



The Compassionate Friends

February 2020 *Serving Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties*

Going Places and Doing Great Things

The year 2011 was so exciting. Our son, Eric, would be graduating from Temple University in May. Early in the year, he was so elated when he landed the job he wanted with Lockheed Martin. Graduation day, May 12, was so uplifting for all of us and we were incredibly proud of all that our hardworking Eric had accomplished for himself.

For the graduation party I was planning at our home, I stopped him in the kitchen. "Eric, I need you to give me a count of how many friends you'd like to invite to your party." He answered, "Mom, I just can't give you a count. If I don't include all my friends, some will have hurt feelings and I wouldn't want to do that to anyone." I suggested he go with the "core group," his friends from grade school and high school. It still bothered him and he said, "Mom, let me tell you something. I have many friends from all walks of life and if you ever have to plan a funeral for me, you will be amazed how many people come." It haunts me to this day as does my response, "Come on, Prince Eric, just give me a count. Is it 50 or 200?" He reluctantly agreed to the core group and said he would later throw his own party for all of his friends at a separate location. My thought was "whatever." As he left the kitchen, he paused and said, "Mom, I just have a feeling that I am going to go places and do great things." I heartily agreed. He was off to a fabulous start because of



all his hard work.

One month to the day after graduation, June 12, the bomb dropped on our family. We got "the knock on the door" from our local police at 1 A.M. Eric was in an auto accident and we were told to call the

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"To honor your grief is not self-destructive or harmful, it is life-sustaining and life-giving, and it ultimately leads you back to love again. In this way love is both the cause and the antidote."

---- Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D.

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: 484-408-7314

contact@TCFQuakertownpa.org

website: www.tcfquakertownpa.org



Please give some thought to volunteering with The Compassionate Friends. Our Chapter is growing and we need helping hands to continue to help others that are new to this path of grief. We need not walk alone.



The Compassionate Friends

Quakertown Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Serving Bucks and Montgomery Counties



About Our Chapter

Barbara Reboratti, Chapter Coordinator
& Chapter Delegate to National
Ginny Leigh-Manuel-Membership Outreach
Crystal Hunter, Social Media Coordinator &
Sibling Outreach
Sherril Albro, Chapter Treasurer
Gail Blase, Chapter Secretary
Mary Anne Macko, Assistant Secretary
Linda Stauffer, Chapter Newsletter &
Website Creator & Maintenance
Theresa Sitko, Memorial Garden Director
Lynette Lampmann, Hospitality
Mary Catherine Nederostek, Hospitality
Diane Guerecki, Remembrance Cards
Lisa Dechant, Remembrance Cards
Dianna Cox
Bob Albro
Carol Graham

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're 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 for February Birthdays

2/1 - Brian Dorsey, son of Mindy Dorsey

2/3 - Robert Kyle Rainey, son of Lynne Rainey

2/3 - Heather Schaefer, daughter of Linda Schaefer

2/4 - Eric Martin, son of Daniel Martin; brother of Mikaela Martin

2/4 - Andrew Flath, son of Lori Jordan

2/4 - Lynda Mohlenhoff, daughter of Frank & Peggy Posivak

2/5 - Robert Bowen, son of Agnes & Robert Bowen

2/5 - Jonathan McCormick, son of Jacqueline & Bob Daniel

2/6 - Michael Pettie, son of Doreene Pettie

2/9 - Katey Blasé, daughter of Gail Blasé, sister of Hiliary Blasé

2/9 - Dario Datis, son of Sherie Datis

2/9 - Derick M. Lawley, brother of Tara Lawley-Bergey

2/10 - Jeffrey Broxteman, son of Roger & Janet Broxteman

2/10 - Shawn Lampmann, son of Lynette Lampmann

2/12 - David Schaller, son of Raymond Schaller

2/14 - Marc Falcone, son of Dominic & Carolyn Falcone

2/14 - Joshua Sotak, son of Mary Catherine Nederosteck

2/15 - Kristin Statuti, daughter of Henry & Maryann Statuti; Henry & Shirley Statuti

2/16 - Alexandria Gasior, daughter of Linda & Dan Brophy

2/16 - Chris Guidotti, son of Nancy & Al Guidotti

2/16 - Scott Newell, son of Carol Newell

2/18 - Tracey Elizabeth Hottenstein, daughter of Charlie & Betty Hottenstein

2/18 - John Ruch, son of Christina Dunning

2/19 - Bill Molko, son of Ellen Molko

2/19 - Will Moyer, son of Sue Simon

2/20 - Amanda Burgess, daughter of Glenn Burgess

2/20 - Kinsey Duvall, son of Craig Duvall

2/20 - Scott Naber, brother of Anje Naber

2/25 - Tammy Moore, daughter of Tom & Sandra Moore

2/26 - Cpl. Barton Humlhanz, son of Michele & Don Carey

2/26 - Joey Siedlecki, son of Joe Siedlecki & Monica Siedlecki

2/27 - Justina Sue Espinoza, daughter of Bob & Jacqueline Daniels

2/28 - Jason Tyler, son of Mitzi Foulke

2/28 - Sullivan Burd, son of Jessica & Glenn Burd

2/28 - Matt Cardinal, son of Lynn Cardinal; brother of Mike Cardinal

2/28 - Joy Wong, sister of Jody Wong

My Beloved Child

To honor you, I get up everyday and take a breath. And start another day without you in it. To honor you, I laugh and love with those who knew your smile and the way your eyes twinkled with mischief and secret knowledge. To honor you, I take the time to appreciate everyone I love, I know now there is no guarantee of days or hours spent in their presence.

To honor you, I listen to music you would have liked, And sing at the top of my lungs, with the windows rolled down.

To honor you, I take chances, say what I feel, hold nothing back, Risk making a fool of myself, dance every dance.

You were my light, my heart, my gift of love, from the very highest source.



Grief never ends. But it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith. It is the price of love.

- Author Unknown

(continued from page 1)

hospital. I knew! I knew my dear boy was gone. Eric had broken bones, but his head injury was severe and the brain scan showed no activity. Another scan would be 12 hours later. Eric's dad was hopeful. He would do whatever it took: set up a hospital bed in the home, have hired help and get his boy back. But I knew it would never happen. As we headed to the hospital, we passed The Gift of Life building – and I knew.

The second scan confirmed what I already knew. We met with an amazing and comforting representative from the Gift of Life. Yes, our Eric was a donor. He proudly signed up when he became a licensed driver and later convinced me to do the same. When speaking with the Gift of Life representative, whose name was also Mary, we learned that Eric could also donate bone and tissue. We agreed to allow whatever could be donated. We were honoring his wishes. Did it make us feel any better? No, not at the time. Eric was right about the number of people who would attend his funeral. Two of his friends at the funeral said they were glad we donated his organs. They said Eric was called “Triple A” because he would always be there for anyone in need.

Shortly after the funeral, I wrote to each organ recipient to tell him or her about my wonderful son. I needed them to know that he was a great human being, excellent student and was into exercising and eating healthy. I told them we considered their new organs “gifts” – they were not to feel obligated to us in any way, but if they wished to correspond, we’d be delighted to hear how they are doing.

At the same time I was writing my letters, Arlinda, who received Eric’s kidney and pancreas, was writing to us. Receiving her first letter was and still is pure gold to us. It was read many times and circulated to family and friends so they could see the good that came from losing someone so dear to many. Did it help with our devastation? No, but we loved getting letters from the right kidney recipient, Ike, and the heart recipient, Patrick.

After writing and speaking by phone, Arlinda and I arranged for our families to meet. We had already met Ike, the man who received Eric’s other kidney. Meeting Arlinda has led to what I feel will be a life- long friendship. She is a loving, thoughtful and compassionate woman. Through our connection with The Gift of Life, we have helped to promote the need for more organ donors and have been involved in many related functions.

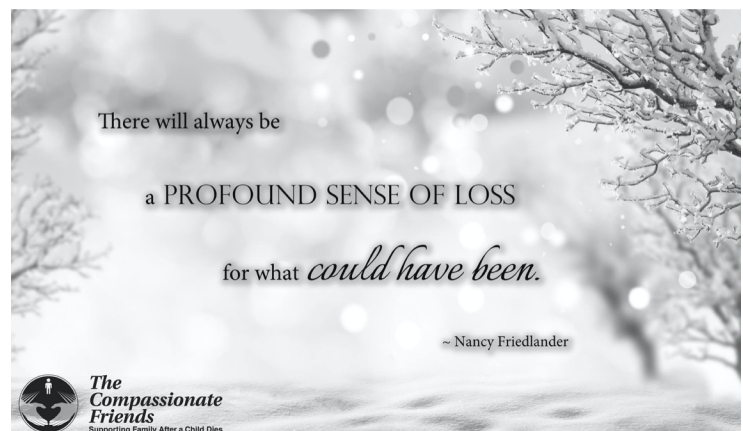


We talk and text regularly. We both have November birthdays that we celebrate together. Arlinda had suffered with juvenile diabetes most of her life, lost most of her eyesight, was on dialysis and was waiting more than two years for a lifesaving kidney and pancreas. When Eric told me he was going to go places and do great things, it was in a way that I would never have imagined. His bone and tissue donations spanned over 20 States. His heart allowed a young man to live and see the birth of his second daughter. His eyes gave sight to two people. Does knowing and experiencing this help? Absolutely! This past November when Arlinda and I went to lunch for our birthdays, I gasped when she said, “I’ll have the veal Parmesan.” She had no idea it was Eric’s favorite meal. Life is good.

By Mary Smith

Eric's Mom

TCF Quakertown Chapter, PA



Our Children Remembered on the Anniversary of Their Death

Loved , missed and alway in our hearts

2/1 – **Myrl Packer III**, son of Anna Packer

2/3 – **Joseph Cavataio**, son of Libby Cavataio

2/6 – **Jonathan McCormick**, son of Jacqueline & Bob Daniel

2/7 – **Douglas Hofmackel**, son of Marie & Ken Hofmackel

2/7 – **Leslie Kobzina**, daughter of Randy & Lori-Ann Kobzina

2/7 – **Michael Pettie**, son of Doreene Pettie

2/8 – **Blake Smith**, son of Colleen & Robert Bendesky

2/8 – **Philip D. Calabrette, Jr.**, son of Lynn Calabrette

2/9 – **Dawn Cannon**, daughter of Joanne & David Cannon

2/9 – **Anne-Marie Acker**, daughter of Anne Marie Acker

2/10 – **Megan Eschenburg**, daughter of Gary & Peggy Eschenburg

2/10 – **Lisa Kumiega-Lewis**, daughter of Alan & Arlene Vogel

2/10 – **Brenda Meehl**, daughter of Patricia & Harold Hunsicker

2/11 – **Rachel Behrig**, daughter of David & Kimberly Behrig

2/12 – **Robert Bowen**, son of Agnes & Robert Bowen

2/12 – **James Monahan II**, son of Kim Kleinsmith

2/12 – **Lisa Dawn Weatherly**, daughter of Norma Jean Weatherly

2/13 – **Shawn Lampmann**, son of Lynette Lampmann

2/13 – **Jake Paternoster**, son of Mike & Ruth Paternoster

2/13 – **Rebecca VanLuvanee**, daughter of Nanette & Daniel Helms

2/14 – **Derick Schubert**, son of Anne & John Schubert; brother of Marie

2/15 – **Randy Angstadt**, son of Paul & Barbara Angstadt

2/15 – **Tracey Elizabeth Hottenstein**, daughter of Charlie & Betty Hottenstein

2/15 – **Brittani James**, daughter of Christine James; Jack & Polly James; sister of Shannon Short; granddaughter of Nancy James

2/16 – **Benjamin Michael Albro**, son of Sherri & Bob Albro

2/16 – **Stormy Weaver**, daughter of Nathan & Amber Weaver

2/17 – **Vivienne Martin**, granddaughter of James & Catherine McFadden

2/18 – **Rodney Bossert**, son of Julia Bossert Roush

2/18 – **Gregory Hallman**, nephew of Mary Pat Hallman

2/18 – **Kevin Short**, son of Frank & Lynne Short

2/21 – **Natasha Michelle Dechant**, daughter of Nancy Dechant

2/21 – **Greg Mikesell**, son of Carol & Don Mikesell

2/22 – **Sarah Souder**, daughter of Dean & Kay Souder

2/22 – **Joey Reichman**, son of Tacey & Stephen Reichman, brother of Tami

2/24 – **David Cassel**, brother of Carol Lamonte

2/24 – **George Davish**, son of Sheryle & George Davish

2/24 – **David Grebe**, brother of Sue Grebe

2/24 – **David Cassel**, brother of Carol Lamonte

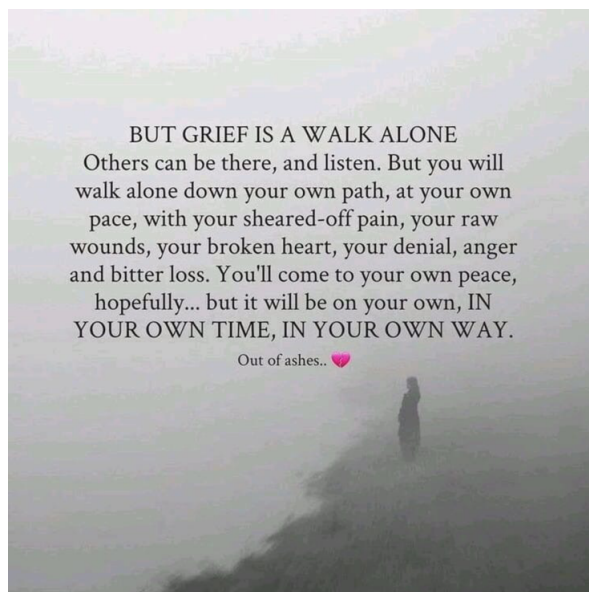
2/25 – **Shane Bowen**, son of Agnes & Robert Bowen

2/27 – **Brian Hackmaster**, son of Barbara Hackmaster; brother of Amy Hackmaster

2/27 – **Donnie Daniels, Jr.**, son of Don & Kelly Daniels

2/27 – **Christopher Ulmer**, son of James & Patricia Ulmer

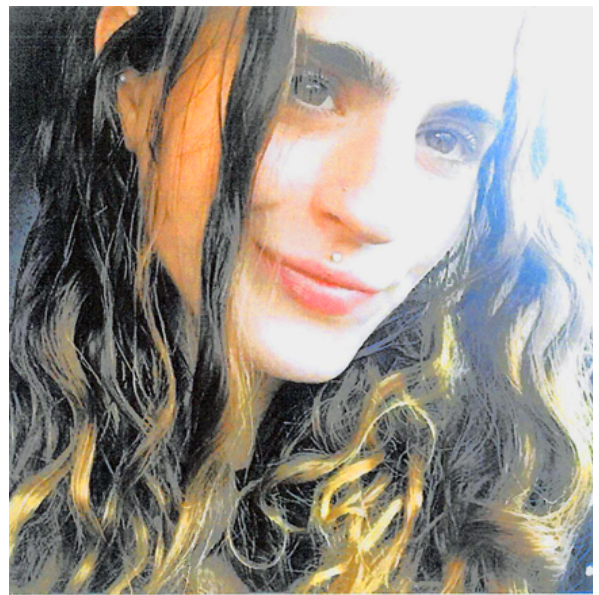
2/28 – **Justice Goodwin**, son of Holly & Keith Goodwin



To all who wish to know what it is like losing a child:

When you see me – you don't have to tiptoe away – I know it is uncomfortable – but please just come over and give me a hug. That may be exactly what I need at that moment. Please, please, please – do not ask if I am okay – because, honestly, I never really will be okay. Truthfully, I really DO NOT want to tell you – but it will come flooding out – that my world is shattered into infinite number of pieces. I cannot make sense of anything; I am a walking zombie just trying to get through every nano-second of the day – it is just as heartbreaking for me to say as it is for you to hear. Please do not tell me that God needed her- that hurts more than you could possibly realize; it is unfair, vexing and madding to believe that God would be so damn cruel and evil to take such a beautiful light out of the world so damn soon. Please do not tell me the usual gambit of sympathetic things we have been taught to say because, that is all we know how to say and comfortable with.....

INSTEAD – TELL ME – she was so much more than her addiction – that you saw her true and beautiful self. TELL ME she was kindhearted and loving. TELL ME she actually made a difference in your life and perhaps made you a better person somehow. TELL ME she made you laugh until you cried and your belly hurt. TELL ME how you watched secret videos she took of me dancing and you goofed on me and laughed so hard (believe me it will make me laugh – because I knew I made her laugh with my dancing while making dinner). TELL ME that you have so many memories and pictures that you will share with me (being that is all we have left of her now). TELL ME her passing has made you change your ways and that you will do EVERYTHING you possibly can to stay clean and sober. TELL ME that you will turn in drug dealers. TELL ME that you will not help anyone ever again to get drugs or help them “shoot-up”. TELL ME how you love nature more and would never hurt or hunt wild animals because of her love for all things wild and free. TELL ME that you despise big game hunting. TELL ME that you are going to adopt/rescue and never shop for an animal and love it more than air. TELL ME you contributed even \$1 to an animal conservation charity. TELL ME you will plant sunflowers, lavender and acorns in her memory. TELL ME how much you love Led Zeppelin, KISS, Stones, Bizet's Carmen, Disco etc. and how you sang her favorite song with her or danced in the rain to the Bee Gee's “Staying Alive or KC and the Sunshine Band's, “Shake our Booty”. Tell ME how her eclectic taste in music made you appreciate so many new and different songs. TELL ME how much you love her and will never let her light dim in your heart. TELL ME how much you loved her quirky little smile and her infectious laugh. Tell ME YOU MISS HER TOO!



Thus, in the wake of this tragedy I have come to many realizations. Never take anyone for granted – that they will be there later or tomorrow – because they might not be. No matter how angry, frustrated, disgusted or saddened you are with someone tell them how much you love them, regardless of their problems. Because you cannot once they are gone. DO NOT EVER miss a chance to say I LOVE YOU and mean it. REMEMBER, just because someone is an addict, it doesn't mean that is all they are. They are not poop on the bottom of your shoe to dismiss because they choose drugs over you. Be there for them somehow, because when you dismiss them, it makes your life easier, but it sends that person into a deep, terrifying, horrid depression that will essentially make them turn to doing more drugs to alleviate that empty spot you left by leaving. DO NOT EVER MISS a chance to always heartily say you're sorry if you hurt someone. DO NOT HOLD YOUR PAIN INSIDE – Express what hurts you and PLEASE seek help. FORGIVE and do not let the past hurts have power over you, instead have power over them, do not let them consume you or destroy you. Make amends with friends and family. I am also going to assume I speak for my family as well. Thank you all.

In Loving Memory of, Lillian Ciccarone. Gone too soon

Written by: Claire Ciccarone, Lillian's mom



Use Creative Outlets

Get everyone a journal or sketch pad and suggest that they use it when they are feeling down. It often helps to express grief through [journaling](#), drawing, or painting. Another option is to create a playlist in memory of your child, write a poem, or create a song—anything that provides a creative outlet for your grief. Creative outlets can help you make sense of your feelings. Make sure you are providing plenty of opportunities for you and your family members to express grief and heal.

My name is Michelle Larrabee. I am organizing the 3rd annual Hunter's Birthday Auction online. I am looking to raise money for The Compassionate Friends (TCF), Quakertown Chapter, with an online auction I started in my son's name 2 years ago. TCF 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. There are many chapters around the world.



Hunter passed away in July 2017 at the age of 10 due to a tragic UTV accident during a vacation in Texas. He was flown to the closest Children's Pediatric Unit which was in Shreveport, Louisiana where he became an Organ Donor.

Hunter's Birthday Auction was started in March of 2018 to celebrate his 11th Birthday. The first year, 2018, we raised \$2,100. Of that, \$1,600 went to 32 "Honor a Donor Family" packages which included: a Build a Bear with Heartbeat, Donor Medal of Honor and a hand or footprint (no longer available) and \$500 went directly to the LOPA foundation. The Second year, 2019, we raised \$3,262 of which \$2,500 of that went to a memorial bench, in Hunter's honor, in LOPA's new memorial park and \$762 was donated directly to LOPA.

Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency's (LOPA) core purpose is Making Life Happen. They save and heal lives through organ and tissue donation.

If you would like to join along in the Auction please feel free to join Hunter's Birthday Auction on Facebook.



Plaques are only available for ACTIVE members of the Quakertown Chapter of The Compassionate Friends, which serves parents, siblings, and grandparents. **Being active means attending events, meetings, donating Love Gifts, or volunteering for the chapter in some capacity.** Circle: I am a bereaved **grandparent / parent / sibling** _____. I became part of TCF Quakertown in (year) _____.

Memorial Garden Plaque Order Form

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY. WRITE ONE (1) LETTER OR SPACE FOR EACH BLOCK.

A PERIOD/COMMA GOES IN THE SAME BLOCK AS THE LETTER BEFORE. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO CENTER ANY OF IT.

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Make the check (\$135 memo: Plaque) payable to The Compassionate Friends Quakertown Chapter and mail with form to:
 TCF Quakertown Chapter
 P.O. Box 1013; Quakertown, PA 18951

By marking this box, I confirm I have checked the spelling for my plaque.

DEADLINE: February 15, 2020

Questions: Plaque Coordinator Crystal at MemorialGardenTCF@gmail.com or 614-746-8076

THE PLACEMENT OF THE PLAQUE IS DETERMINED BY THE PLAQUE COMMITTEE. Special glue is used and will ruin the plaque and the wall if removed. Plaques are only for chapter members to purchase.



Refreshments for January

We gratefully acknowledge the following families who provided refreshments for our January meeting:
Don and Lorraine Croisette, in loving memory of their daughter Jacquelyn Dahms
Diana Cox, in loving memory of her beloved son, Michael
Claire and Frank Ciccarone, in loving memory of their daughter Lillian Claire Ciccarone
Mary Anne Macko, in loving memory of her sons Chris and Matt, her brother Michael and all the children gone too soon.

Love's Lasting Touch

Don't weep for me when I'm gone,
Because I'll always be there.
My spirit will exist in all the earth,
In the water, trees, and air.

You'll hear me say, "I love you",
In the whisper of a breeze.
You'll know that I'm beside you,
With the rustling of the leaves.

You'll feel my arms caress you,
In the warmth of each sunrise.
The moon will be my goodnight kiss,
The stars my watchful eyes.

Your life will be my legacy,
Your memories my epitaph.
These ties will bind us together,
Till we meet on heaven's path.

I'll not ever desert you,
We'll never be far apart.
I'll live within you always,
Nestled deep inside your heart.

Jacquelyn M. Comeaux
In Memory of My Angels...
Michelle, Jerry & Danny

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If you would like to sponsor refreshments or bring some to a meeting in remembrance of your loved one, please call our Chapter Info Line 484-408-7314.

A special thank you to Diane Guerecki, Kasey Bradley Lisa Dechant, Jenifer Pini and Crystal Hunter for the Remembrance cards that you receive. They do this in memory of their children/ siblings: 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 addressing our monthly newsletters for mailing. They do this in remembrance of their daughter, Tracy. Thanks to Barb and Bob Heimerdinger for applying the memorial Plaques to the wall in the memorial garden. They do this in remembrance of their son Ryan.

Angels Among Us

Our Angels are among us
We see them everyday
In all the forms that God created...
They are with us along life's way.

We see them in the sunrise,
That brightens and warms our soul.
We feel them in the summer breeze
That chases away our cold.

They are there among the flowers...
Their sweet scent a memory of love.
They soar with the eagles,
As they fly so high above.

The night will find them in the stars,
Lighting our path below.
And even in our dreams,
Their presence we'll still know.

As the snow melts with the sun,
And spring flowers peek through their beds,
They come on the wings of butterflies,
And flutter about our heads.

They are telling us they are with us,
And will be forever more...
Until it's time for us to meet again,
As we pass through heaven's door.

Jacquelyn M. Comeaux

Love Gifts

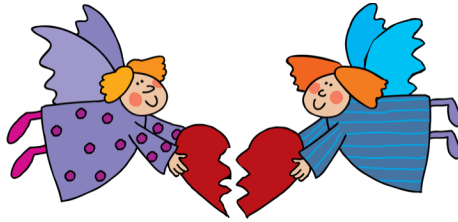
From Linda & Dan Brophy in memory of their daughter Alexandria Gasior

From Pat and Harold Hunsicker; in loving memory of our daughter, Brenda Meehl.

From Steven Tondera, in memory of his son, Michael.

In memory of Skye A Gilbert; You are always in our hearts and thinking of you. Love, Susan (Mom), Jaylee (daughter) and Lucas (son).

In memory of Shawn William Lampman; I love and miss you, yesterday, today and tomorrow! Hugs and kisses, Mom



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. **Please make checks payable to The Compassionate Friends Quakertown Chapter.** (Bank will not accept just TCF)he

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

Circle One: *In Memory* or *In Honor* of (name of person) _____

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

Love Gift Message:

Your Name: _____
Email or Telephone: _____
Address: _____

Checks payable to
The Compassionate Friends
Quakertown Chapter
PO Box 1013
Quakertown, PA 18951

Treasurer Use Only

Cash/Check # _____ Amount _____
D _____ Q _____ T _____ N _____



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

Next Meetings : Feb 11, March 10



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.

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