



# Quakertown Chapter

servicing Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties



**April  
2015**

The Compassionate Friends National Office

877-969-0010

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

Eastern PA Regional Coordinators

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Quakertown Chapter Founders - Eileen & the late Tim Bolish

Facebook page: Quakertown PA Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends

Quakertown Chapter

PO Box 1013

Quakertown PA 18951

Chapter Info line: 215-536-0173

Chapter email: [tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net](mailto:tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net)

website: [www.tcfquakertownpa.org](http://www.tcfquakertownpa.org)

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, April 14, 2015, 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.

## 2015 Quakertown Chapter Steering Committee

**Chapter Leader :** Darlene Dusza

215-536-0173 (TCF) (c) 267-374-1171

[nanadusza@verizon.net](mailto:nanadusza@verizon.net)

**Treasurer :** MaryAnn Kulp

**Secretary :** Ginny Leigh-Manuell

**Assistant Secretary :** MaryAnne Macko

**Newsletter Editor / Community Outreach**

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**Remembrance and thank you cards**

Lynette Lampmann Crystal Hunter

MaryAnn Kulp Nancy Eisenhart

Ginny Leigh-Manuell Jennifer Pini

**UNITED WAY #14064**

Greater Lehigh Valley

**Hospitality Committee :** Carol Graham

Mary Anne Macko Nancy Eisenhart

**Committee Members :** Linda Stauffer

Bonnie Maurizio Barbara Reboratti  
Donna Hesse

**Chapter Librarians:** Theresa Sitko/Linda Ervin

**Email - Telephone Friends**

Barb Reboratti - daughter, Allison

death-- result of crime 215-538-0941

[victim.advocate@verizon.net](mailto:victim.advocate@verizon.net)

**Darlene Dusza** - daughter, Michelle

death-- result of auto accident 215-536-0173

[nanadusza@verizon.net](mailto:nanadusza@verizon.net)

Jennifer Pini sibling, Jason

death -- suicide 215-828-3810

[dance140@hotmail.com](mailto:dance140@hotmail.com)

Crystal Hunter-sibling, Justin

death - medical condition

[crys.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:crys.hunter@gmail.com)

614-746-8076 (sibling contact person)

Donna Hesse - daughter, Kisha

death -- result of auto accident

[dmhesse150@yahoo.com](mailto: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. **NOTE: we are only recycling the small ink cartridges NOT for commercial size copiers/printers.**



## 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: 484-597-0240

**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: Karen Kovacs 267-218-5889

**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. - run programs throughout the year-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

**www.kidsaid.com** - is a FREE online resource and is a safe place for kids and teens to help each other deal with grief and loss. There are options of email support groups, sharing artwork, poetry, and stories, and a place for parents and kids to ask questions and get answers.

**\*Kids-to-kids** is an email support group for kids ages 12 and under **\*K2K-teens** is an email support group for teens ages 13- 18.

### THANK YOU

Thank you to, Mary Anne Macko and Crystal Hunter for providing our March refreshments. They do this in remembrance of their children/sibling, Chris and Matt (Mary Anne) and Justin (Crystal). Also, Gail Blase provided refreshments in February in memory of her daughter, Katey.

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. This can be split between more than one family each month.

A special thank you to Mary Ann Kulp, Nancy Eisenhart, Lynette Lampmann, Ginny Leigh-Manuell, Crystal Hunter and Jennifer Pini for the Remembrance and Thank you cards that you receive. They do this in remembrance of their children/ siblings, son, Tony (MaryAnn), daughter, Kelly (Nancy), son, Shawn (Lynette), son, Brian (Ginny), 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.

**Linda & Rich Ervin**, In Loving Memory of their son, Eric, Apr 1 - Apr 8  
*We miss you so much.*

**Phil & Arlene Peters**, In Loving Memory of their daughter, Sundai Marie, Dec 3 - Apr 24  
*We think of you every day & Love You...*

**John & Kathleen Dallmer**, In Loving Memory of Peg Deetz

**Barbara & Eduardo Reboratti**, In Loving Memory of Peg Deetz

**MaryAnn Kulp**, In Loving Memory of Tony Kulp, Apr 25 - May 7

*Forever 36 - Happy Birthday, Love Mom*





### 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

### Library Books

We have a nice library of books for our members to check out and read and return them back to our library. A problem we currently have is that some books have not made their way back to our library and our library is shrinking. If you have checked out a book or magazine from our library and are done reading it won't you PLEASE return it to us at our October meeting. If you are not able to make the meeting you may mail it back to us or have someone else return it to us.

Also, if you have any books that would help other grieving families through their journey and would like to donate them to our library please give them to our librarians.

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.

### Newsletter Errors and Omissions

For any errors or omissions please contact Darlene via email at [tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net](mailto:tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net) with the error and the correction for the next month newsletter.

Please remember we are all volunteers and grieving parents / siblings and we do forget and make mistakes too.

### About This Newsletter

This newsletter comes to you courtesy of The Compassionate Friends, Quakertown Chapter with the hope that it will be a helpful resource for you on your grief journey.

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter please contact the newsletter editor by phone 215-536-0173; or email: [tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net](mailto:tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net)

PLEASE NOTE: If you are moving or your email has changed please notify the newsletter editor so that we can update your information and you continue to receive the newsletter. If the newsletter is returned to us either via mail or your email bounces back and you have notified us you will be removed from the mailing list.

Newsletter submissions:

Submit articles and poetry to the editor by the 15th of the proceeding month. Include the author's name & your contact information. You may mail to our PO Box 1013, Quakertown PA 18951 or email as a pdf file or word document to: [tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net](mailto:tcfquakertownchapter@verizon.net).



SAVE THE DATE.....

**2015 Eastern PA Regional Conference**

**Date: October 9-11, 2015**

**Where: Hyatt, King of Prussia, PA**



# Memories



In Loving Memory of  
Eric Ervin  
April 1 - April 8

This is a sad month for us Eric. It would of been your 42nd birthday, but you are forever 41, and its your first angelversary on April 8th.

The moment that you died our hearts were torn into two. One side filled with heartache...the other side died with you. We often lay awake at night when the rest of the world is fast asleep and take a walk down memory lane with tears upon our cheeks.

Eric remembering you is easy, we do it every day. But missing you is a heartache that never goes away. We hold you tightly within our hearts and there you will remain until that joyous day that we are together again...

submitted by Linda & Rich Ervin - TCF Quakertown Chapter

Hey little butterfly fluttering by,

Is that my boy stopping by to say hi?

Hey little dime that I found in the car,

Is that my son sending a sign from afar?

Hey little cardinal up in the tree,

Did my boy send you to say hi to me?

Hey little woodpeckers pecking away,

Are you my hello from my son today?

Hey beautiful boy that I see when I sleep,

Is that you trying to send me a message so deep?

I've longed for you, I've looked for you,  
Ever since you went away.

These little signs will have to do,  
Till I can hold you in my arms again one day.

~ by Arleen Torres-Abreu,  
written in memory of my son, Ryan.

submitted by: Barbara Reboratti-TCF Quakertown Chapter

In Loving Memory of  
Tony Kulp  
April 25 - May 7



## Remembering Tony on his 44th Birthday, April 25.

Time is moving forward  
But the pain remains the same  
Eight years have almost passed now  
And nothing seems to change.

You were taken so suddenly  
I could never be prepared  
For the pain that I would feel  
For the deep and dark despair.

I remember that chubby face  
On that day you took your first breath  
And know I will see it again.....  
When a higher power says come home

I long to see that smile  
To see you walk into the room  
I long to hear your voice  
Saying Mom, how about lunch ?

I know this will never be  
I know this for a fact  
But that doesn't stop the longing  
The longing to have you back

I can't deal with the pain inside  
I feel emotionally shutdown  
From the pain that I try to hide.  
The pain that's so deep down.

I have asked myself many times  
Will it always hurt this way?  
Will the pain ever subside?  
Will it ever go away?

They say time heals all wounds  
I really don't think that is true  
I just have to learn to live  
With the pain of losing you.

So another birthday passes by  
You will always be remembered  
As I look into the sky  
Looking for a sign .....  
Knowing I'm thinking of you.

Love, Mom

submitted by: MaryAnn Kulp-TCF Quakertown Chapter



## Grief and Easter: Remembering Loved Ones

For me Easter isn't the holiday that first comes to mind when we talk about how hard grief can be on the holidays or special days. And yet crawling out of winter, filled with dark and cold, into Easter and spring, filled with bunnies and baskets and pink, it can be a jarring as those Christmas carols that seem to start playing in November. The hardest holidays are different for all of us, with different meanings and memories. Easter can be a tough one, especially with all the talk of spring, rebirth, and new life. Others may be excited and you may be . . . well, not excited.

So what can you do, other than crawl under the covers and hide? For all special days there are two things we try to do every time – plan and find ways to remember. Sounds easy enough, right? Well, it may actually take a bit of work. But it will hopefully make the day a little more bearable if you spend the time to get read for it.

Let's start with remembering. The idea of remembering may seem painful, but sharing happy memories can actually fill a tiny bit of that empty space left by those we have lost. Consider ways you can share memories together. You can go around the table, put out photos or scrapbooks, or do whatever else feels right. Not sure? One idea we love for Easter is to create a "remembering basket".

This is easy, great for kids and adults alike, and you probably already have all the supplies!

remembering basket 3 What you need:

- a basket
- plastic Easter eggs
- paper
- markers
- stickers or other decorations (optional)

What you do:

Set up a small table with all the items. Throughout the day encourage everyone who is comfortable to write down a memory, something they miss about the person, or anything else on a piece of paper and place in an egg. At an appropriate time, open the eggs and share all the memories. Some people may not want their memories shared or remembering basket 2 added to the basket. That is fine too. Encourage them to write down a memory, place it in an egg, and keep it in their own Easter basket (or purse, whatever). Keep in mind with activities like this that you never want to push people to do something they aren't comfortable with.

Though the holiday is just a couple of days away, planning is still important. Below are some suggestions to plan for the holiday:

1. Identify which individuals you will be spending the holidays with. Who will be present for events, traditions, and celebrations?

Make a list of the individuals you will be with.

Often times these individuals will be dealing with the same loss.

If you will be spending the holidays alone or with people far removed from your loss, grab a journal or a notebook and complete the plan on your own.

2. If you decide to involve family and friends in making a plan, talk in advance.

Call, email or talk in person, even if just the day before, to make a plan for the day.

Discuss any specific anxieties, things people want to do for the day, and things they don't want to do.

Don't overlook the children. Even the youngest family members need to have a chance to express feelings and concerns. It's also important for children to feel heard.

3. Decide what to do about tradition

Identify the rituals and traditions that will be the hardest.

Allow each member of the group to discuss what will be hardest about these identified moments.

Brainstorm ways to make these elements of the holidays easier. In the end you may decide to keep the event or tradition the same, change it, or skip it until next year.

4. Discuss roles and responsibilities

Your loved one may have held several roles and responsibilities during the holiday season.

Take a little time to make sure there aren't any roles, big or small, that will need to be filled or changed (i.e. who will plan the holiday meal, who will dye Easter eggs, who will make Easter baskets?)

Some people may not feel comfortable stepping into their deceased loved ones shoes to fill these roles, respect their feeling and don't push.

Make sure the roles and responsibilities don't fall too heavily on one person.

5. Communicate with children affected by the loss

The holidays are hard for children because, although they are sad about the loss, they still may be excited for the same reasons we all were as children. Let them know they don't need to feel guilty about enjoying themselves.



Ask them to let you know if they start to feel sad.

Make a special code word they can use if they need a break or some space.

[Click here for posts about kids, teens and grief.](#)

6. If you haven't already, take time to think about you and how you will take care of yourself.

Make a plan for how you will cope when things get really tough. Will you take a walk, journal, listen to music, get some space, exercise, etc.

Give yourself permission to cry. This may be an especially tough day – there will probably be some tears and that's okay.

Set aside time for decompression and self-care after the day. It may be stressful. Check out these 64 self-care tips for grievers.

8. Find ways to incorporate your love one in the holidays. This is the best way to feel close to your loved one and fill their absence. You may want to find at least one or two ways to incorporate your loved one in each tradition and event that you identified as potentially being difficult. If the remembering basket isn't right for you, we have a list of 16 tips for continuing bonds with people we've lost. This list was made for the "big" winter holidays that somehow seem to span from October to January, but plenty of them apply to Easter and grief too!



## A Survivor's Alphabet: Empathy

"Where were you when I needed you?" Ever find yourself saying words like that? Ever look for comfort at a point of greatest need and wonder why it doesn't come or help? Family and friends try their best to let us know they care. It never seems enough for just what we need at the critical moment.

What's going on? Family and friends, in expressing their sincere words of comfort and love, are relieving their own anxiety. In their attempts they often bypass our more critical need. It's like two trains passing each other in the night. They meet but quickly go their separate ways.

What we have received is sympathy which, by itself, gives temporary comfort and relief but has little long lasting effect. It may or may not touch the point of hurting with enough impact to relieve. What is better is a sensitivity to hurt where it is and a response to that hurt that mirrors the crisis itself. What is needed is not sympathy but **empathy**.

Empathy is made up of the following:

**Listening.** What do you hear when you hear? Isn't it amazing how often we hear but we do not listen. You and I hear the concert while the violinist listens for pitch and tone. We tell a mechanic the engine runs "rough" while he listens and notes that something is wrong with the valves. Developing the skill of listening enables us to be more sensitive to actual need where it occurs. A cry for help may be more, or less, than what we think we hear. Someone is hurting and needs relief, now. Being with that person we listen and are given clues of what to say and do that will bring the greatest relief. It's not for us to set the agenda; the other person in their hurt and pain does.

**Understanding.** By careful listening it's amazing what we can learn that we only surmised before. We learn that our agenda can be put "on hold" while the hurting person is considered as top priority. We learn that words do not always have the weight we give to them; a touch will do far more. Maybe just being there without thinking that we have to do something helps. Whatever it is, we are there for the other person and they know it; they are given just what they need at that given moment.

**Value.** This tacit understanding gives strength for building trust. A bond is created whose value will be noted long after the crisis is over. Friendships are developed that are long lasting. New understanding between family members creates a climate of love. Personal self esteem is given a boost which has a value of its own. We understand others and they understand us and a network is established of support and caring.

Empathy is "LUV" actively supporting and sustaining to develop strength for times of crisis. It goes beyond in creating long lasting relationships that give personal vitality to each of us.

© 1999 Jesse Baker

*Jesse Baker is a retired minister of The United Methodist Church. He and his wife Fay live in Port Orange, FL. They became bereaved parents when their daughter Vera was murdered in November, 1984. Reprinted from the Heart of Florida Chapter newsletter, May 1999.*

### Bereavement camp for children and teens

Camp Erin NYC is a free bereavement camp for children and teens 6-17 who have lost a parent, sibling or someone close to them. Camp will be held again this summer August 28-30 2015 at Camp Wayne in the Poconos. Contact: Ann Fuchs at 914-939-5338 or email at [afuchs@copefoundation.org](mailto:afuchs@copefoundation.org) for more details.



## GRIEVING IN PAIRS

*How many times have people said, "Well, thank God you have each other." How many times have you felt "each other" to be entirely inadequate at meeting your needs?*

*Alarming statistics are available telling us of the rocky road parents encounter in their marriage after the death of a child. We sometimes see in ourselves a touchiness or quickness to become irritated that wasn't there before. It always seems that my "bad" day is my wife's "good" day, or the day she wakes up crying was the day I had planned on playing tennis.*

*Or sometimes, even more difficult, we both have a bad day and find no help from the other in pulling things back together. How can one person hold up another when he is himself face down in the mud?*

*Every person grieves differently. This is a rule that even applies within a family. And the needs of every individual are different. While you may need to talk and talk and talk, your spouse may need some time alone to reflect inwardly.*

*You have both been through the worst experience of your life. And while at times you can face recovery as a team, sometimes you must develop the patience to be able to wait out certain needs alone or with someone else. Realize that no matter how it is shown, your partner hurts, too.*

Gerry Hunt  
TCF White River Junction, VT

### DREAMS, keeping our child's memory Alive.....

After the loss of our youngest daughter, Michelle at the young age of 21 years in October 2001, I thought my life was over and I just wanted to die...in fact I thought I was having a heart attack. It was a broken heart...there was a hole left in my heart and I believed at that time that it would never heal.

After her death I knew that I needed to talk to other parents who have experienced the death of a child...I needed to find a way to survive what I was dealt. I still had our oldest daughter and two lovely granddaughters and my husband to think about. That's when someone from Compassionate Friends Quakertown Chapter contacted me and put me in touch with another Mom who had lost her daughter earlier that year by a DUI driver. We connected right away and spoke many times early in the wee hours of the morning or by email and supported each other just by talking and talking and sharing our memories of our girls. We knew that we would never be judged by anyone within our support group because we knew that we could talk freely and share our dreams and how we would keep our child's memory alive.

Over the past 13 years we have a second family that we hold dearly to our hearts...they are the parents, siblings, and grandparents of our group because of the openness of sharing within the group. I started attending the TCF group meetings the month after our Michelle passed and have maybe missed two meetings and that was because of illness.

Grieving takes a lot out of you and is stressful to your body. Be gentle with your self after attending a meeting because you may take home more grief than what you came with. But, don't give up after one meeting, you need to attend at least 4 or 5 times before deciding if its for you. Each meeting is different, sometimes we may have an activity or a guest speaker or just a general meeting of talking about things that may be troubling some. We are there to help each other and talk about what may have helped you in a situation may help someone else.

I learned early on what I needed to do in remembrance of Michelle and that was to reach out to other newly bereaved families so I started our monthly newsletter back in 2002 and yes I read the obituaries to reach out to those families. My sister by heart, Barbara Reboratti and I decided in 2002 to start an annual Memorial Walk and Butterfly release and that was how our Memorial walk started...we were talking one early morning when neither of us could sleep and we thought what could we do to help spread the word and let the community know about us...we both blurted out how about a Memorial walk... oh and a butterfly release too. Our group was only maybe 6 people at the time when I started and unfortunately grew over the years because of a promise to Michelle to make it known that there is help out there for people. To this day I still do the monthly newsletters, and have facilitated our meetings and have a great steering committee that helps with our meetings and events. Couldn't do it without their dedication and their wanting to keep their child's memory alive. We would LOVE to have some other parents / siblings that would be willing to share their love of their child / sibling and volunteer to help at our events or to also help with other chapter needs.

OUR DREAM of a Memorial Garden to remember our loved ones is the biggest dream of our families and it is a good possibility of being a reality this year at a local park. Once we have a definite go ahead we will be asking for your support in completing our dream both with donations and with volunteering your time in making it a DREAM come TRUE for all of us and our children. We hope to get as many of our families involved in a labor of love to our children and siblings...watch your emails and newsletters for more to come.

Memories are what we have to hold onto of our children / siblings and love to hear from their friends and the sharing of memories and dreams they have of them too...

Hugs to all this Easter and Spring time of new life and hopefully a new normal because we will never be the old normal again...

Darlene Dusza - TCF Quakertown Chapter PA





### OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED FOR APRIL Birthdays and Always

Joani Freeman, daughter of David and Donna Freeman, 4/1  
 Eric Ervin, son of Linda & Rich Ervin, 4/1 - DOD 4/5  
 Brett Smith, Kelly & Dennis Smith, 4/3  
 Benjamin Martin, son of Kristine Fallows, brother of Rachael  
 Whitely, 4/5  
 Giacomo Maurizio, son of Bonnie Maurizio and brother of  
 Shawn Maurizio & Nina Russo, 4/7  
 Cole Ferdock, son of Kelly Ferdock, 4/8  
 Michael Johnson, son of David and Donna Freeman,  
 brother of Dorene Elwell, 4/11  
 Steven Ketterer, son of Steven and Gail Ketterer & family,  
 4/12  
 Kelly Schmittinger, daughter of Nancy Eisenhart, sister of  
 Dana Hutchinson, 4/13 - DOD 4/5  
 FarraId Lee III, brother of Kendra Stenack, 4/14  
 Jeffrey Carpenter, son of Steve Carpenter, 4/15  
 Jonathan Orlick, son of Teri Orlick, 4/16  
 Patricia Loughrey, daughter of Desiree Loughrey, 4/17  
 James Friendly Jr, son of James and Petra Friendly Sr.,  
 4/18  
 Tristan Engarde, son of Edward and Lisa Engarde, 4/18  
 Benjamin Culton, son of Mark & Barb Culton, 4/19  
 Todd Iatarola, son of Rhonda Iatarola, 4/20  
 Vivienne Martin, daughter of Justin & Mary Martin, grand  
 daughter of Jim & Catherine McFadden 4/24  
 Tony Kulp, son of Mary Ann Kulp, 4/25  
 Jessica Roth, daughter of Wilbur and Carol Roth, 4/29  
 Christopher Court, son of Caroline & Tim Court, 4/29



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

Annalise Heap, granddaughter of Rose Maire Duncan, 4/1  
 Carla Taylor, daughter of Else Ridgeway, 4/1  
 David Utti, son of Emanuel and Claudia Utti, 4/2  
 Tim DeCoursey, Brother of Kim Flagello, 4/3  
 Leah Corrine, daughter of Anita and Doug Brown, 4/4  
 Sherry Reiss, daughter of Ray & Janet Popowicz, 4/5  
 Liam Williamson, son of Dan and Erin Williamson, 4/6  
 Alexis Falcone, daughter of Dominic and Carolyn Falcone,  
 4/6  
 Eric Riecco, son of Daniel & Joan Riecco, 4/7  
 Rich Hollabaugh, son of Linda and Wayne Hollabaugh, 4/10  
 Katherine Hurley, infant daughter of Jennifer & Zachery  
 Hurley, 4/10  
 Arthur "AJ" Prutzman Jr., son of Bonnie Prutzman, brother  
 of Janice and Justen Horn, 4/10  
 Joey Acker, son of Anne Marie Acker and brother of Jamie  
 Russo, 4/10  
 Lauren Ungarino Brophy, daughter of Chris Ungarino &  
 Kathleen Tarver, 4/11  
 Ryan Strauch, son of Dave & Jane Strauch, 4/13  
 Sarah Parvin, daughter of Keith and Sandy Parvin, 4/14  
 Cynthia Cole, daughter of Hugh and Marie Madden, 4/14  
 Brooke Miller, daughter of Beth Miller, 4/15  
 Cpl. Elliot Teisler, son of Daniel and Roberta Teisler, 4/17  
 Jason Reall, son of Steven & Barbara Reall, brother of  
 Jennifer & Dennis Csondor, 4/17  
 Michael Morgan, son of Deb and Ray Vrtis, 4/19  
 James Palatinus, son of Nandor and Susan Palatinus, 4/19  
 Allan Afflerbach, son of Janice & Herman Afflerbach, 4/19  
 Craig Zakeosian, son of Mike Zakeosian, 4/20  
 Frank Voce, son of Frank and Anna Voce, 4/20  
 Andrew Shadle, son of Barbara Shadle, 4/20  
 Gary Zemitis, son of Lynne Bowers, 4/20  
 Donald Cass Sr., brother of Wendy Ramage & Trish & Brian  
 Cass, 4/22  
 Adam Tomlinson, son of Lynn Miller & John Tomlinson Jr,  
 4/22  
 Sundai Marie Peters, daughter of Arlene and Phil Peters,  
 4/24  
 Brian Lambert, son of Alberta & Rich Lambert, 4/26  
 Richard Carver Jr, brother of Carla Harris, 4/27  
 Kristy Bender, daughter of Kathy & Frank Bender, 4/27  
 Scott Newell, son of Carol Newell, 4/28  
 Ronald Phillips, son of Theresa & Rich Phillips, 4/28  
 Krysta Henkin, daughter of Martin & Kathleen Shea, 4/30  
  
*and all the children that will never be forgotten as we  
 celebrate their lives and memories*



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

\*April 14, 2015 -- 7:30PM- topic: Ask It Basket

\*April 28, 2015 -- 7 PM Steering meeting - Quakertown Family diner

\*May 12, 2015 -- 7:30 PM - general meeting

\*June 13, 2015 -- Memorial walk and butterfly release

**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/  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ website newsletter 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: April 12, 2015**



**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