



Quakertown Chapter

servicing Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties

The Compassionate Friends National Office
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www.compassionatefriends.org

Eastern PA Regional Coordinators

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May 2013 newsletter

The Compassionate Friends

Quakertown Chapter

PO Box 1013

Quakertown PA 18951

Chapter Info line: 215-536-0173

Chapter email:

tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net

website: www.tcfquakertownpa.org



Quakertown Chapter Founders -Eileen & the late Tim Bolish

Facebook page: Quakertown PA Compassionate Friends

A self-help organization offering friendship, love, and understanding to bereaved parents, siblings, and their families.

WE TALK, WE LISTEN, WE SHARE, WE CARE, WE UNDERSTAND

We extend a special warm welcome to you, the newcomers. We are sorry for the reason you have received our newsletter. We know that it takes courage to attend your first TCF meeting, and it may take three or more meetings for you to feel the benefit of group sharing. We will not offer a "quick fix" or hurry you along in your grief, but we can offer you much needed support, and provide an opportunity for you to meet new friends who are traveling the same path.

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING INFORMATION - Our next support group meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 14, 2013 7:30 PM-9 PM at the St Lukes Quakertown Hospital, 1021 Park Ave., Quakertown, PA in Taylor conference rooms A & B.**

BRING A PHOTO OF YOUR CHILD/SIBLING FOR THE REMEMBRANCE TABLE. Bring memoirs / photos of your child/sibling for the birthday table when its their birthday. Tell us about your memories of your loved one...we'll listen, cry and hug with open arms.

2013 Quakertown Chapter Steering Committee

Chapter Leader

Darlene Dusza

215-536-0173

nanadusza@verizon.net

Treasurer

MaryAnn Kulp

Secretary

Crystal Hunter

Assistant Secretary

MaryAnne Macko

Newsletter Editor / Community Outreach

Darlene Dusza

415 Rich Hill Rd

Sellersville PA 18960

215-536-0173

tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net

Remembrance and thank you cards

Gail Ketterer Crystal Hunter

Kelly Ferdock MaryAnn Kulp

Nancy Eisenhart Jennifer Emberger

Hospitality Committee

Carol Graham

Mary Anne Macko

Committee Members

Linda Stauffer Bonnie Maurizio

Barbara Reboratti Nancy Eisenhart

Chapter Librarian

Donna Hesse

Theresa Sitko

Email - Telephone Friends

Barb Reboratti - daughter, Allison

death-- result of crime

victim.advocate@verizon.net

215-538-0941

Darlene Dusza - daughter, Michelle

death-- result of auto accident

nanadusza@verizon.net

215-536-0173

Jennifer Emberger sibling, Jason

death -- suicide

dance140@hotmail.com

215-828-3810

Crystal Hunter-sibling, Justin

death - medical condition

crys.hunter@gmail.com

614-746-8076 (sibling contact person)

Melissa Fisher- sibling, Jon

death-- result of medical condition/care

melissa2539@gmail.com

215-880-4148

Donna Hesse - daughter, Kisha

death -- result of auto accident

dmhesse150@yahoo.com

Anne and Craig Landis - son, Marc

death - result of suicide

215-536-5143

Collection of Redners Save-A-Tape program

Mail your register save-a-tape slips to our PO box to help our chapter. You may black any debit / credit card numbers, but do not black out the dollar amounts. Remember to use your Pump Perks card for the save-a-tape program. **Send complete sales receipt.**

PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES

STOP don't throw them away... Save your empty ink cartridges and give to our chapter for recycling. We earn rewards for recycling them and can purchase paper and other items to help cut the costs of printing the newsletters, programs for events etc... Bring to a meeting or an event in a plastic bag and give to Darlene or a member on our steering committee.

Other TCF support group meetings and children support groups etc:

Lehigh Valley Group meets the 2nd Monday of each month on the 2nd floor of Sacred Heart Hospital on Chew St. at 4th St. in Allentown PA at 7 PM Contact: 610-820-4004

Peace Valley Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church at Rt. 202 and Ute Rd, New Britain PA at 7:30 PM; Contact Bill or Linda Hendrix 215-822-1343

Ryan's Tree for Grieving Children, Inc. located in Lehigh Valley, PA, Support for **children ages 5-18** who are grieving the loss of a family member or friend. - Is currently not offering services contact St. Luke's Hospice at 610-997-7120 or Krista.Malone@sluhn.org.

Stepping Stones for children ages 4 -12 years old, has a program for children who are grieving a sibling, parent, etc... Held at: Camelot for Children, 2354 W. Emmaus Ave, Allentown PA 18103 call: 610-969-0330 for more information

Greenshore Arts Consortium Grief and Empowerment Workshops - located in Quakertown - contact: Hillery Woods Siatkowski, NCTMB at 206-552-4229 or email massage@moondogyoga.com for dates and more information

THANK YOU

Thank you to Caroline and Tim Court and Kathleen Hardgrove for providing our April refreshments. They do this in remembrance of their sons, Christopher (Caroline & Tim), Jacob (Kathleen).

If you would like to provide refreshments in remembrance of your loved one at a meeting please contact Carol Graham at 215-538-3651. You may also sponsor refreshments for a meeting for a fee of \$30 or more depending on what you would like and the hospital's catering service will set up and provide the drinks and refreshments for the evening.

A special thank you to Mary Ann Kulp, Kelly Ferdock, Gail Ketterer, Nancy Eisenhart, Crystal Hunter and Jennifer Emberger for the Remembrance and Thank you cards that you receive. They do this in remembrance of their children/ siblings, son, Tony (MaryAnn), son, Steven (Gail), son, Cole (Kelly), daughter, Kelly (Nancy), brother, Justin (Crystal) and brother, Jason (Jennifer). An appreciated Thank You to our members for helping to set up and tear down for our meetings, they do this in remembrance of their children and siblings. A special thank you to St. Luke's Hospital for providing us with our meeting rooms each month.

Thank you to, Betty and Charlie Hottenstein, for taking on the monthly task of assembling our monthly newsletters for mailing, they do this in remembrance of their daughter, Tracy Hottenstein.

Thank you for your Love Gifts and Support

We the parents and families of the Quakertown Chapter of Compassionate Friends would like to send a special Thank You to the following donors. Without their generosity in giving to a good cause we would not be able to continue reaching out to newly bereaved parents and families with our Outreach packet and newsletters.

Mary Musselman, In Loving Memory of her husband, Jerome Musselman

Caroline & Tim Court. In Loving Memory of their son, Christopher Court, April 29 - October 27

Ashley, Mary, & Ross Smith, In Loving Memory of their brother/son, Eric R Smith, August 21 - June 12

Our love for you lives on - thank you for the signs you send!

A Special Thank You to the following for their generous contributions through United Way

Aji George

Raymond Vrtis



Quakertown Chapter does have a siblings group that meets at various places, days and times. To try and accommodate the surviving siblings that cannot attend a regular meeting because of childcare issues or work schedule etc. Please contact our sibling contact person: Crystal Hunter via email or by phone. Contact info on front page.



Self-help Program

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved families. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child of any age, from any cause is welcome. Our meetings give parents an opportunity to talk about their child and about their feelings as they go through the grieving process. There is no religious affiliation. There are no membership dues. The purpose of this support group is not to focus on the cause of death or the age of the child, as it is to focus on being a bereaved parent, along with the feelings and issues that evolve around the death experience of a child.

To Our New Members

Coming to the first meeting is the hardest, but you have nothing to lose and everything to gain!. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not The Compassionate Friends will work for you. At the next meeting you may find just the right person or just the right words said that will help you in your grief work.

To our Members who are further down the "GRIEF ROAD"

We need your encouragement and your support. Each meeting we have new parents. THINK BACK -- what would it have been like for you at your first meeting if there had not been any TCF "veterans" to welcome you, share your grief, encourage you and tell you, "your pain will not always be this bad, it really does get better!"

Information Regarding Our Meetings

PLEASE don't stay away from a meeting because the topic scheduled does not interest you. We are here to discuss whatever is on your mind, we don't stay on the topic only. This is YOUR group and we are here for each other. You do not have to talk at meetings. We welcome your participation in our group but it is not a requirement. Coming to listen to the others is Okay too. Remember also that our meeting is open to adult siblings, grandparents, or adult family members such as aunts or uncles.

Support Group Meetings

We are so sorry for the cause that brings us together. It takes courage to attend a Compassionate Friends support group meeting. We understand how it feels to walk into a room of strangers and share personal feelings, especially when you are in so much pain. At your first meeting, we hope you find care, support, understanding and a group of friends to share with. Truly, there are no strangers among compassionate friends.

As a reminder to families that would like to attend a support meeting. Please allow yourself at least 3 or 4 meetings of attendance to determine if they are for you. It may take a few meetings before you are able to talk about your loved one and that is understandable. What you say at our meetings is kept in the meeting, you can cry, hug, talk about how you are feeling freely. Our meetings are for parents, grandparents and siblings in grade 9 or above and adult siblings.

Your Friends at TCF Quakertown Chapter

Reaching Out

It's been over eight years since Dylan has passed away. Yet, each time I encounter a newly bereaved parent, I am filled with the memories of those first days, weeks, months...

This past week, my colleague and his wife were anticipating the birth of their first born. Thursday morning I received the news that their son died during delivery. It felt like someone had punched me in the stomach. I felt the air go from my lungs. I wanted to run right up to whatever hospital they were at and hug them tightly. I wanted to cry with them.

Hearing their news brought me back to a time eight years prior. It brought me back to our return home from the hospital with an empty car seat. To the funeral home to pick out the casket, flowers, and submit an obituary. To a vacant nursery that would eventually collect dust and other random deposits. To a postpartum body and no baby. To trying to live in a world that had not stopped. I recalled, so vividly, how much I yearned to be a mother, how I was a mother but there was no baby. How I drank to console and numb the pain. How I desperately tried to get pregnant to "fill the void." How I cried and screamed and cried some more, trying to release the pain and the anger. How I eventually did become pregnant and all the new terrors that having a baby again gave me.

When I came home from work that evening, it felt as if my soul had been crying all day. And really, it had. Once the kids were in bed and sleeping, I plucked our sleeping two year-old from his crib and carried him to bed with me. I rubbed his face and arms and back and cried, reliving so much pain that this family was just beginning to feel, to absorb, to recognize.

This isn't unusual for me to feel this when meeting or hearing of the newly bereaved. So why do I actively reach out those newcomers? Why do I go to Compassionate Friends every month? Why do I edit the newsletter, which each time is soul draining as articles spark the emotions and memories? I do it because I feel it's necessary to help these parents. The journey is so hard, too hard to do alone. I believe it's helpful for them to have someone to listen to the same story over and over and over again. To be able to sit in silence when words fail. To be able to say to other parents, "You aren't going crazy!" To give them hope that there is life after death, that one can live after the death of their child. I have to do it for them.

Here's the interesting part. It helps me. Each time I recall or share the pain of losing Dylan, it's a little less painful, a little clearer. I become a bit wiser. It helps me go on with the courage to love without fear. And it reminds me, this little boy did much to exist in this world. His 12 days of life wasn't a foggy dream. But it wasn't nearly long enough.

Joleen Krings TCF Green Bay, WI In Memory of my son, Dylan

Memories ...



*In Memory of
Joey Ogliadoro
May 29 - January 2*

Joey, Seven in Heaven

It's been 4 years since we lost Joey. He would be celebrating his 7th Birthday this May. Every day I think of Joey as if he's still here. We picture him with us in all day-to-day events. He would be finishing up his year of First Grade right now. After going with his brother, Blake, to T-ball practice the other night, we realized that they would be on the same team together for Tinicum! Hard to believe that their ages were so close together they would have been playing together on the same team! And his youngest brother, Austin, looks more and more like Joey every day...now that the weather is nicer, he has shown interest in what we call "Joey's Tractor" Joey rode it every chance he got. Even fell asleep on it once!!

I know Joey would be a great Big Brother to Blake and Austin if he were here. He would take them right under his wing...Even though Joey isn't here, he is probably doing just that anyway. We talk about Joey any chance we get; he's a part of us and always will be.

We miss you so much, Happy 7th Birthday in Heaven, Joey. We love you so very much. ~ Mommy, Daddy, Blake, Austin, and your Dog, Abby.

submitted by: Becky Ogliadoro in remembrance of our son, Joey

TCF Quakertown PA



MOTHERS DAY AND GRADUATION

After my daughter Kyra died on November 14 of 2004, one of my first thoughts was I am no longer a mother, because Kyra was my only child. It didn't take me long to realize that that was not true; I am and always will be Kyra's mom. As I have walked my grief journey I have found myself referring to grief as labor. It then came to me that for me, losing Kyra was like giving birth in reverse. I experienced intense emotional and physical pain that I wondered if I could endure, similar to the physical pain of labor, only in grief it lasts for weeks, months and years. It took my breath away, brought me to my knees and often I found myself crying out in anguish and anger, like child birth. It has been over a year and a half since Kyra died and I have felt a break in the pain. It has started back up recently due to graduation but I know it will ease some after May. Some women experience false labor leading up to the birth of their child. I think that those intense pains that come from out of nowhere and last only a short time is something that I will forever experience. I now realize that in letting go of her death, I can embrace and carry her spirit with me always. So, I liken grief to giving birth in reverse.

I go from Mother's day to Graduation, because Kyra would have graduated from High School at the end of May. Graduation was something I knew would be hard for me to endure without her here, alive and being part of the celebration. I thought about what Kyra graduating would mean to me and it didn't take me long to come up with, it was going to be my day to celebrate. Kyra was an intelligent child with a low attention span, a need to talk, and lower than I would have liked motivation. It was a frustration that her teachers and I shared. So, homework time was a challenge and I used motivational charts, rewards and even punishment. But, I quickly found that you can't force someone to be motivated and went back to encouraging. I knew that she would come around and become motivated and I started seeing it her Junior year the year she died. I thought that graduation would be the reward for all the long nights and constantly trying to encourage and motivate. Well, it's not to be and I had to decide how will I endure graduation. I began to think about all she is missing. I believe in Heaven so I don't believe she is missing any joy or good times, because I believe she is now experiencing indescribable joy and unimaginable good times. The reality of what she is missing is, she is missing misery, pain, frustration, disappointment, a broken heart, grief, hopelessness and agony. And I am missing her incredible, joy and zest for life, her strong faith, beautiful smile and her wonderful heart.

As I close I remember when I was pregnant with Kyra, I took two helpings of food because I said I'm eating for two. Now I will try my best to live life to the fullest and be all that I can because now I'm living for two. Just as her living made me want to be a better person, her dying will make me a better person if I allow it, because I now carry her with me. I will strive to do and see life the way she would have if she could have stayed here longer.

Julie Short

TCF Southeastern II. In Memory of my daughter Kyra

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?

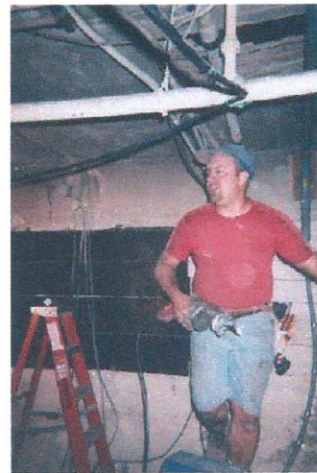
Is it that meetings are not helpful to you, or that you won't let them be a source of help? Is it that time doesn't heal or that you refuse to use the time constructively? Consider accepting a helping hand. You might be surprised. Or better yet, offer to help someone else. It could help you to focus 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



Please Remember Me
In Memory of Tony Kulp
4/25/71 - 5/7/07

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Yesterday

You were here and I took it for granted that you would always be here. Telling you I loved you and was proud of you seemed unimportant. There would be time for that when we were older – when we fought less and talked more.

Today

I know that time will never come, and I will never have the chance to say things face-to-face. So I write them and think them and hope you know I mean them now and have always felt them.

Tomorrow

Each day the pain and regrets of things left unsaid get easier to deal with. I have begun to realize that you knew how I felt because you felt the same way. And as more tomorrows turn into yesterdays, I will find peace in that knowledge. Someday, somewhere, we will meet again and I will have my chance then.

Shannon Odessa Stiener

TCF, Lowell, IN

TCF 2013 National Conference

Save the date: July 5-7, 2013 in Boston, MA



Conference Keynoters

****Dr. Heidi Horsley, Dr. Gloria Horsley**, founders of "Open to Hope" Foundation and Phil Horsley (Chair of TCF Foundation's Board of Trustees), a family united after the loss of sibling and son Scott, will combine to welcome you as Opening keynoters at the National Conference.

**** Tina Chery** who, after the murder of her son Louis, created the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute with a mission to create and support an environment where families can live in peace and unity.

****Ken Druck**, bereaved parent, founder of the Jenna Druck Foundation, and one of the nation's pioneers in personal transformation including healing after loss.

****Bill Hancock**, director of the Bowl Championship Series (college football), author of *Riding with the Blue Moth*, and father of Will, who was killed during the January 27, 2001 crash of an airplane carrying members of the Oklahoma State University men's basketball team.

You can now make reservations for the 36th TCF National Conference host hotel, the Boston Sheraton, 39 Dalton St., Boston MA 02199. Reservations can be made through the Online Reservation Form or by calling the hotel at 888-627-7054.

Although The Compassionate Friends has arranged a large room block for the conference, we recommend you reserve your room early if you wish to guarantee that you can stay at the host hotel as we believe the room block, although large, will be filled. The room block is available from June 29-July 11, subject to availability. Latest date to reserve rooms, if still available, will be June 11. Room charge is \$129 per night plus tax. Rooms are available as follows: King--holds 3 (king plus rollaway); Queen--holds 2; Doubles hold 4. Rollaways are at no extra charge for the King rooms, but the hotel only has 100. Rollaways do not fit in the other rooms.



The Grief of a Parent Who Has Lost an Infant

To experience the loss of an infant is to grieve for what never was. After all the months of anticipation and preparation, the actual birth of a child brings the feeling of hope and fulfillment. Should the child be stillborn, or die hours, days or even months later, the unrealized dreams become a source of pain for parents. No parent ever expects to outlive his child; the death of an infant is often the loss of a child unknown even to his parents. The expected stages of grief (guilt, disbelief, anger, etc.) can have new directions for the parents who have lost an infant.

- 1. Shame and Guilt** - Especially if the infant was stillborn or had a birth defect, the mother may feel she has failed as a woman. "Other women have live, normal babies, why can't I?" Should an infant die months after birth, parents find it hard to resolve feelings that it was their fault.
- 2. No Memories** - Parents may only have "souvenirs of the occasion" (birth certificate, I.D. bracelet) by which to remember their child. If the infant is older, they may have pictures and a few belongings, but they still feel they hadn't really gotten to know their child.
- 3. Loneliness in Grief** - It is hard for friends and relatives to share your grief for a child they never knew. If the child is newborn, they may give the impression you are grieving unnecessarily, they hope you can "forget this baby" and "have another one."
- 4. Neglected Fathers** - Too often the sympathies of professionals and friends are directed mainly to the mother. It is important to remember that the father had made plans for this baby, too.
- 5. Mothers vs. Fathers** - Since the mother has bonded with her child during the pregnancy, her grief may be much deeper than the father's, who only came to know this child after birth. It may be difficult for a father to understand why his wife's grief is so profound and so prolonged.

Claire McGaughey and Sue Shelley
TCF St. Louis, MO



The Compassionate Friends - Quakertown Chapter

11th Annual Memorial Walk and Butterfly Release

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2013 (rain date: Sunday, June 9th)
Place: Lenape Park in Perkasio, PA (pavilion across from shopping center - same location as in previous years) **MAY ALSO REGISTER ONLINE ON OUR WEBSITE**

Registration check in: starts at 1 PM **Bring your lawn chairs / blankets to sit on**
 Memorial Walk starts at 2 PM **REGISTRATION / BUTTERFLY ORDERS DUE BY MAY 4TH -LIMITED**

QUANTITIES AVAILABLE AFTER THIS DATE

Bagpiper will be leading the walk over the Twin Bridges and through the park.
 Remembrance program and butterfly release following walk -- apx 3 PM
 Refreshments will be available starting at 12 noon for purchase. Come and enjoy lunch before the walk.
 Butterfly presentation and display by butterfly breeder, Folk Butterfly Farm will be available to answer questions.

Please bring **one photo** of your child / sibling / loved one (5 x 7 or smaller) to post on our Memory board display. You will be able to take the photo home with you when you leave. No guarantee that photos left behind will be returned to owner.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY ON REGISTRATION FORM

Registration order form - **Pre-register MUST be postmarked by May 6th** -- Orders postmarked after May 6th and same day registrations will not be guaranteed -- **REGISTER EARLY**. See below for details T-shirts are Gildan - 100% ultra cotton 6.1 ounce and embroidered

Order packaged under NAME _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

email _____

Youth T-shirts: color -sapphire sizes: X-**small**; Small; Medium; Large; X-large Cost \$25 for pkg -- **additional T-shirts at \$15**

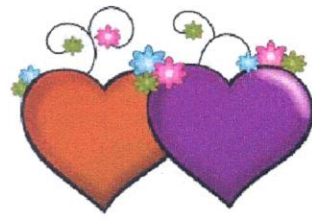
Adults T-shirts: color - sky blue sizes: **Small**; Medium; Large; X-large Cost **\$25 for package** -- **additional T-shirts at \$15**
Plus sizes-- 2X-large; 3X-large Cost \$ 28 for package -- additional T-shirts at \$18

Pre-registration postmarked by May 4th No guarantee on orders of t-shirts or butterflies after May 4th

YOUR first and last NAME	Name of person being remembered give first and last NAME	Indicate Youth or Adult shirt	Pkg \$25 shirt + butterfly list size	Pkg \$28 shirt + butterfly 2XL-3XL	extra shirt \$15 for Y-XS thru A-XL	extra shirt \$18 for 2XL-3XL	additional butterflies \$12 each	Total cost per each line ordered
sample: Jane Doe	John Doe - son	A	Large				2	\$ 49

Mail registration and check payable to: Total of registration and butterflies \$ _____
 Compassionate Friends -Quakertown Chapter _____ I'm not able to attend and would like to have my T-shirts shipped add \$5 per T-shirt for
 PO Box 1013 shipment charges (butterflies will not be shipped) # shirts _____ X \$5 ea. = \$ _____ shipping
 Quakertown PA 18951 _____ I / We plan on attending Total enclosed \$ _____
 email Darlene at: tcquakertownchapter@verizon.net if you would like to have more than (1) -- T-shirt shipped for pricing quote or call 215-536-0173





**Our Beloved Children...In our Hearts always... Remembered on the
Remembrance Day of their death**

**OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED FOR MAY
Loved...Missed...Remembered on their Birthdays and Always**

- Joshua Neubert**, grandson of Charles and Lois Neubert, 5/2
Ardyth Cope, daughter of Carol Cope, 5/4
Hector Valle, son of Hector Valle, 5/4
Justin Powis, son of Jennifer and William Powis, 5/8
James Ogden, son of Linda and Patrick Ogden, 5/16
Brian Wensel Jr., son of Brian Wensel Sr, grandson of Leroy and Dawn Wensel, 5/16
Craig Zakeosian, son of Mike and Beth Zakeosian, 5/17
David Trump, son of Laura Trump, 5/18
Mia Rose Montevidoni, daughter of Kelly and Matt Montevidoni, grand- daughter of Katherine Montevidoni, 5/20
Kevin O'Donnell, on of Doris & Steve Yurchak, 5/20
Brian Russo, son of Patty Stefani, 5/21
Mario Pontecorvo, son of Ellen Pontecorvo, 5/24
Adian Bacchus, Grandson of MaryLou Miller, 5/24
Kristy McCoy, daughter of Arlin and Donna Moyer, 5/25
Ryan Kintzly, son of Tammy Devine, 5/26
Eric Santayana, son of Debi and Walt Schimpf, 5/29
Joseph Oglialoro, son of Mike and Betsy Oglialoro, grandson of Rose and Joseph Oglialoro, Gary and Vickie Shoudt, 5/29
Paul Fowler, son of Matilda Hamilton, May 30



- Jennifer Wenhold**, daughter of Jeff & Wendy Wenhold, 5/4
Nancy Hall, daughter of Charles & Patricia Hall, 5/5
Calvin Gross, son of Karen Gross, 5/6
Colleen O'Connell, daughter of Jay and Barbara Keeley, 5/7
Tony Kulp, son of MaryAnn Kulp, 5/7
Brandon Crosby, son of Barry Crosby and Tracy & Mark Ehleben, 5/7
Brian Leigh, son of Virginia Leigh-Manuell, 5/8
Allison Reboratti, daughter of Barbara and Eduardo Reboratti, sister of Ashley and Elliot, granddaughter of Doris and Ken Conrad, 5/9
Skylar Kauffman, daughter of Heather Gebhard; Eric Kauffman, grand daughter of Pam Gebhard; Carol & Spencer Kauffman, 5/9
Bill Chapman, son of John and Carol Scheetz Sr., 5/10
Anthony Bonino, son of Robert and Susan Bonino, 5/11
James Donnelly Jr., son of James and Alice Donnelly, 5/11
Dawn Meshon, sister of Vicki Moffett & Verdie Winters, 5/11
Adrian Paul, son of Joyce Mann & Kurt Pfitzer, 5/15
Donna Lee Stichter, daughter of Don and Carol Collis, 5/15
Joseph Jenkins, son of Allison & Dennis Jenkins, 5/15
Jeremy Nase, son of Carol Nase, 5/17
Joe Discher, son of Martha & Art Discher, brother of Wendy Park, 5/18
Dan Slaughter, son of Lori Slaughter, 5/20
Michael Rabadi, son of Essam & Anne Rabadi, grandson of Winifred Cristofalo, 5/20
Billy Smith, son of Cleora Moshier, 5/20
Wayne Harris, son of Kathie McDaniel, 5/21
Joseph Cifone III, brother of Dorothy and Garry Neubert, 5/21
Joe Bello Jr., son of Gloria Bello, brother of Sharon Kronmiller & Lisa Devenney, 5/21
Blake Sharp, son of LuAnn and Harry Hebrank, 5/21
Katie Leck, daughter of John and Anita Bardsley, 5/22
Ross Van Houten, son of Brenda Van Houten, 5/22
Matthew Trauger, son of Mary Anne Macko & Mike Hamilton & Jim Trauger, grandson of Dolly Bibic 5/23
Dayna Irwin, daughter of Ken and Patricia Irwin, 5/23
Ryan McMullen, son of Kathleen & John McMullen, 5/24
Andrew Delp, son of Sheryl & Robert Delp, 5/26
Patricia Loughrey, daughter of Desiree Loughrey, 5/27
1st Lt Matthew Gaffney, son of Phillip & Kathleen Gaffney, 5/28
Jonathan Krist, son of Robert and Peggy Krist, grandson of Harold and Joyce Krist, 5/31

and all the children that will never be forgotten as we celebrate their lives and memories

***** UPCOMING MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS *****

May 14, 2013 -- 7:30 PM - Memorial Tree dedication

May 28, 2013 -- 7 PM -steering meeting -- Quakertown Family Diner

June 8, 2013 -- Memorial Walk and Butterfly Release - watch for more information this month on our website and in April's newsletter, we will offer online registration and option to pay with credit card online once again

June 11, 2013 -- 7:30 PM --general support group meeting

Newsletter Update Form

The purpose of this section is to update your information, email address, mailing address, phone number, Child's name, sibling's name, birth date and anniversary death date. This information will also help us in remembering your child / sibling on their days with a remembrance card sent to you by our chapter. Any questions contact the newsletter editor at 215-536-0173. Mail to the above address. I am the parent sibling grandparent

Your Name _____ I give permission to remember my child/sibling in the chapter newsletter / website newsletter
Address _____ on their remembrance day and their photo if submitted

Phone # _____

Child / Sibling name _____ birth date _____ anniversary date _____

Child / Sibling name _____ birth date _____ anniversary date _____

If you would like to receive information about our special events, memorial walk and butterfly release, candle lighting etc. via email please provide your email address below.

Would you please consider to receive our newsletter via email as a link to a chapter website where you are able to view it before it is mailed to those who do not have email.

yes no email address: _____ PLEASE PRINT

Authorization Signature

Date

LOVE GIFTS

A LOVE GIFT is a gift of money to The Compassionate Friends. It is usually in memory of a child who has died; either on his/her birthday or anniversary of the death. It can also be from someone who wants to honor a friend or relative who has died, or anyone who wants to help support the work of TCF. Your LOVE GIFTS are TAX DEDUCTIBLE, and are the Chapter's main monetary support. Chapter Non-profit #2053

I wish to make a donation in memory _____ honor _____ of _____
Birth date _____ Death date _____

Love gift message _____

Please send your check payable to: TCF Quakertown Chapter and mail to: TCF Quakertown Chapter, PO Box 1013, Quakertown, PA 18951

I / We would like our Love gift to be used for: _____ Special Events /Speakers/community outreach _____ Memorial Garden
_____ Candle Lighting Program _____ Memorial Walk & Butterfly Release _____ General operating expenses

Your Name _____ email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

LOVE GIFTS

If you would like to remember your loved one in our newsletter and make a donation to help support the group please fill in the form and mail it in by the 15th of each month for the next months newsletter. Information and love gift must be received by above date to insure it to be in the next month's newsletter. Any love gifts received after the above date will be mentioned in the following month's newsletter. Thank you, The Newsletter Editor



The Compassionate Friends
Quakertown Chapter
PO Box 1013
Quakertown, PA 18951

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 14, 2013

May 2013 newsletter



WE ARE A SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS, SIBLINGS, GRANDPARENTS AND FAMILIES WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED THE DEATH OF A CHILD OR SIBLING OF ANY AGE.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter. Please return this page to the above address.

The Compassionate Friends Credo

We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends.

We reach out to each other with love, with understanding, and with hope.
The children we mourn have died at all ages and from many different causes,
but our love for them unites us.

Your pain becomes my pain, just as your hope becomes my hope.

We come together from all walks of life, from many different circumstances.
We are a unique family because we represent many races, creeds, and relationships.

We are young, and we are old.

Some of us are far along in our grief, but others still feel a grief so fresh and so
intensely painful that they feel helpless and see no hope.

Some of us have found faith to be a source of strength, while some
of us are struggling to find answers.

Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or in deep depression,
while others radiate an inner peace.

But whatever pain we bring to this gathering of The Compassionate Friends,
it is pain we will share, just as we share with each other our love for the children who have died.

We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves,
but we are committed to building a future together.

We reach out to each other in love to share the pain as well as the joy, share the anger as well as the peace,
share the faith as well as the doubts, and help each other to grieve as well as to grow.

We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends .(c) 2007