



The Compassionate Friends

July 2018

Serving Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties



“Remember When” - Memorial Walk 2018 Reflection

With the windy and cold garden dedication, I was nervous on Mother Nature's choice for our walk this year. We lucked out! Our children and siblings came through for us! It was a fantastic day filled with raffle baskets, baked goods, and memorabilia! The 50-50 raffle provided us with the double the funds thanks to Mary Smith donating her portion back to us, in memory of her son Eric. As always, the hot dog crew worked so hard to cook and serve you!

A very special thank you to our chapter leaders Ginny Leigh-Manuell. She took the reigns two years ago... this was her third memorial walk and it was amazing! I couldn't do my job without her leadership and advice. This walk is the biggest thing we do together!! Thank you Ginny!

Every year we begin planning the walk in February. It involves a lot of people making sure the day runs smoothly. There are dozens of businesses who donate items and gift cards. We cannot Express enough gratitude to everyone who stepped up with donations or offering an extra hand. If you are interested in helping us, please reach out to someone on the Steering committee. If you want to make a difference and help others who are bereaved like you, join us!

And always “Remember When” to keep you going!

Hugs,
Crystal Hunter
Chapter Treasurer

The mission of The Compassionate Friends: When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family.

Next meeting July 10, August 14

We talk. We listen. We share. We care.

Our Support Group Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month at St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital, 1021 Park Ave., Quakertown, in the Taylor Conference rooms A & B on the ground floor of the professional wing.
Meetings are 7:30 - 9 PM.

No need to register. No fees or dues. Just come as you are.

Quakertown Chapter
PO Box 1013

Quakertown, PA 18951

Chapter Info Line: (267)380-0130

contact@TCFQuakertownpa.org

website: www.tcfquakertownpa.org

“The world loves closure, loves a thing that can, as they say, be gotten through. This is why it comes as a great surprise to find that loss is forever, that two decades after the event there are those occasions when something in you cries out at the continual presence of an absence.”

—Anna Quindlen



The Compassionate Friends

Quakertown Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Serving Bucks and Montgomery Counties



About Our Chapter

Ginny Leigh-Manuell, Chapter Leader

Crystal Hunter, Chapter Treasurer

Gail Blasé, Chapter Secretary

Linda Stauffer, Chapter Newsletter & Website

Lynette Lampmann, Memorial Garden Director & Remembrance Cards

Theresa Sitko, Chapter Librarian

Barbara Reboratti, Chapter Delegate

Carol Graham, Hospitality

Mary Anne Macko, Hospitality

Mary Catherine Nederostek, Remembrance Cards

Celeste Nice, Outreach

Sheri Albro

Bob Albro

TCF National Office:

877-969-0010

www.compassionatefriends.org

The Compassionate Friends is a nationally renowned 501 C (3) non-profit organization with 700 chapters in the US. All donations are tax deductible.



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 monthly meetings. 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.

Newsletter Errors and Omissions

For any errors or omissions please contact Linda via email at kt4ever@mac.com with the error and the correction for the next month newsletter. Please remember we are all volunteers and grieving

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 email: newsletter@tcfquakertownpa.org

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 not notified us you will be removed from the mailing list.

Newsletter submissions:

Submit articles and poetry to the editor by the 15th of the preceding 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: newsletter@tcfquakertownpa.org

OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

Loved...Missed...Remembered on their
Birthdays and Always

7/1 - Karen Slotter, daughter of Dolly Bibic

7/1 - Gabriel Krotzer, son of Steven & Heather Krotzer

7/3 - Shane Bowen, son of Agnes & Robert Bowen

7/5 - Bobby Cloud, son of Richard & Diane Cloud

7/5 - Andrew Keegan, son of Karen & Mark Keegan

7/6 - Morgan Basciano, daughter of Sharon & Basciano; sister of Olivia Basciano

7/6 - Ryan McMullen, son of Kathleen & John McMullen

7/7 - Jarrod Nordland, son of Craig & Lisa Nordland

7/9 - Michele Lyn Murray, infant daughter of Kevin & Amy Murry

7/9 - Kyle Silver, grandson of Jeanne Hofmann

7/12 - Demetrios Asprakis, son of Joan Asprakis

7/13 - Lorraine Corbo, daughter of Deb Goodman

7/13 - Scott Silver, son of Jeanne Hofmann

7/16 - Matt Barber, son of Noel & Tim Barber

7/17 - Dan Slaughter, son of Lori Slaughter

7/18 - Brian Michael Leigh-Manuell, son of Ginny Leigh-Manuell; brother of Jennifer Wills

7/20 - Thomas Hamilton, sibling of Jessica Green

7/20 - Katie Leck, daughter of John & Anita Bardsley

7/20 - Adriana Toro, daughter of Israel Toro

7/21 - Lisa Dawn Weatherly, daughter of Norma Jean Weatherly

7/24 - Lisa Koletty, daughter of Barbara & Dietrich Koletty

7/25 - Joe Discher, son of Martha & Art Discher; sister of Wendy Park

7/28 - Adam Sautner, son of Bonnie & Alfred Sautner, Jr.

7/28 - Gregory Teufel, son of Mark & Renee Teufel

7/29 - Donald Dolan, Jr., son of Don & Tina Dolan

7/29 - Jonathan Jason Orlick, son of Teri Orlick

7/30 - Robert Marich, son of Michele Callon

7/30 - Douglas Minner, son of Louis & Toby Minner

7/30 - Jean Marie Moyer, daughter of Joe Siedlecki & Monica Siedlecki



OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED FOR JULY

Our Beloved Children...In Our Hearts Always...Remembered on the
Remembrance Day of their Death



7/1 – Matthew Hoffa, son of Dennis & Marcia Hoffa

7/1 – K. Michael Humlhanz, son of Mary Lou Humlhanz

7/1 – Gabriel Krotzer, daughter of Steven & Heather Krotzer

7/2 – Peter Smith, son of Angela & Richard Smith

7/3 – Lynda Mohlenhoff, daughter of Frank & Peggy Posivak

7/4 – CalliMae Derstine, daughter of Lucy & Mike Derstine

7/4 – Brandon Leathers, son of Jim Leathers

7/4 – Andy Walnes, daughter of Kim Walnes

7/5 – Michael Detweiler, son of Larry Detweiler; brother of Lauren & Alyssa

7/5 – Derek Brown, son of Matthew Brown

7/5 – Adam Graham, son of Albert & Carol Graham

7/5 – Dominic DeBlasio, son of Jeannine DeBlasio

7/6 – Joshua Woods, brother of Jenn Kroll, Eliot Woods, Tricia Woods

7/9 – Joey Siedlecki, son of Joe Siedlecki & Monica Siedlecki

7/9 – Michele Lyn Murray, daughter of Amy & Kevin Murray

7/9 – Jonathan Parker, son of Susan Parker

7/9 – Steven Ketterer, son of Steven & Gail Ketterer

7/10 – Earl Colella III, son of Jaynee & Earl Colella

7/10 – Heather Wagonseller Ash, daughter of Janet Wagonseller

7/12 – Hunter Larrabee, son of Michelle Larrabee

7/13 – Joshua Sotak, son of Mary Catherine Nederosteck

7/15 – Mike Hicks, brother of Kathy Hicks

7/17 – Melinda Daniel, daughter of Jacqueline & Bob Daniel

7/17 – Scott Silver, son of Jeanne Hofmann

7/18 – James Reilly, brother of Maureen Elliott, John & Michelle Finegan

7/20 – Jana Lee Snedeker, daughter of Dave Snedeker

7/21 – Michael Fayewicz, brother of Sandra Ligowski

7/22 – Richard Murphy III, son of Richard Murphy

7/22 – Bobby Rolph, son of Judy & Bob Rolph

7/24 – Laura Smith, daughter of Valerie Smith

7/22 – Donald Vincente, son of Christine & Donald Vincente

7/24 – Eric Stillings, son of Kirt & Joyce Stillings

7/28 – Eric Gotwals, son of Gary & Anne Gotwals

7/28 – James P. Ryer, son of Diana M. Adams & Pat Ryer

7/29 – Chris Guidotti, son of Nancy & Al Guidotti

7/30 – Morgan Basciano, daughter of Sharon & Basciano; sister of Olivia Basciano

7/30 – Chris & John Inscho, sons of Peggy Daggitt; brothers of Diane Anderson





Memorial Garden Plaque Update

We are extending the deadline until October 15 to order a plaque. Any orders sent in since April will be ordered with this new deadline.

Starting now, Plaque orders will close on the 15th of October every year, until further notice. Ordering will be open December 1-October 15. This will allow the order to be processed and attached to the wall the following Spring, in time for our annual memorial walk in June.

Follow the link in the email and posted on Facebook to get to the order form with all the details. You can also scan the QR code on this page to get to the order form. **ONLY CURRENT MEMBERS OF TCF QUAKERTOWN CHAPTER CAN ORDER PLAQUES.**

Questions should be directed to -
MemorialGardenTCF@gmail.com



Notes from the garden committee:
Summer has arrived in full sunshine. The plants are doing rather well considering our weather this year. The plaques are up and intact (some did not arrive from order due to corrections to be made). This summer some of our volunteers are taking extended vacations so we need extra assistance with the watering. If you have time available we'd appreciate volunteers to sign up on the garden e-mail: Memorial-GardenTCF@gmail.com or check the calendar on the website.

If you volunteer here are some tips:

1. Turn on water at the site with the housing of the hose
2. Roll out the hose carefully taking care not to crush flowers on the edge
3. DO NOT water plaques directly-they are cleaned by a special process
4. Carefully rewind hose back into container
5. Turn off water

Thanks to all for volunteering from the garden committee and enjoy the garden when you visit.

Hugs

Lynette Lampmann and committee members





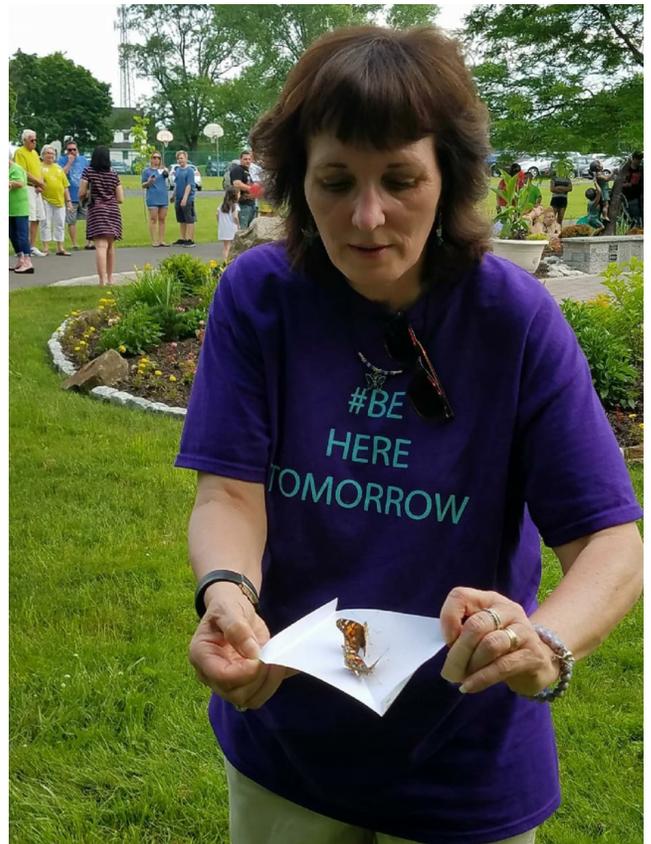
Losing a child,
no matter what age,
makes your heart
break in places
that you never
knew existed.

Fly, fly little wing
Fly beyond imagining
The softest cloud, the whitest dove
Upon the wind of heaven's love
Past the planets and the stars
Leave this lonely world of ours
Escape the sorrow and the pain
And fly again

Fly, fly precious one
Your endless journey has begun
Take your gentle happiness
Far too beautiful for this
Cross over to the other shore
There is peace forevermore
But hold this mem'ry bittersweet
Until we meet

Fly, fly do not fear
Don't waste a breath, don't shed a tear
Your heart is pure, your soul is free
Be on your way, don't wait for me
Above the universe you'll climb
On beyond the hands of time
The moon will rise, the sun will set
But I won't forget

Fly, fly little wing
Fly where only angels sing
Fly away, the time is right
Go now, find the light





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.

Refreshments for June

Mary Anne Macko in memory of her sons **Matt & Chris** - "Love you Then, Love you Still, Always Have & Always Will." - Always Your Mom. .Cindy Rodgers in memory of her son Shannon, Brian Doyle in memory of his daughter Ashley, Theresa Sitko in memory of her son Clayton, Gail Blasé in memory of her daughter Katey

If you would like to sponsor refreshments or bring some in remembrance of your loved one at a meeting please call Carol Graham at 215-538-3651.

A special thank you to Lynette Lampmann, Kelly Logan, Jennifer Pini and Mary Catherine Neiderstock for the Remembrance that you receive. They do this in remembrance of their children/ siblings, Shawn (Lynette), and brother, Jason (Jennifer), Kelly does it in remembrance of all those who have gone too soon. An appreciated Thank You to our members for helping to set up and tear down for chapter meetings. Thank you to Linda Stauffer for doing our newsletter and website. She does this in memory of her daughter Katie. Thank you to, Betty and Charlie Hottenstein, for taking on the monthly task of addressing our monthly newsletters for mailing, they do this in remembrance of their daughter, Tracy..

Thank you for your
Love Gifts and
Support



LOVE GIFTS

A Love Gift is a gift of money to The Compassionate Friends. Love Gifts can be in memory of a child or sibling on their birthday or angel day, can honor a friend or relative, or can show support for the work of TCF. Love Gifts are the Chapter's main monetary support. Thank you for your Love Gift.

Love Gifts are tax deductible – Chapter Non-Profit #2053

Circle One: *In Memory* or *In Honor* of (name of persc

Birth Date _____ Death Date (Angel Day)

Check One: Please use my gift for....

- Memorial Garden
- Special Events (i.e. speakers, community outreach)
- Candle Lighting Program
- Memorial Walk & Butterfly Release
- General operating expenses

Your Name: _____

Email or Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Checks payable to: TCF Quakertown Chapter

Mail to: PO Box 1013, Quakertown, PA 18951

Love Gift Message:

Treasurer Use Only
Cash/Check # _____ Amount _____
D _____ Q _____ T _____ N _____



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

Next Meetings July 10, August 14



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 our 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.

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