of Christopher
Carol & Shane Johnson in memory of Jared Sheets



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

Claudette Brown in memory of Terry Wayne
Dale & Phyllis Cavazos in memory of Chad
David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy -
use of a storage building

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; We reserve the right to edit for space and/or content.

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

Errors and Omissions: We try very hard to be sure that all of the names and dates of our children are correct. If you see an error in the newsletter, please contact TCF at 903-258-2547. We want to get it right and will correct the information for future use. Thanks very much.

Email Addresses: If we do not have your email address or it has changed, please email it to Tina or Pat so that we may email you announcements and updates about TCF of Tyler. Tina’s email: lil-bluebutterfly6@gmail.com ~ Pat’s email: beachbum2201@gmail.com

Plan to attend The Compassionate Friend’s 2015 National Convention in Dallas!

Announcements

TCF Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony: Our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony will be Dec. 8, 2013 at Crossroads Community Church, 13730 Hwy 155 South, Tyler. Please call us at 903-258-2547 if you would like to help this year.

Tyler TCF Meeting: The meeting in Tyler is held on the third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., **at 1901 Rickety Lane** in Tyler. For more information, please call 903-258-2547.

Steering Committee Meeting: If you are interested in participating in our chapter by serving on the steering committee, please plan to attend a steering committee meeting. Anyone who would like to become more involved in TCF and serve on the steering committee is welcome to come! For more information about our next meeting, call 903-258-2547.

You don’t have to be a Steering Committee Member to meet with us on occasion to help assemble the newsletter or mail out thank you notes! Please join us!

MADD Heart meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at the MADD office, 215 Winchester Dr. Ste., 100, Tyler, TX 75701. For more info call 888-665-6233 or email Melissa at melissa.granberry@madd.org.

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.

Looking forward: Dallas will host the Compassionate Friends National Conference in 2015. Our regional coordinators, Joan and Bill Campbell, are looking for volunteers who would like to help with this event. You can contact Joan and Bill at 972-935-0673 to let them know of your interest in participating. They are planning a great two-day conference and welcome help from all Texas chapters. This is a great opportunity to help others who are grieving and grow through your own grief as well! You can check the national Compassionate Friends website www.compassionatefriends.org for conference event planning details.

TCF of Tyler Memorial Quilt

If you would like to have your child’s photo included on a TCF memorial quilt, please mail a \$25 donation to P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, TX 75711. For more information contact us at (903) 258-2547, or email us at info@TylerTCF.org. Thanks to Teresa and David Terrell for donating their talent and time on these beautiful quilts which are displayed in our meeting room and special events.

Visit us online at www.tylertcf.org



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

November Birthdays



Wade Goetze
11-29-76 ~ 10-28-01
Son of
Charlotte Nelson



Rusty Welch
11-29-57 ~ 1-1-67
Son of Travis
& Martha Welch



Randall Thorton, Jr.
11-3-64 ~ 9-15-12
Son of Randall &
Sherian Thorton



Nathaniel Bolom
11-6-93 ~ 11-27-93
Son of
Jane Manley



Shane Crim
11-25-71 ~ 11-9-05
Son of
Dolly Mobley



Christopher Jordan Pope
11-10-90 ~ 6-16-03
Son of Edward
& Brenda Pope



Mike Loughmiller
11-14-62 ~ 12-6-07
Son of Suzanne
Loughmiller



Brandon Whitfield
11-23-86 ~ 4-23-06
Son of Leslie
Whitfield



Lindsey Stewart
11-6-87 ~ 4-2-04
Daughter of
Stephanie Stewart



Erik Scott McKinney
11-26-86 ~ 8-16-06
Son of Kevin &
Kathy McKinney



Kayla Smith
11-7-89 ~ 3-5-04
Daughter of
Debbie Smith



Bobby Knott
11-6-68 ~ 4-24-83
Son of Bobby
& Virginia Knott



Mary Adams
11-28 ~ 1-28-06
Sister of
Vicki Adams



Missy Rogers
11-25-63 ~ 07-21-07
Daughter of Dan
& CeCe Brothen



Kristi Diaz
11-7-72 ~ 4-7-99
Daughter of
Julie Diaz



Jill Tompkins
11-3-77 ~ 4-24-99
Daughter of
Karen Tompkins



Mikel Conway
11-17-57 ~ 10-11-01
Son of Viola Conway
Brother of Margie Newman



Haylee Lee
11-23-90 ~ 1-23-02



Blake Owens
11-19-86 ~ 5-26-11
Son of Jancy
Lovellace



Lorie McLain
11-14-67 ~ 8-9-04
Daughter of
Sandy White



Austin Lane Phillips
11-8-96 ~ 11-8-96
Son of Stacie
Phillips Monteagudo



Whitni Ray
11-16-86 ~ 12-22-04
Daughter of Rachelle
Threadgill Brooks



Brytnie Leah Stithem
11-3-94 ~ 1-18-12
Daughter of
Gary & Tracy Stithem



Christina Boyd
11-20-81 ~ 6-6-07
Daughter of
Sherri Haltom



Gaaron Hicks
11-8-91 ~ 1-6-09
Son of Diane
Richardson





We need not walk alone.

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

November Anniversaries



Thomas 'Chuck' Carroll
6-2-73 ~ 11-13-93
Son of Linda & Thomas Carroll



Salvador Estrada
12-11-79 ~ 11-3-01
Son of Charlotte Estrada



Erika Stafford
1-4-79 ~ 11-10-05
Daughter of Marilyn Stafford



Austin Lane Phillips
11-8-96 ~ 11-8-96
Son of Stacie Phillips Monteagudo



Shane Crim
11-25-71 ~ 11-9-05
Son of Dolly Mobley



Scottie Baker
8-3-86 ~ 11-29-04
Son of Steve Baker & Julie Stokes



Jonathan Reynolds
12-14-98 ~ 11-16-02
Son of Addison & Debra Reynolds



Cameron Lee Robinson
4-19-96 ~ 11-12-99
Son of Amie Jo Gibson-Robinson



Nathaniel Bolom
11-06-93 ~ 11-27-93
Son of Jane Manley



Randy Cannon, Jr.
03-26-84 ~ 11-06-05
Son of Randy Cannon, Sr.



Candice Lingle
2-21-91 ~ 11-8-93
Daughter of Mary Lingle



Ijuan Simms
2-20-79 ~ 11-7-01
Son of Sharon Simms



Ty Foster Mabry
2-17-97 ~ 11-25-11
Son of Casey & Shad Mabry



Ronald Gary Smith
6-1-78 ~ 11-4-08
Son of Gloria Smith



Crystal Greene
8-6-82 ~ 11-13-00
Daughter of Lory Greene
Niece of Audrey & Claude Mapps



Cynthia Harper
2-27-54 ~ 11-16-04
Daughter of Jackie & Roland Young



Timothy Treadwell
4-1-80 ~ 11-23-04
Son of Tammy Treadwell



Justin Goodman
2-11-84 ~ 11-19-11
Son of Kelly Goodman



Michael Ritchie
6-9-74 ~ 11-6-94
Son of Debra Ritchie



Derek Brown
5-6-66 ~ 11-25-08
Son of Pam Pickett



A.J. Huggins
10-15-70 ~ 11-14-08
Son of Sue Langdon



Calan Cameron Decker McKeethan
8-10-00 ~ 11-29-01
Son of Mary Decker



Brooke Wallace
1-16-81 ~ 11-24-98
Daughter of Charles & Tammy Wallace



Andy Terrell
2-11-72 ~ 11-25-03
Son of David & Teresa Terrell



Patti Ann Gage
10-3-63 ~ 11-30-11
Daughter of Sally Madore



Burke Warren Lewis
12-20-75 ~ 11-14-09
Son of Martha Sloan Lewis



Kyle Foster
4-1-93 ~ 11-1-03
Son of Barbara Foster
Son of Greg Foster



Carolyn Love
1-4-38 ~ 11-25-06
Sister of Liz Lachey



We need not walk alone.

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

Thanksgiving Marks Beginning of Holiday Madness and Sadness

In our society we have turned the holidays into a never ending round of parties, shopping, cooking, preparations for guests or travel and stress, lots and lots of stress. It begins in October with the not so subtle reminders from our friendly retail stores. Most of us dread this time of year because as members of Compassionate Friends, we have one more item on our list and it invariably is at the top.....my child is gone.....how can I handle the holidays?

This will be my third Thanksgiving without my son. We had 35 wonderful Thanksgiving celebrations together, and now it's just me. My only child is gone, my grandchildren now live solely in their mother's world. I am not a part of that world.

But I am learning to cope with this reality. I am learning that I can hold on to the traditions that don't cause me sadness and let go of those that do. As bereaved parents we fall into a unique category. As humans we accept that the loss of parents, spouses, aunts, uncles, siblings, friends and acquaintances is inevitable. But never, never, were we taught or conditioned to the idea that our children would or could precede us in death. The very notion of this shook us to our core.

Now we have lost our child to death. Nobody prepared us for this mind numbing loss. The rules have been broken. We have no coping skills. Our friends usually can't help. Our families try, but until one endures a loss of this magnitude, the ability to fully comprehend the never ending rounds of sadness is simply not there.

We do have a support system.....we can choose to participate or simply be there, in the moment, at our Compassionate Friends meetings. Here we find our most meaningful and helpful connection with other parents.....parents who are walking the road we now walk. These bereaved parents are here to help us on this unfamiliar road. They cannot answer every question because the answers don't exist to most questions. When will this pain end? When will life go back to "normal?" There are different types of pain and new kinds of normal. We gather each month to help each other, to lean on each other, to find hope in each other's ability to function. From this meeting of kindred souls we do derive some solace, some peace and some hope.

I have watched the newly bereaved, raw in their sadness when they first attend a meeting. As the months move forward, I begin to see a change in these parents. Each changes in a different way, for each experiences their loss and their grief process in a different way. Some changes aren't apparent for months, even a year or two. Learning that we are not alone in the grievous burden of our loss is comforting. Learning that others have developed ways to cope with the holidays, the birthdays, the death anniversaries and other special occasions gives us the hope that we, too, will one day feel comfortable in our new "normal."

I have chosen to accept this group of gentle, kind and compassionate friends as an integral part of my life. The first holidays were horrible. I learned that I had to do what I felt was right. I learned to let go of the expectations of others and live in the moment. Even if I plan to do something and change my mind, I feel no guilt. I learned that those who truly love me understand. I have found that I am truly becoming myself....my new self. It is a slow process. There are setbacks.

Holidays are extremely difficult for every parent who has lost a child.....it matters not how long ago our child died. The pain is fresh, new and raw at this time of year. This is the season for leaning on our compassionate friends, for asking questions, expressing fears, anxieties, doubts, depression and anger and for finding the comfort, hope and understanding that each of us so desperately seeks.

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

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





We need not walk alone.

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

The Crayola Desk

I did something today. Something I was pretty certain I would not do—did not want to do to be honest. I took my very first step, after almost 13 years, to prepare to part with some of Christopher’s things. A light bulb went on over my head suddenly. I realized that most of these “things” I have clung to—almost desperately—would have been gone a long time ago. I understand much like with my son and daughter still here, these things would have been outgrown or simply lost their appeal. He would be a 19-year-old young man—experiencing his college years, working a job or maybe just plain trying to figure out what he wanted to do. He certainly would not be sitting at his Crayola desk drawing or coloring, playing with the power rangers or pokemon—figures he so dearly loved. And that old Gameboy—it would have undoubtedly been traded up for a newer model.

As I cleaned up the desk, I recalled how excited he was the day we gave it to him. How many times he sat in the little blue and red spinning chair making himself dizzy then trying to see if he could draw a straight line. He loved how the drawing area lit from below allowing him to trace his favorite coloring book pages, his tongue hanging out to the side between his teeth in intense concentration.

I took a magic eraser and started to clean that little desk. I never dreamed I would be unable to wipe away the marks and drawings made with his crayons. I kept thinking no one is going to want this if I can't get it looking like new. There is a lazy susan of sorts for the crayons in the lower right corner. Little holes in a plastic turntable, the perfect size for a crayon to stand on end and spin around making them easy to access. Instead of utilizing this item for its intended purpose, Christopher thought it would be more fun to stick marbles in those holes. Here I was standing over my kitchen counter with an array of screw drivers, a pocket knife and butter knife, trying over and over again to pry each of those well lodged marbles out of their holes. I think only for a second that I have a hundred other things to do, that I am spending too much time trying to clean up “this mess.”

Immediately I can't help but miss all the other messes I missed out on. I find myself wishing there had been a thousand more. I wonder if I had attempted to do this when he was still here if I might have scolded him. Instead I find myself smiling, with my tongue out to the side between clenched teeth, grateful to get to clean up “his mess.”

*In memory of Christopher
Tina Loper, TCF Tyler, TX*

As the Holidays Approach

When the holidays are fast approaching, we who are bereaved always have mixed emotions about having a nice holiday when our child or loved one is no longer with us. We wonder if we will ever be as happy and if we can ever again celebrate the holidays or any meaningful family occasion, especially the first birthday, first Thanksgiving, or first Christmas since our loss. We try to look ahead to how we are going to feel when the time arrives, but it is usually not as hard as we had anticipated. Still, the occasion may not be as enjoyable as we'd like it to be or as we remember it from the past.

I would like to offer a few ideas for what we can do to make our holidays a little better. Consider buying gifts for less fortunate children, adopting a child/family at Christmas time, or inviting a lonely person to share your holiday meal. Make your child's favorite foods and discuss your loved one as you share the meal. Some people like to volunteer to serve holiday dinners for the homeless. Some bereaved parents want to visit familiar places their child loved to go, while others want to travel where their child had never been.

Several of our Compassionate Friends members put a small Christmas tree at the cemetery and decorate the graves with Christmas flowers and/or a grave blanket. Making a grave blanket is very fulfilling; we did that for 10 years after our daughter Teresa died. Attending a candle light program is a wonderful way to honor your child or loved one.

These suggestions are things we feel we can still do for our child, but they are not reserved for bereaved parents only. All of them can be done for any member of a family or a friend who has died. After someone dies we must keep going and doing things that lift us up. We can't always try to please any people who feel we should act in a certain manner.

*Jackie Wesley
TCF, East Central Indiana & Miami-Whitewater Chapters*





We need not walk alone.

“Start by doing what's necessary, then what's possible and suddenly you are doing the impossible.” —*Saint Frances*

In This Place

Brave hearts, you are here. You have traveled
a dreadful distance. You have come,
seeking solace, understanding, hope,
threads to patch what death's so cruelly undone.

In this place you can relax and breathe . . .
the coats of others' expectations taken off.
Walk into these few days as into an oasis
where draughts of love and memories can be quaffed.

In this place all names can be spoken;
in this place each one's story can be told.
We will not be discouraged by your sorrow;
in this place ALL feelings, we enfold.

Here laughter does not mean we are forgetting;
we do not count how many tears are shed.
Both fuel us, fellow travelers, give us courage,
for the long and winding road we see ahead.

And those we love are pleased we are together,
smile down on us, and bless these days,
glad for every tiny step we are taking
as they send their light to guide us on our ways.

Traveling with us as we journey onward,
sending strength for what the miles may bring,
they are a part of everything we do that matters -
in every dance we dance, and every song we sing.

Genesse Bourdeau Gentry

*The 2004 Compassionate Friends National Conference
written 23 July 2004 for the First Timers*

Unborn Angel

A fleeting presence known to few
Save those who loved the most
Her position secured in celestial realms
A testament to her pure and loving spirit
With wings so strong and new
Bonds of earthly existence could not hold her here
With her go the blessings, hopes and dreams
Of all who loved or would have loved
This one never flew far from her creator
Never far from His loving arms.

*Marie Berry Dixon
Tyler, Texas*

**We hope you'll join
us for the 2013
Candle Lighting in
December.**

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



Patti and Chris Bowman celebrated the life of their son, Patrick Bowman, at Patrick's 5K Challenge & Fun Run held Saturday, October 26, at Tyler's Faulkner Park.

Many runners and walkers showed up to enjoy the brisk October morning activities and to honor and remember Patrick.

All proceeds will go to the Patrick Bowman Eagle Scout Scholarship of East Texas.

The very successful challenge was hosted and sponsored by Patrick's many loving friends. Patti and Chris are indeed grateful to all who took part!



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)

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



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711



We need not walk alone.



www.TylerTCF.org

**Thanks to Skillern's Business
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(903) 561-5591 • www.skillerns.com