



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



We need not walk alone.

Volume 14, Issue 10

Tyler, Texas

October 2013

Monthly Group Meeting

Tyler Area Meeting

Monday, October 21, 6:30 p.m.

New Location! 1901 Rickett Ln., Tyler
Jacksonville Meeting

We are no longer holding a meeting in Jacksonville. Thanks to Sam Smith for the use of his office for several years.

Contact

Phone: (903) 258-2547

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

Chapter LeaderTina Loper
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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Mourning Is My Mode

Today I realized that I have become a shell of the person I once was. What would my child think of this? I am alone, my only child is gone, yet I know he would not be pleased with the way I have isolated myself, wrapped in invisible crepe, sheltered by a mental wall. This is not the mom he knew. I am someone different now.

What am I to do with this? I feel like a lonely, mourning swan, swimming endlessly from shore to shore. I have no direction, I want no direction, I just keep moving with no purpose. I must get a grip on myself.

I know my motions must take on some meaning. I look to others for help. Yet I realize that if I do not reach out and help myself, I will crash on the rocks with the raging tide.

I decide I will add one new thing, one new event, one new person or one new writing to each day. I will reach out to others. I will force myself to move slowly back into life.

I will spend some time with my family. I will enjoy their children. I will mentor a child. I will start putting my thoughts into a written form.

I begin to do these things. I feel better. I attend another meeting of the parents who have lost their children. I feel as if I do belong here. It has been four months since my son died. I am overwhelmed.

Annette Mennen Baldwin

In memory of my son, Todd Mennen

TCF, Katy, TX

TCF Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony

Our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony will be December 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. Please remember to collect canned goods and bring them that 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. 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. 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.

“Share your knowledge. It is a way to achieve immortality.” —*Dalai Lama XIV*

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.”

jake

there’s a creaking on the swing
that we used to play on when we were kids
it’s old and rusted
they’ll tear it down soon
and part of you will be gone with it
it’s a part we never realized would be needed to this day

there are no sticks in the yard
that we used to play with when we were kids
the sticks were strong
those were our swords
you always took your weapons with you
it’s something you did that i can never forget to this day

there is no laughter in the house
that we were raised in when we were kids
it’s cold and new
they tore away our memories
but they added you to the new walls
it’s so we can always remember you to this day

there is no warmth in october
in the month that i was born and you died in
it’s distant and reserved
october is not my favorite month
you were taken away from me
and it’s something that still haunts me to this day

*In memory of our beloved Jake,
Mallory Roberts (Jake’s cousin)*

This month’s printing of our newsletter sponsored by Lisa Schoonover.

**In loving memory of
Jake Schoonover
9-15-88 ~ 10-29-08
Son of
Lisa Schoonover**



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



We need not walk alone.

“You will miss your child; no magic potion can wipe the pain away. Enjoy what you can—you deserve some pleasure. And may some measure of peace overtake you before this year ends.” —Elizabeth B. Estes

Love Gifts



Julie Diaz in memory of Kristi Diaz and Kyle Horn
Rhonda Malone in memory of Joshua
Dolly Mobley in memory of
Shane Crim and Shannon Scheffler
Lisa Moody in memory of Jonathan Sanders
Lee & Barbara Barton in memory of Lindsey



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

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.

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.

The Children’s Park will present a special remembrance ceremony for anyone who has been touched by the loss of a child. The event date is Saturday, October 26, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. at the park located at 900 South Broadway (at the corner of East Dobbs.) Admission is free. The sponsors ask those attending to please pre-register your child’s name at childrenspark-tyler.org or by calling 903-939-1597. T-shirts with your child’s name are available through pre-registration only until September 27.

Patrick’s 5K Challenge & Fun Run is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2013 in Tyler. All proceeds from the race will benefit the Patrick Bowman Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship. The event will feature a 5K race and a one-mile fun run at Tyler’s Faulkner Park. Following the race, there will be medals and an awards ceremony. Add adults and children are invited to participate. For information on event t-shirts and other fun run details, please see www.patricks5k.vpweb.com. You may also email info@patricks5k.vpweb.com or call 940-453-8427.

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.



We need not walk alone.

"Our healing will eventually cause our pain to move out and make room for our loved ones memories. We learn to make a new life for ourselves. Holidays get better and we learn how to live again." —*Marie Hofmockel*

October Birthdays



Cindy Dingler
10-18-57 ~ 9-6-99
Daughter of
Lynda Hanna



Marshall Charles Donahue
10-18-65 ~ 5-18-00
Son of
Joyce Neely



Joey Moore
10-30-79 ~ 10-4-98
Son of
Sarah Dolan



George Washington Shaw, III
10-18-78 ~ 7-3-05
Son of
Bobbie Williams



Jeremy Mark Lawler
10-25-73 ~ 4-19-97
Son of Mark &
Sue Lawler



Brittany Butler
10-4-84 ~ 1-21-01
Daughter of
Shelly Butler



James Brady Langston
10-13-96 ~ 2-15-01
Son of Jamie
Langston Dacus



Kendrick Clark
10-21-87 ~ 5-10-11
Son of
Jan Dickerson



Patton Ross
10-1-83 ~ 8-15-10
Son of
Dorothy Ross



Sandi McLain
10-20-93 ~ 8-9-04
Granddaughter of
Sandy White



Austin Dixon
10-20-88 ~ 2-19-07
Son of Don &
Leslie Dixon



Richard Heerd
10-31-76 ~ 2-22-81
Grandson of
Lawrence Batte



Mark Turner
10-3-66 ~ 6-19-97
Son of Clayton
& Pat Turner



Kenneth Melvin
10-6-60 ~ 6-28-00
Son of
Fredia Melvin



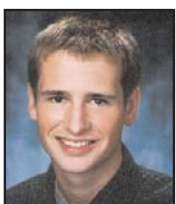
Trey Dobbs
10-20-02 ~ 7-20-71
Son of
Debbie Johnson



Suzie Gorman
10-9-51 ~ 1-14-07
Spouse of
Onie Gorman



Rosa Linda Serrano
10-7-08 ~ 10-07-08
Daughter of
Sunee Savage



Neil Defenbaugh
10-20-81 ~ 3-27-04
Son of James &
Dina Defenbaugh



Emily Elizabeth Ellis
10-25-90 ~ 6-16-09
Daughter of Mike Ellis
Daughter of Lori Symes



Jessica Maureen Nix
10-23-76 ~ 4-19-11
Daughter of
Meredith Nix



Bonnie Lee Benson
10-28-68 ~ 1-23-11
Daughter of
Cheri Oswald



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



Clayton Norton
10-17-75 ~ 1-1-76
Son of Ronnie &
Dottie Norton



Allison Carson
10-29-92 ~ 7-5-93
Granddaughter of
Phil & Ann Brown



Cason Gimble
10-21-86 ~ 9-9-06
Son of Lynn &
Kalisa Gimble



J.D. Adams
10-29-81 ~ 10-31-08
Son-in-Law of
Regina Davis



Loren Saunders
10-4-94 ~ 1-18-11
Son of
George Saunders



Shellae Vicknair
10-13-82 ~ 1-18-09
Daughter of
Vera Vicknair



Jesse Lee Irby
10-16-91 ~ 6-19-07
Son of Teri Irby





We need not walk alone.

"I am learning that 'Helping is Healing' and the more I give the more I seem to get back. More gifts arrive as I become able to speak and write about my journey."
—Rick Mirabile

October Birthdays Cont.



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



Gauge Austin Thomas
10-3-05 ~ 12-5-05
Son of Bernie &
Lisa Belknap Thomas



Christine Haggerty
10-5-56 ~ 3-25-57
Daughter of Dinah
Haggerty



Michael Knight
10-16-89 ~ 7-8-08
Son of Patricia
Knight



Stephanie Mata
10-23-68 ~ 5-19-12
Daughter of Patricia
Stephens



Todd Dean
10-28-82 ~ 6-13-07
Son of Cassandra
Dean-Taylor

October Anniversaries



Stacey Smith
9-8-72 ~ 10-4-88
Daughter of
Sam Smith



John Patrick Carnahan
4-17-65 ~ 10-13-03
Son of Rod &
Shirley Carnahan



Aaron Sullender
5-16-90 ~ 10-18-11
Son of
Brenda Turner



Rosa Linda Serrano
10-7-08 ~ 10-07-08
Daughter of
Sunee Savage



Chris O'Leary
6-25-88 ~ 10-26-08
Son of Merri & Fred Walsh
Son of Tom O'Leary



Hanna Olivia Collie
8-30-04 ~ 10-25-09
Daughter of Jason &
Amanda Collie



Joey Moore
10-30-79 ~ 10-4-98
Son of
Sarah Dolan



Kathy Robertson
4-23-57 ~ 10-23-01
Daughter of
Carolyn Love



Christopher Bullock
2-2-90 ~ 10-10-11
Son of Chip &
Rachel Bullock



Janet Florey
1-7-79 ~ 10-28-11
Daughter of
Peggy Cooper



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



T.J. Anderson
2-8-77 ~ 10-5-09
Son of Ron
& Mona Anderson



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



Sean Smith
2-2-87 ~ 10-27-01
Son of Randy
& Judy Smith



Bill Bouslog
9-14-56 ~ 10-13-00
Son of
Jack Bouslog



Alexander Johnson
1-5-06 ~ 10-30-08
Son of
Candice Johnson



Cory Wayne Channon
8-17-78 ~ 10-19-09
Fiancée of
Lauri Dillman



J.L. Adams
7-6-85 ~ 10-26-08
Nephew of
Vicki Adams



Erica Smith
12-21-88 ~ 10-25-03
Daughter of Todd
& Sabrina Thoene



Jake Schoonover
9-15-88 ~ 10-29-08
Son of
Lisa Schoonover



Jacob Mikal Burrell
1-16-96 ~ 10-5-11
Son of
Jamie Johnson



Jonathan Shipman
6-11-79 ~ 10-25-09
Son of
Pat Moore



Amanda Claire Miller
9-11-54 ~ 10-17-09
Daughter of
Joanne Williams



J.D. Adams
10-29-81 ~ 10-31-08
Son-in-Law of
Regina Davis





We need not walk alone.

"I do not believe that sheer suffering teaches. If suffering alone taught, all the world would be wise, since everyone suffers. To suffering must be added mourning, understanding, patience, love, openness, and the willingness to remain vulnerable." —Anne Morrow Lindbergh

October Anniversaries Cont.



Madeline Joy Kearney
7-15-86 ~ 10-6-05
Daughter of Melody
Kearney Burnett



James Lee Lary
4-20-83 ~ 10-30-05
Son of Elgin
& Ann Lary



Alyssa Kathryn Crim
8-17-07 ~ 10-8-07
Daughter of
Ashley Crim



Robert Ryan White
2-26-85 ~ 10-1-03
Son of
Bethany White



Leon Wayne Lasiter
04-16-71 ~ 10-27-91
Son of Jim
& Pat Lasiter



Cheyenne Ramirez
4-20-93 ~ 10-4-11
Daughter of
Jana Titsworth



Terry Brendon Reed Pettit
5-23-02 ~ 10-21-02
Son of Nicole &
Keith Rush

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

A First Love for Eternity

Most moms remember their child's first love as a sweet child, maybe in kindergarten, who stole their heart for just a little while. I remember my son's first love: the Pontiac GTO. The first GTO was a model. Todd carefully assembled that model over a period of a few days one summer. Then, after an extensive search, he found the perfect teal color for the model. I still have that model on a special shelf. Each time I look at it, I marvel at the amount of time he dedicated to that one tiny car model.

When Todd was 16, he bought a 1967 blue GTO. He worked on it, touched up the paint, kept it in pristine condition. He loved that car. But this wasn't his true love. His true love was always a 1965 GTO.

He and I talked about how he would find a GTO to restore. I suggested buying the mailing list of GTO owners in southeast Texas and sending out a postcard which is exactly what Todd did. For a week he heard nothing. Then one afternoon, a gentleman from rural east Texas called him and asked if he was interested in his 1965 GTO. Todd and my husband were on the way to the man's home within an hour. Todd came home with a 1965 GTO that evening. And the restoration began.

For 12 years Todd invested any extra money he had in his GTO. The ground up restoration started the fall that he entered college. It ended three years after he finished graduate school. Piece by piece, part by part, Todd restored that beautiful car to its original glory. He was so very proud of the finished product. His dream had always been to show his 1965 GTO at Autorama which he did at Thanksgiving. He joined the Gulf Coast GTO Club, and participated in their events and always tried to show his car with them. He won second place in the National GTO show one year in Dallas. He won first place at Autorama in his class. He had so many trophies.....he would line them up for the car show displays in an ever growing row.

Life had moved on: a wife, four children, a new home, another new home and finally the home of his dreams which he built in a lovely neighborhood west of Austin, took a great deal of time. But he always made time for his GTO. He kept his GTO spotless and drove it occasionally. He died five years after he completed his GTO restoration.

Last weekend we changed the oil in Todd's GTO, and I turned the key to make sure all was right. When I heard the sound of the engine, I could sense Todd sitting right next to me, smiling that big, happy GTO smile. If Todd is ever with me, it is when I sit in his GTO and listen to those three deuces purr as I glide through the four speeds. Unbidden tears ran down my cheek as I gradually increased the RPGs and reached over to touch the seat where I could feel Todd's presence. I whispered, "I miss you so much, Todd." I could hear him say, "I miss you, too, Mom." Peace comes to us in our beautiful memories.

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





We need not walk alone.

“Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose.” —*The Wonder Years*

Are You Stuck in Your Grief?

Is it a few years down the road and life still has no meaning? You're still severely depressed. You heard "it" gets better with time, but you keep asking when. Meetings are supposed to help so you've been going, only to find they, too, have not provided the answer. Could it be you are stuck in your grief and don't want to feel any differently than you do? Bereaved parents have a choice of making the best of a terrible situation or the worst of a terrible situation.

A bereaved mother called just recently and said what surprised her since their teenage daughter was killed in a car accident was how relatives clearly had not learned anything from her daughter's death. It didn't help them appreciate what they have, their own families, their health, having food on the tables. They had not learned. Have we? We, parents of children whose death brought us to TCF? Have we learned that it's what we have left that counts?

In my role as a co-leader of TCF, I have talked to many bereaved parents over the last 4½ years since my eight year-old daughter, Cassandra, died of a brain stem tumor. Some bereaved parents refuse to accept a helping hand. They are negative, and any attempt to gently help them along is rebuffed. They wear their bereaved parenthood as a rationale to express their rage toward everyone around them, their spouse, their surviving families, their coworkers, restaurant personnel, even shop keepers. We each bring into our grief our own strengths and weaknesses, but these do not excuse our being "stuck." Grief is hard work: however, we can choose not to work at it. We can choose to be alive and yet not live. We have a choice. We can spend our remaining years complaining to the world around us and seeking out others who do likewise, or choose to use our loss as a tool by which to grow.

If you think you felt "better" last year or the year before, perhaps you have stopped working at your grief. To feel life is less painful you need to realize that grief is an ongoing job. If your phone rings less often, could it be that even your friends at TCF are finding that you never have anything positive to say, so to protect themselves, they too stay away?

Is it that meetings are not helpful to you, or that you won't let them be a source of help? Is it that time doesn't heal or that you refuse to use the time constructively? Consider accepting a helping hand. You might be surprised. Or better yet, offer to help someone else. It could help you to focus your energy away from yourself, and you might find you, too, can be a source of strength to others. It could give you the incentive to no longer be "stuck."

Does being less unhappy really mean a betrayal of our children? Surely we know we will never be the same. However, being unstuck does not mean we have forgotten our children. Our love lives on. What can each of us do in memory of our children?

*Angela Purpura
TCF Long Island, NY
In Memory of my daughter, Cassandra*

Fall

It is so hard to believe that summer is over! Even though summer is technically still here until September, the cool evenings we have been having, school starting, and football games being played are all signs that fall is here. And I love it!

To me, fall is the most invigorating time of the year. The crispness of the air, the beautiful coloration of the trees, the smell of leaf and wood smoke, the sky full of birds traveling south "talking" with one another as they go, are all part of this wonderful world we live in. I hope all of you will be able to feel and see the wonders of fall.

Sometimes we are so "down" and preoccupied with our child's death, and we are working so hard to just get through each day, that we are unable to appreciate what is going on in the world around us. Try to take a few minutes each day and look around. If you can focus on a beautiful tree or leaf, smell the chrysanthemums blooming in the garden or bite into a fresh apple just picked and enjoy doing this for just a few minutes, it will make your day seem brighter. And, if you are up to it, go to a high school football game or a band competition. The enthusiasm of the young people participating in these events is contagious.

Yes, it sometimes hurts. We want our children to be there also, enjoying these activities. But it also gives us renewed faith that life does go on, and there is happiness and excitement in the world. I hope you all can find some beauty and peace in the fall months ahead.

*Peggy Hartzell
TCF Ambler, PA*





We need not walk alone.

“Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow. —*Author Unknown*”

Farewell to Dreams

Once upon a time we lived a fairy tale
Where all lived happily ever after
God's sun was bright and the stars at night
Joined in the joy and laughter

We met each day in a composed way
And met also each tribulation
We survived each blow and resultant woe
And loved without ration

Then one day the dreams went astray
We bid goodbye to "ever after"
Eyes filled with tears dissolved the cheers
And goodbye to joy and laughter

Unhappily tossed, our dreams were lost
In clouded skies there are no beams
Ours to remember a glowing ember
But goodbye to tales and farewell to dreams

*Harvey Hockstein
TCF Morris Area, NJ
In Memory of my daughter, Marilyn*

Peace, my heart,
let the time for the parting be sweet.

Let it not be a death but completeness.

Let love melt into memory and pain into songs.

Let the flight through the sky end
in the folding of the wings over the nest.

Let the last touch of your hands be gentle
like the flower of the night.

Stand still, O Beautiful End, for a moment,
and say your last words in silence.

I bow to you and hold up my lamp
to light you on your way.

Rabindranath Tagore

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



I Sure Miss You

If life could only bring again,
the days I took for granted when,
To hear your voice was just a call away.
Oh what I'd give for just some time to say,
the things that slipped my mind.
There's so much now I'd really like to say.

But I can never go back when,
we did those things we did back then,
I'll store those precious memories in my mind.

I'll take what you've instilled in me,
I'll try to be all I can be,
and walk the path that you have left behind.

I sure miss you.

Life will never be the same with you not here.
Each passing day has brought much pain.
But with God's grace my strength remains.

I sure miss you; but heaven's sweeter with you there.

The little things that seemed so small
are now gold in a memory vault.
I cherish every one I have of you,
now I can see and recognize the part you
played to shape my life.
I often see you in the things I do.

In God's design and master plan,
He saw the hurting hearts of man.
As we would say good-bye to those so dear.
So with our family and friends we'll be
together once again.
We'll view all heaven's splendor hand in hand.

I sure miss you.

My life will never be the same with you not here.

Love,
Mom

*Lisa Moody in memory of my son,
Jonathan Lee Daniel Sanders
TCF Tyler, TX*



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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