



The Compassionate Friends

Supporting Family After a Child Dies



Serving Upper Bucks and Montgomery Counties

June 2017

Quakertown Chapter
PO Box 1013
Quakertown, PA 18951
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380-0130

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

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.

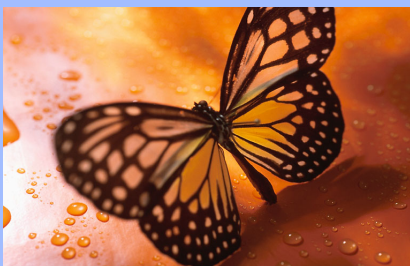


It's Finally Happening!

After a rainy weekend caused a delay we finally began to construct our Children's Memorial Garden. A place we can visit and reflect on our memories of our beloved children. Special thanks to Lynn Kraft for the beautiful design and all the volunteers and donors who made our dream a reality. Our annual memorial walk will be held here on June 10. Come and see the progress

Please bring your own chairs or blankets to the Memorial Walk.

June's Support Group Meeting will be held in the cafeteria at St. Luke's Hospital in Quakertown on June 13.



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

Quakertown Chapter

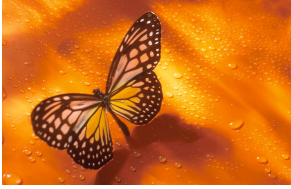
PO Box 1013

Quakertown, PA 18951

Chapter Info Line: (267)380-0130

contact@TCFQuakertownpa.org

website: www.tcfquakertownpa.org



Memorial Walk News

We are doing a **"Favorite Thing" basket** at the walk. If you would like to add one (1) item in memory of your child/sibling/grandchild, bring that to the raffle table to add to the basket, and then you'll write a notecard about the item, of whom it's in memory, and your name. Someone lucky will win a pretty cool basket! Questions- contact Crystal.

Remember to bring some individually served baked goods to the walk! We will sell them "for donations" - no prices listed! Bring cash because the Sitko family is baking their variety, Crystal is bringing cupcakes in cones, and we even have some gluten free goodies and soft pretzels!

The walk is rain or shine! Bring blankets and lawn chairs. Registration (pick up t-shirts and tickets for butterflies) will begin at 1pm, but come at noon if you want to eat lunch because we will have hot dogs and water for sale. The remembrance walk will start at 2pm, followed by a speaker and the butterfly release. After that, the winners for the 50-50, raffle baskets, and silent auction will be announced. The raffles and auctions will be available for sale from Noon until the start of the butterfly release; listen for announcements to get in your final bid!

Reminder- feel free to bring one (1) picture, sized 5 x 7 or smaller, to place on the photo board of all of our children and siblings. Take it home with you; it is not guaranteed to be returned to you if left.

We look forward to seeing you on June 10th

Directions to James Park, Derstine Pavillion, 1028 Ridge Road, Sellersville , PA. 18960

309 South- take exit toward PA -563/Perkasie,

Turn Right onto Lawn Avenue Turn left at the first cross street onto PA 563 s. Destination will be on the right.

309 North to exit PA 563/Perkasie

Turn left onto Ridge Rd/PA 563. destination is just past School Rd on the right



June's Support Group Meeting will be held in the cafeteria at St. Luke's Hospital in Quakertown on June 13.

In addition, the June meeting will be a different format. Bereaved siblings, who are all on different paths of time and coping methods, will be available as a panel. If you have a question or topic that you would like discussed, please email Crystal at crys.hunter@gmail.com, contact via Facebook, or fill out this form--> <https://goo.gl/forms/Tm7IHCcT4kTakP693> -- In addition, there will be paper at the meeting to write a question. Reminder, that our chapter TCF meetings are for age 18 and above , and every family, parent, and sibling has a unique experience .

Our Children Remembered on Their Birthdays



6/2 – **Destani Danae Osborne**, daughter of Sabrina Snyder

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

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

6/3 – **Jessica Gallagher**, daughter of Robyn & Ron Gallagher; sister of Ronnie & Jaclyn Gallagher

6/6 – **Ashley Nemec**, granddaughter of Margo Staats

6/7 – **Michelle Dusza**, daughter of Steve Dusza; sister of Jenn Geib

6/7 – **Christopher Harrison**, son of Betty Harrison

6/9 – **Adrian Paul**, 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

6/11 – **Bobby McCans**, son of Dorothy & Charles McCans

6/14 – **Skylar Kauffman**, daughter of Heather & Eric Kauffman; granddaughter of Pam Gebhard, Carol & Spencer 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

6/15 – **Colleen O'Connell**, daughter of Jay & Barbara Keeley

6/16 – **Anna Nicole Fowler**, daughter of Rita Armstrong; sister of Nick Penecale

6/16 – **Wyatt Gansz**, son of Marc & Melissa Gansz

6/16 – **Eric Stillings**, son of Kirt & Joyce Stillings

6/19 – **Kevin Marc Bannon**, son of Jan & Kevin Bannon, brother of Aimee Bannon

6/24 – **Randy Angstadt**, son of Paul & Barbara Angstadt

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

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

6/26 – **Brett Stebulis**, son of Barbara & Leonard Stebulis

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

6/29 – **Peter Angstadt III**, son of Peter & Lynette Angstadt



Katie Stauffer

She walked in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Met in her aspect and her eyes:

Thus mellow'd to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impaired the nameless grace
Which waded in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express
How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.
And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love was innocent!

Love forever, Mom, Dad and Chrissy



A work in progress! Thank you to our leader Darlene watching over us from heaven above.



Our Memorial Garden at James Park. Volunteers hard at work building the foundation of our heart shaped wall.

Cash or check for \$1 for 1 ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets! Winners will be pulled at the end of the day. Must be present to win.

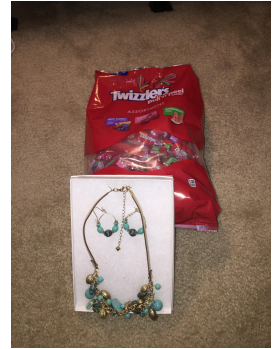


Raffle

My Pillow



\$50 for Lularoe
3 bottles of essential oil
My Pillows
Jewelry
Fiddlestix Paint & Sip Classes
and so much more!



Bid Early! Bid Often! Visit the Silent Auction table to sign in and the winner will be announced at the end of the event. Pay with cash, check, or credit card.



silent Auction



1959 W Point Pike
Lansdale, PA 19446
215.368.7061



2017 Memorial Walk and Butterfly Release

JAMES MEMORIAL PARK ~ 1028 RIDGE RD. ~ SELLERSVILLE

In addition to the walk on the paved path at 2pm, and releasing butterflies at 3pm, the special day has a few other things. Come at noon to eat!

50/50 RAFFLE

1 ticket for \$1
Arm length of tickets for \$5
Wingspan for \$10
Wraparound for \$20
Must be present to win
Cash



BAKED GOODS

Pay What You Wish
Look for info to donate
baked goods
Available at Noon
Cash



FOOD

\$1 Hot Dogs
\$1 Water
Available at Noon
Cash

SILENT AUCTION

Get a bidding number
Starting at noon
Bid often!
Pay cash, check, or credit card
Some Items: Handmade woven baskets by a mom in our group, Action Karate birthday party for 15 kids or adults, handmade butterfly purse (it is gorgeous!), and more to come!

RAFFLE BASKETS

Special tickets
Cash or Check
1 ticket for \$1
6 tickets for \$5
Starting at noon
Some Items: My Pillow, Mosaic butterfly stone, Bucks County Children's Museum admission, Crayola Factory admission, NatureWords photo PEACE, and more to come!

There will be some picnic tables under the pavilions but bring chairs and blankets to enjoy the sun! This event is RAIN OR SHINE.



Questions: contact@tcfquakertownpa.org

Remember to register for the walk to make sure you have a butterfly and/or t-shirt! You can find that information on our website and in this newsletter.



Our Children Remembered on the Anniversary of their death



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

6/2 - Christopher Bennetsen, son of Catherine & Steven Bennetsen, grandson of Hilda Bennetsen

6/2 - Jake Guzewicz, son of Bill & Rhonda Guzewicz

6/2 - Peter Plant, son of Steven & LouAnn Wilkinson, brother of Rachael

6/4 - Aaron Young, son of Perry & Susan Young

6/9 - Joani Johnson, David & Donna Freeman

6/10 - Scott Naber, son of Anje Naber

6/10 - Anthony Perno, son of Cathy Perno

6/11 - Kevin Cannon, son of Barb Cannon

6/12 - Eric Smith, son of Ross & Mary Smith, brother of Ashley

6/13 - Katey Blase, daughter of Gail Blase, sister of Hillary Blase

6/14 - Wyatt Gansz, infant son of Marc & Melissa Gansz

6/14 - Roger Jones, brother of Sara & Bert Jones

6/16 - Scott Smakula, brother Shawn Smakula; grandson of Naomi Shaw

6/17 - Donald Hockenberry, son of Richard & Sharon Hockenberry, brother of Richard & Jill Hockenberry, Susan & Tim Buehrle

6/18 - Benjamin Martin, Kristine Fallows, brother of Rachel Whitely

6/18 - Steven Schrader, son of Michele & Gary Schrader

6/20 - David Bentz III, son of Kimberly Geonnotti

6/21 - Jason Roeder, son of Shirley Roeder, brother of Jessica Youtz

6/22 - Joshua Adair, grandson of Lois Harner

6/22 - Paul Fowler, son of Matilda Hamilton

6/22 - James Gabriel Geib, son of Jim & Helen Geib

6/22 - Brandon Gilbert, son of Susan Gilbert

6/22 - Michael Patzuk Jr., son of Mike & Joesphine Patzuk

6/22 - Mario Pontecorro, son of Ellen Pontecorro

6/22 - William R. Wilson, Jr., son of William & Genevieve Wilson

6/23 - Kevin Moran, son of James Moran

6/23 - Ashley Nemec, granddaughter of Margo Staats

6/24 - James Friendly, Jr., son of Petra & James Friendly, Sr.

6/24 - Jamie Place, son of Kathleen Place

6/25 - Anthony Lounolo, son of Anthony Lounolo

6/25 - Danielle Mesaros, daughter of Sheila Haub

6/25 - Christopher Parker, son of John Parker, Jr.

6/26 - Donald Simpson, son of Judy Kostenbauder, grandson of Harold & Joyce Miller

6/27 - Adian Bacchus, grandson of MaryLou Miller

6/27 - Christopher Trauger, son of Mary Anne Macko & Mike Hamilton, son of Jim Trauger, grandson of Dolly Bibic

6/28 - Glen German, son of Albert & Betty German

6/28 - Victoria Lieb, daughter of MaryJo & Tim Lieb

6/29 - Ashley Doyle, daughter of Brian Doyle

6/29 - Thomas Onraet, son of Ruth & Maurice Onraet

6/30 - Kareem Mitchell, son of Jacquie Mitchell

6/30 - Bradley Rapp, son of Robert Rapp Jr.

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

