



Serving Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties

# The Compassionate Friends

Quakertown Chapter June 2022

'til we meet again on  
**June 11**

**The annual Memorial Walk and Butterfly Release will be on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at James Memorial Park (rain or shine).** It has been 3 years since we had this event, and we are elated to see everyone again.

Thank you to all who sent in order forms. There will be a limited number of t-shirts for sale starting at Noon.

The event is open to everyone. **No additional butterflies will be available.**

### Timeline for June 11

- 9am to 11:30am: Drop off completed raffle baskets (we will have plastic bags to contain them if you do not)
- 9am- 12:30pm: Drop off individually wrapped baked goods (transport them in throwaway containers or be sure to pick it up later)
- Noon: Begin arriving to pick up your orders, purchase hot dog/water (\$1 each) or baked goods (donation)
- Noon-2pm: purchase 50/50 raffle tickets and tickets for the various raffle baskets
- 2pm: all sales stop as we begin the program
- 2pm: at the Derstine Pavilion the program will begin

with a speaker and short walk

- Approx. 2:30: at the Markley Pavilion (at our garden) reading names and releasing butterflies
- Approx. 3pm: winners of the raffles will be announced

### Additional Details

- You may bring a small picture for the memory board; however, you must take it home with you as we cannot guarantee we will get it back to you.
- Be sure to bring your blankets and lawn chairs as there are limited picnic tables at the pavilions.
- At the event, there will also be special items like garden flags, garden mugs, previous years' apparel, and other items. If you have an idea to donate items to sell (previously someone made coasters and notepads) contact us
- At the event, only cash or check will be accepted.
- Bring your cameras. Afterwards, you can share the best pictures to our social media pages or email them to [newsletter@tcfquakertownpa.org](mailto:newsletter@tcfquakertownpa.org) to be included in the July newsletter.

If you are reading this newsletter and do not receive emails from the chapter, and would like to, please email [contact@tcfquakertownpa.org](mailto:contact@tcfquakertownpa.org) to be included on the email list. Be sure to include your name!



As our membership grows costs are rising to mail paper copies of the newsletter each month. Please consider receiving the newsletter by email, or Facebook, or our website. Please contact us with your email address!!! Thank you for helping us SAVE funds!!! email or scan ----->  
[contact@tcfquakertownpa.org](mailto:contact@tcfquakertownpa.org)



Quakertown Chapter  
**PO Box 1013**  
Quakertown, PA 18951  
**Chapter Info Line: 215-703-8431**  
[contact@TCFQuakertownpa.org](mailto:contact@TCFQuakertownpa.org)  
website: [www.tcfquakertownpa.org](http://www.tcfquakertownpa.org)

**NEW**

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

Chapter Leader – Crystal Hunter

Chapter Treasurer – Lisa Dechant

Chapter Secretary – Gail Blase

Assistant Secretary –

Mary Anne Macko

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster –

Linda Stauffer

Membership Outreach-

Ginny Leigh Manuel

Social Media Coordinator & Sibling

Coordinator – Crystal Hunter

Memorial Garden Chairperson –

Theresa Sitko

Committee members – Bob Albro,

Dianna Cox, Diane Gurecki, and

Lynette Lampman, Sherri Albro,

Barbara Reboratti

**TCF National Office:**

877-969-0010

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



**New Chapter  
phone number  
215-703-8431**

#### 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. Re-member 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 meet-ing. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@tcfquakertownpa.org)



*“Our Children Remembered on their June Birthdays  
Always Loved, Missed and Forever in Our Hearts.”*

6/2 – **Dennis Harris**, son of Linda Lepo

6/2 – **Matt Trauger**, son of Mary Anne Macko & Mike Hamilton, son of Jim Trauger, grandson of Dolly Bibic

6/2 – **Shannon Frederick Rodgers**, son of Cindy Rodgers

6/4 – **Andrea Clutter**, daughter of Alyssa Sandt

6/5 – **Edward (Eddie) Myers**, son of Diane Daneker

6/7 – **Michelle Dusza**, daughter of Steve & the late Darlene Dusza; sister of Jenn Geib

6/9 – **Adrian Paul Pfitzer**, son of Joyce Mann & Kurt Pfitzer

6/10 – **Crystal Cordero**, daughter of Linda & Rich Ervin

6/10 – **James Donnelly, Jr.**, son of James & Alice Donnelly

6/10 – **Christine McGhee**, daughter of Dawn McGhee

6/12 – **Natasha Michelle Dechant**, daughter of Nancy Dechant

6/14 – **Skylar Kauffman**, daughter of Heather & Eric Kauffman

6/15 – **James Gabriel Geib**, son of Jim & Helen Geib

6/15 – **Keith Heckler**, son of Emma & Lamar Heckler

6/15 – **Courtney Isabella**, daughter of Anthony & Michelle Isabella

6/17 – **Nick Campellone**, son of Johanna Goodwin

6/17 – **John Patrick Sharkey**, son of Maggie O'Donnell

6/24 – **Brandon Gilbert**, son of Susan Gilbert

6/24 – **Katie Stauffer**, daughter of Carl & Linda Stauffer; sister of Chrissy

6/27 – **CalliMae Derstine**, daughter of Lucy & Mike Derstine

6/29 – **Randy Freed**, son of Bonnie Freed

6/30 – **Joey Reichman**, son of Tacey & Stephen Reichman, brother of Tami



*Our Children Remembered on the Anniversary  
of Their Death Loved, missed and always in our hearts*

- 6/4 – **Jonerik “EJ” Perullo**, grandson of Suzanne & Tom Kwan  
6/4 – **Gregory Nacios**, brother of Marade Williams  
6/9 – **Christopher Reed**, son of Sally Reed  
6/10 – **Allison Perno**, son of Cathy Perno  
6/11 – **Steffan Orazewski**, grandson of Crystal Kay  
6/12 - **Eric Smith**, son of Ross & Mary Smith, brother of Ashley  
6/13 - **Katey Blase**, daughter of Gail Blase, sister of Hillary Blase  
6/18 - **Benjamin Martin**, son of Kristine Fallows, brother of Rachel Whitely  
6/21 - **Jason Roeder**, son of Shirley Roeder, brother of Jessica Youtz  
6/21 – **William Young**, son of Barbara Young  
6/22 - **Joshua Adair**, grandson of Lois Harner  
6/22 - **James Gabriel Geib**, son of Jim & Helen Geib  
6/22 – **Brandon Gilbert**, son of Susan Gilbert  
6/26 – **Elena Wenger**, daughter of Melinda Wenger  
6/27 - **Christopher Trauger**, son of Mary Anne Macko & Mike Hamilton, son Jim Trauger, grandson of Dolly Bibic  
6/27 – **Michael Gurecki**, son of Diane & Stanley Gurecki  
6/29 - **Ashley Doyle**, daughter of Brian Doyle  
6/29 - **Thomas Onraet**, son of Ruth & Maurice Onraet

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



## Special Thanks

A special thank you to Diane Guerecki, Lisa Dechant, Jenifer Pini, [Michelle Argue Larrabee](#), [Rosemary Stewart](#) 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 supplying the ink and paper and printing our newsletter and creating and maintaining our website. She does this in memory of her daughter Katie. Thank you to Theresa Sitko for managing our memorial garden. She does this in memory of her son Clayton. Thank you to Dianna Cox for addressing our monthly newsletters for mailing. She does this in remembrance of her son Michael. 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.



## Next Support Meeting

June 14 @ the Gathering Place

7-8:30pm

Come as you are for the meeting. No dues and you do not have to talk - listening only is welcomed!

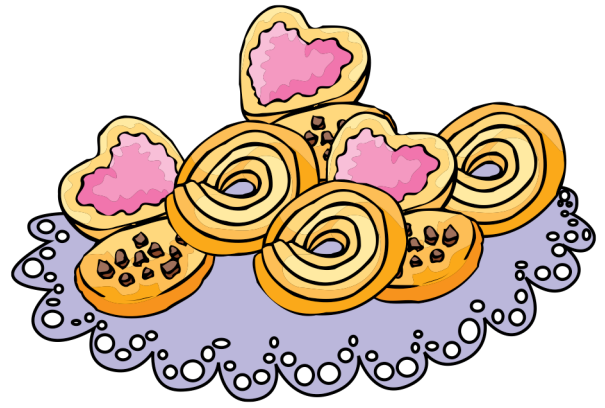
If you want to, you can bring a favorite snack to share in memory of your child/sibling.

The Guidelines:

- Finger food (no forks or plates available)
- Individually wrapped/proportions

The chapter will provide napkins and you will bring your own drinks.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!



## Calling all Bakers

At the walk, we sell baked goods all donated by families. The items need to be individually wrapped. We have had ice cream sandwiches (bring the cooler), cupcakes, bars, brownies, YOU NAME IT! The baked goods are sold for a donation and all proceeds go to the chapter. Simply bring the baked goods the morning of walk – we are there at 9am!

Please bring it by 12:30pm. Do not bring a container you want back because if it is left, we cannot guarantee it will be returned. Questions: [contact@tcfquakertownpa.org](mailto:contact@tcfquakertownpa.org)

There's no end to  
my grief journey  
because there's  
no end to my  
love for you.

J.S. Golubich

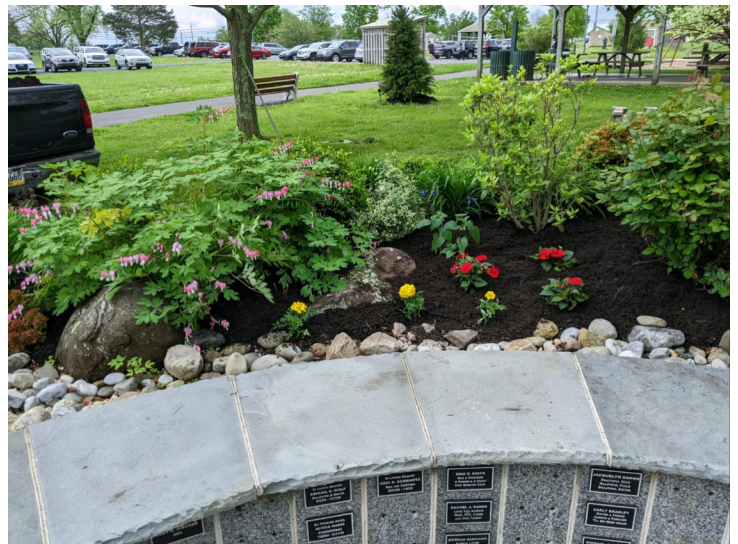






**"We should love people and use things, not use people and love things"**

"In society today many people put great value on their possessions. Things like the right shirts, jeans, or backpacks set the standard for social status in the schools. But people should respect others for their character and personality rather than for what they own. Also, some people will use others to gain a certain objective. Whether it is a campaign loan or an introduction to a best friend. Unfortunately people will always see others in a "what can you do for me" way. Hopefully, in the future people will learn to love others for their companionship and their personality. Placing undo importance on material things weakens ones ability to see the value of friendship. Personally I am ashamed that I place a value on my possessions. I don't believe that I use people to gain more things. Once and a while things can be important, like your first report card or your great grandmothers picture, but real people can always bring more to your life than an inanimate thing." Katie Stauffer 2000





# Love Gifts

*"There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are messengers of overwhelming grief...and unspeakable love."*

*Washington Irving*

Sending a very special thank you to those who sent in love gifts this month:

To Jeanne Hofmann, In loving memory of her beloved son Scott Silver and grandson Kyle Silver, a donation was made to our memorial garden.

To Jim & Helen Geib, In loving memory to their son James G. Geib, "Forever in our Hearts"

To Susan Gilbert, In loving memory of her son Brandon S. Gilbert, "You are loved and missed and remembered always, Love Mom

To Carol Dorey, In loving memory of her son, a donation was made to our memorial garden.

Donations made in memory of your child, grandchild or sibling are always welcome,.  
Please help us help others. We Need Not Walk Alone.



## LOVE GIFTS

A Love Gift is a donation of money in support of our Quakertown Chapter of The Compassionate Friends. Donations can be in memory of a child, sibling, or grandchild on their birthday, angel day or anytime. Your Love Gift will be acknowledged in our newsletter. Love Gifts are our Chapter's main monetary support. Anyone can donate and we thank you for your support of our chapter.

***We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit, chapter #2053. Donations are tax deductible.***



**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Death Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

General Operating Expenses  Memorial Garden

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Love Gift Message** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to:**  
The Compassionate Friends, Quakertown Chapter

**Mail to:**  
PO Box 1013  
Quakertown, PA 18951

**Yes or No - include my name / love note in the newsletter.**



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

## Support Group Meeting is June 14th at The Gathering Place

### *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.

We Are The Compassionate Friends.

