



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Spring 2009

Newsletter of the Atlanta Chapter

"The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive."

Atlanta Area Web Site

www.tcfatlanta.org

TCF Atlanta Newsletter

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The Atlanta Chapter of The Compassionate Friends meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the:

**First Christian Church of Atlanta
4532 LaVista Road, Tucker, GA 30084**

**Upcoming Chapter Meetings:
April 14, May 12 and June 9**

The Atlanta Chapter also offers a Sibling Group at the same time as our regular monthly meeting.

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!"

Aug. 7-9

Registration Opens for TCF National Conference in Portland, Ore.

Registration has begun for the 2009 National Conference of The Compassionate Friends, to be held Aug. 7-9 at the Doubletree Hotel Lloyd Center in Portland, Ore.

Keynote speakers are:

- **Candy Lightner**, whose daughter was killed by an impaired driver. She founded Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD).
- **Reg and Maggie Green**, whose son Nicholas died at the hands of highway bandits in Italy. The donation of Nicholas' organs, which saved seven people in a country nearly devoid of organ donors, spurred thousands to give the gift of life in what became the subject of a Hallmark Hall of Fame movie, "Nicholas' Gift."
- **Darcie Sims**, who uses her own unique brand of humor as a special type of grief therapy, is a bereaved parent, nationally-certified grief management specialist, psychotherapist and a board-certified hypnotherapist.
- **Michele Longo Eder** is the author of "Salt in our Blood – The memoir of a Fisherman's Wife." An accomplished lawyer, Michele started journaling while her husband and sons were off commercial fishing never dreaming her journaling would include the account of a personal tragedy that struck just before Christmas 2001.

On Friday evening (Aug. 7), there will be a special performance of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama "Rabbit Hole." Written by David Lindsay-Abaire, it is a bittersweet, funny and refreshingly honest look at tragedy and the healing power of family.

To allow everyone to be a part of the 2009 conference (even if it's not possible for you to attend), the conference committee will decorate the conference area with "Frames of Love" – pictures of TCF children being remembered.

For a nominal charge (to help defray conference costs), pictures sent in of TCF children will be placed in the special frames. For more information about submitting a picture, go to the TCF national Web site at www.compassionatefriends.org.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Doubletree Hotel for the conference. Hotel rooms fill up quickly. Atlanta Chapter members who plan to attend are encouraged to reserve hotel rooms immediately!

Reservations can be made by calling (503) 281-6111. The negotiated room rate – \$129 (plus tax) per night – is available for persons staying Aug. 5-Aug. 9.



THE
COMPASSIONATE
FRIENDS

32nd NATIONAL CONFERENCE
Portland, Oregon
August 7-9, 2009



Walk to Remember

On the final day of the conference, the 10th annual two-mile Walk to Remember will be held. The Atlanta Chapter of TCF always prepares a large banner to be carried in the walk – filled with the names of children and siblings from our chapter.

To add your child or sibling's name to the banner, simply return the form on the next page no later than July 15.

Two Chapter Leadership Training Programs to be Offered This Year

The national TCF office will host two Chapter Leadership Training Programs during 2009. They have been scheduled for: May 1-3 in Charlotte, N.C., and Sept. 25-27 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Attendance at each program will be limited to two people from each chapter. To help with the expenses of attending a program like this, the conference registration fee and hotel room is provided free for **one person** from each chapter. That makes transportation the only cost to attend.

If you are interested in getting more involved with our chapter (as a chapter leader, facilitator or steering committee member), please think about attending one of these training programs. The Charlotte trip would only be a three-hour drive from Atlanta.

To sign-up for the training, contact Cindy Durham for a registration form.



Atlanta Walks

For Our Children and Siblings Gone Too Soon

The Compassionate Friends National Walk to Remember will be held at 8 a.m. Sunday morning, Aug. 9, in Portland, Oregon, the National Conference host city, prior to the closing ceremony.

First held in conjunction with the national conference in 2000, this Remembrance Walk has quickly become a highlight for conference-goers with more than 1,000 people joining together hand-in-hand, arm-in-arm to cover the two-mile course arranged for the event.

This is our way to honor the memories of children and siblings who we will never forget.

Families who have had a child die, but are unable to attend the conference or walk, are invited to include their child's name on our "**Atlanta Walks**" banner carried by members of our local Atlanta TCF Chapter attending the Portland conference.

If you would like to have your child, sibling or grandchild's name included, please complete the following form and return it to us as soon as possible. The deadline is July 15.

Atlanta Walks – 2009 in Memory of our Children and Siblings

Yes, I would like to have my child/sibling/grandchild included on the Atlanta Walks banner.

Child's Name _____
(Please print clearly)

Yes, I would like to help with the Walk to Remember expenses and support the work of The Compassionate Friends Atlanta Chapter by making a donation in the amount of:

\$ _____ (\$10, \$25, \$50.....)

Please mail your check payable to "The Compassionate Friends" to:

The Compassionate Friends
c/o Jayne Newton
808 Brentway Court
Lilburn, GA 30047

Thank you for your support. (Deadline July 15)



*Sample Banner from 2008 Walk at the Nashville Conference
"Atlanta Walks...
In Memory of Our Children and Siblings"*

April, May and June Birthdays

(On the advice of the TCF national office, we are only including the month and date
– not year – of birthdays and angel dates.)

| <u>Child's Name</u> | <u>Birthday</u> | <u>Angel Date</u> | <u>Relationship</u> | <u>Family</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Michael Btembke | April 1 | August 3 | son | Ghakarhi Btembke |
| Matthew McMichael Taylor | April 1 | April 13 | son | Jim and Elaine Taylor |
| April Leshay Nesmith | April 5 | June 5 | daughter | Carla Adamar |
| Jennifer Gryzinski | April 7 | August 21 | daughter | Lisa Mary Katz |
| Charisma Tyar Inez Sanders | April 7 | April 29 | daughter | Marva J. Peters |
| Dr. Thomas Brown IV | April 8 | July 27 | son | Lillie Brown |
| Kennon Lamar Jernigan | April 9 | June 20 | son | Pam and Ken Jernigan |
| Kennon Lamar Jernigan | April 9 | June 20 | brother | Leah and Joanna Jernigan |
| Bo Tuggle | April 12 | October 22 | son | Connie and Johnny Tuggle |
| Padraic Durr | April 20 | July 15 | son | Jim Durr |
| David Ferguson | April 20 | October 30 | son | Christina and David Ferguson |
| Victoria Fields | April 22 | December 4 | daughter | Tricia Chasse |
| William Fielding Foulke, Jr. | April 28 | June 8 | son | Holly Foulke |
| Jason Maham | April 28 | August 17 | son | Trish Maham |
| Jennifer Lea Evans | May 6 | June 19 | daughter | Delores Evans |
| Elijah Samuel Marcus | May 9 | May 9 | son | Eric and LaPrecious Marcus |
| Damien White | May 17 | January 6 | son | Robin White |
| Tom Runfola | May 19 | June 21 | brother | Karen Davis |
| Daniel Prescott | May 19 | March 31 | brother | Pam Gnanamani |
| Thomas Michael Runfola | May 19 | June 21 | son | Pat Runfola |
| Marc William Waidner | May 19 | October 30 | son | Mary Alice Wood |
| Chad Gordon | May 21 | September 3 | son | Jayne and Wayne Newton |
| Mathew Scott Marshall | May 22 | March 10 | son | Gena and John Ivester |
| Joey Capron | May 26 | March 17 | son | Carmen Capron |
| Henry Robinson Cart | May 27 | September 30 | son | Roberta and Rob Cart |
| Richmond Matthew Petzel | May 27 | June 1 | son | Cindy Garner |
| Ronald Taus | May 28 | March 20 | son | Dena Hubbard |
| Derek L. Brown | May 29 | April 2 | son | Denice and Gerald Brown |
| Jonathan Aaron Blumenfeld | May 30 | January 27 | son | Harriet Blumenfeld |
| Kameron Michael Dunmore | May 31 | February 2 | son | Karen A. Dunmore |
| Donald Wesley Carithers | June 10 | August 8 | son | Susan and John Carithers |
| Spencer McCrea Oedel | June 10 | September 11 | son | Amy Lighthill |
| Evan Sheffield | June 12 | June 23 | son | Cathy Spraezt |
| Jennifer Hower | June 23 | December 27 | sister | Julie Fischer |
| Billy Snapp | June 23 | February 25 | son | Teal Snapp |
| John Allen Askins | June 24 | March 3 | son | Elaine Askins |
| Brian Patrick Devine | June 26 | August 21 | son | Eileen and Patrick Devine |
| VanPshia Shantee Jinks | June 26 | December 13 | daughter | Yuonne Jinks |
| Anita Alford | June 29 | September 2 | daughter | Selma Calaman |
| Mandi Lynn Mast | June 29 | August 15 | daughter | Diane and Daniel Mast |
| Aaron Woodruff | June 30 | June 22 | brother | Rachel Woodruff |

April, May and June Angel Dates

(On the advice of the TCF national office, we are only including the month and date
– not year – of birthdays and angel dates.)

| <u>Child's Name</u> | <u>Angel Date</u> | <u>Birthday</u> | <u>Relationship</u> | <u>Family</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Todd Kirk Stien | April 1 | February 25 | son | Lorann Stien |
| Derek L. Brown | April 2 | May 29 | son | Denice and Gerald Brown |
| Jessica Lyn Bryl | April 3 | January 19 | daughter | Betty and Daniel Bryl |
| Hallbrook 'Trey' Polite, III | April 9 | March 28 | son | Linda and Hallbrook Polite Jr. |
| Matthew McMichael Taylor | April 13 | April 1 | son | Jim and Elaine Taylor |
| Jameka Deshon Holmes | April 14 | November 4 | daughter | Charlotte Hamm |
| Anita Marepally | April 20 | September 15 | sister | Archana Vemulapalli-Marepally |
| Christopher Kuzela | April 24 | July 7 | son | Ed and Pat Kuzela |
| Xavier Khamani Ray | April 24 | September 7 | son | Stephanie Ray |
| Charlie Wellman | April 27 | January 20 | son | Mary Wellman |
| Charisma Tyar Inez Sanders | April 29 | April 7 | daughter | Marva J. Peters |
| Connor Brown | May 4 | October 6 | grandson | Kaye Hyde |
| Arthur Burt Jordan | May 6 | February 16 | son | Ann Asbell |
| Arthur Burt Jordan | May 6 | February 16 | brother | Emily Jordan |
| Amanda Christine Warnock | May 6 | November 13 | daughter | Amy Osier |
| Julian Oliver Carter | May 7 | August 12 | son | Bryan and Julie Carter |
| Christopher Lee Simpson | May 9 | August 22 | grandson | Elizabeth Luke |
| Elijah Samuel Marcus | May 9 | May 9 | son | Eric and LaPrecious Marcus |
| Christopher Lee Simpson | May 9 | August 22 | son | Tricia and Kenny Simpson |
| Brandon Burke | May 10 | December 2 | son | Charlene and Johnny Burke |
| Brandon Burke | May 10 | December 2 | grandson | Shirley A. Kendrick |
| Kameron Rutherford | May 11 | November 21 | son | Judy and Khristopher Rutherford |
| Tyreek Seivwright | May 12 | November 1 | son | Donna Attridge |
| Maeve Elizabeth Fintak | May 13 | October 5 | daughter | Steve and Brigid Fintak |
| Bradley James Peerson | May 15 | September 5 | grandson | Jackie Fuller |
| Bradley James Peerson | May 15 | September 5 | son & brother | Pam, John and Blake Peerson |
| Matthew Thomas Crowell | May 24 | July 27 | son | Barry and Doris Crowell |
| Jeremy William Frank | May 25 | February 5 | son | Sheila M. Frank |
| Amanda Irene Smith | May 29 | August 1 | daughter | Earl and Paulette Cagle |
| Sallie Scanlon | May 31 | October 20 | daughter | Jane R. Scanlon |
| Richmond Matthew Petzel | June 1 | May 27 | son | Cindy Garner |
| Joshua Polain | June 1 | December 3 | son | Kimberly Polain |
| Christopher James Downs | June 3 | January 9 | son | Jim and Joan Downs |
| Paul Abraham | June 5 | August 13 | son | Alan and Deborah Abraham |
| April Leshay Nesmith | June 5 | April 5 | daughter | Carla Adamar |
| William Fielding Foulke, Jr. | June 8 | April 28 | son | Holly Foulke |
| Kaxon Harris | June 10 | October 3 | son | Karen Harris |
| Margie Ann Lind | June 10 | August 21 | daughter | Bette and Bob Lind |
| Robert A. Lind, Jr. | June 10 | November 29 | son | Bette and Bob Lind |
| Keith Perry | June 11 | November 14 | son | Oveta Perry |
| Averil Brown | June 15 | December 7 | son | Carolyn Brown |
| Jenny Moriarty | June 16 | July 12 | daughter | Larry Moriarty |
| Jennifer Lea Evans | June 19 | May 6 | daughter | Delores Evans |
| Kawasiki S. Ricks | June 19 | September 29 | son | Beverly Ricks |

April, May and June Angel Dates -- Continued

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|--------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Kennon Lamar Jernigan | June 20 | April 9 | son | Pam and Ken Jernigan |
| Kennon Lamar Jernigan | June 20 | April 9 | brother | Leah and Joanna Jernigan |
| Tom Runfola | June 21 | May 19 | brother | Karen Davis |
| Hadiyah Rasheedah Evans | June 21 | September 25 | daughter | Patricia Evans |
| Thomas Michael Runfola | June 21 | May 19 | son | Pat Runfola |
| Aaron Woodruff | June 22 | June 30 | brother | Rachel Woodruff |
| Evan Sheffield | June 23 | June 12 | son | Cathy Spraetz |
| Jacob Martin Drollinger | June 29 | December 28 | son | John and Virginia Drollinger |
| Georgia Wimberly Pierce | June 30 | September 29 | daughter | Michael and Anna Pierce |
| Melvin Shannon | June 30 | February 23 | son | Lillian Smith |
| Melvin Shannon | June 30 | February 23 | brother | Juanita White |

Consider Donating Used Ink

Cartridges to TCF Chapter

If you aren't recycling your used ink cartridges, please consider donating them to the Atlanta Chapter of TCF.

Office Depot will give us \$3 per empty ink cartridge or empty laser cartridge. Funds for donated cartridges are paid quarterly by Office Depot and could be used toward paper, envelopes or new ink cartridges for our chapter newsletter.

Empty cartridges can be brought to any chapter meeting. Or, save them throughout the year and bring them with you when you come to the Candlelight Service the first Saturday of December.

From Carol Hawley

This message is to all families who have received birthday/angel cards made by me in memory of my son Billy, who was born in March.



For the month of March, I made cards with frogs in mind. This is because he loved nature and frogs. The world of amphibians, especially frogs, are amazing. They are simply gorgeous and diverse. Photographs of frogs from the rain forest intrigued me the most. But the others from the rest of the world are equally interesting.

Perhaps you may want to Google and find out for yourself. Billy also loved astronomy and he would read up on the stars and planets. He had a big telescope where he would find the stars or comets and we would look at them while we were stationed in Nairobi, Kenya.

I love star gazing also and would go out in the dark some cold winter nights in Atlanta, Ga., to look for Orion's Belt. During the winter months it's easier to see the stars in the night sky. We selected Orion because it's the easiest one to locate. Three stars in a row.



We've linked the middle one to Billy. It's still winter in many parts of the United States and perhaps you might want to locate Orion, and the center star may be shining brighter as if to say "Hey there, I'm doing alright."

To conclude, I wish to say I am glad The Compassionate Friends was there to lend a hand during my darkest hour and, in turn, I was able to help by making cards for many grieving families.

Please feel free to e-mail me or send a snail mail, I would love to hear from you and about your child. And for the many who have written me, keep in touch, take care and keep safe.

May the rays of peace always shine on you.

Carol Hawley

Billy's Mom

carolqhawley@gmail.com

American Embassy – Jakarta

Unit 8129 CDC

FPO AP 96520

(Postage to the Embassy in Jakarta is the same as U.S. postage.)

Raffle Items Sought for TCF's National Conference in Portland

The following item was submitted by Kathy Malone, who will be in charge of the raffle at the TCF National Conference in Portland.

We need items for the raffle to be held at the TCF National Conference this summer. We will accept anything that has a value of at least \$25 ... up to \$100s.

Items can be anything – angels and butterflies are the best. We have had just about everything: jewelry, baby items, anything homemade, quilts, pictures, cameras and tools. As you can see, anything goes – just remember that most items have to be carried home by plane, so items shouldn't be huge.

Items can be brought to the conference and delivered to me as of Thursday afternoon. If you are not coming and have something to contribute, you can send it to the national office by July 6: 900 Jorie Blvd., Suite 78, Oak Brook, IL 60522. Remember to include your name, name of person donated in memory of, item name and an estimation of the value. Also please take a picture of the item and, along with the above information, please send it to: Kathy Malone, 3474 Pate Dr., Snellville, GA 30078 or e-mail it to: malonepk@bellsouth.net.

Thank you for any and all help you can give to the Portland Conference committee.

Raffle Chair - Kathy Malone

Mom to Angels Lance, Scott & Erin

Candlelight Service Set for Dec. 5

Our chapter's Candlelight Service will be held Saturday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church of Atlanta. Please mark your calendars.



And, please think about stepping forward to chair one of the sub-committees charged with organizing this year's program. Sub-committee chairs are needed for the following:

- Reception. This includes coming at 2 p.m. to set-up the Fellowship Hall, overseeing the evening reception and coordinating clean-up. (The church custodian will vacuum and re-set the room and you'll have lots of help.)
- Creating centerpieces for our reception. We need someone creative to design and oversee the creation of this year's centerpieces.

- Conference speakers. After the planning committee determines the selection of speakers, this person will contact the speakers to extend the invitation to speak, request biographical information and photos for the newsletter, and provide them with information about the Candlelight Service.
- Music. This person will oversee a committee charged with selecting music for the program. This person also will be responsible for writing to the company that holds the copyright to the music to request permission to print the lyrics in our program.
- Hotel Contacts. If our speakers are from out of town, we will need someone to contact hotels near the First Christian Church to ask them about donating rooms for our speakers.
- Invitations. We need a volunteer to mail printed invitations to the Candlelight Service to our chapter members. Postage will be covered by our chapter.

To volunteer as a committee chair for one of these areas, please e-mail: cindy_durham@bellsouth.net.

Chapter Members Invited to Local Film Screening of 'Motherland'

On April 22, a film called "Motherland" will be presented at the Atlanta Film Festival about six grieving women from diverse backgrounds who made a 17-day intensive pilgrimage to volunteer in rural South Africa.

The film's Web site notes: "Prior to the journey, these six women did not know each other. However they all shared one thing in common: they had all suffered the death of a child. With grief in their hearts and the willingness to make a difference, this intrepid group of women traveled half way around the world to live with local African families and to work with African organizations dedicated to improving the lives of children."

This documentary film reveals what happened, and the lives that were forever changed, on this journey of hope and healing.

The Web site goes on to say: "By illuminating the overwhelming pain and isolation caused by the loss of a loved one, 'Motherland' opens up an honest and intimate dialogue about the complexity of grief. Through the different voices and experiences of this diverse group of women, we are reminded that there is no instruction manual for dealing with grief, and that there is no 'right way' to grieve. The film explores the differences between the American women's experience of suffering and that of the African women they meet along their journey, and in

doing so, it challenges our culture's inadequacy for dealing with death and loss. Through the relationships and friendships that form between this unlikely group of travelers, we are reminded of the resilience and triumph of the human spirit. The film ultimately celebrates these mothers' ability to survive, to heal and to live again.

"In addition, 'Motherland' examines the healing potential of volunteering and being of service to others. It sheds light on current issues affecting women and children in Africa, and the rest of the world. It addresses the complexities of poverty and race relations, both in Africa and America, as well as the universal experience of human grief and suffering within a global context. The larger vision of the filmmaker is to offer an opportunity for healing, growth and hope, not only to the women and children of the film, but to the entire global community."

Jennifer Steinman, who directed the film said: "The idea for the film came from two sources of inspiration. First, I was deeply affected when my dear friend Barbara, who is one of the women in the film, lost her son Jason in a car accident several years ago. I watched her through her many stages of grief, as she had to bear the unimaginable pain of every parent's worst nightmare. I knew there had to be other mothers out there suffering from similar experiences, and I wanted to find a way to bring them together.

"Then, in the summer of 2006, I was reading a book by Stephen Lewis, the UN Secretary General's special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, called 'Race against Time.' In his book, he details the devastation occurring throughout Africa today because of the AIDS epidemic and extreme poverty."

She said, "I was so deeply moved by the notion of '*a nation of mourners*,' that I was motivated to want to do something – anything – to help the world heal. The result is this film project. It is inspired by my desire to address the complexities of the universal experience of grief, and to contribute some healing to our planet at a time when the world needs it most."

Atlanta chapter members are invited to the screening, which will take place at 7:05 p.m. at the Atlanta Film Festival – Landmark Midtown #6. For more information, visit: www.motherland-thefilm.org.

Facebook Group for TCF Atlanta

Did you know that The Compassionate Friends of Atlanta now has a Facebook Group? You are invited to join the group.

For more information, go to:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=43057397614>

Mother's Day...Father's Day...

Graduations...Proms

Spring comes – and with it comes the uneasy awareness of difficult days ahead. For those who are still going through all the "firsts" without your child, we share with you some special ways other parents have coped and managed.

Mother's Day...Father's Day...graduations...vacations... these are special family times which often catch us unaware and bring unexpected tears and painful memories of young lives cut short. It does get better! And you can make these special days better with some planning and with encouragement from those who have already been there.

Whatever the "special day" that lies ahead for your family, try to focus on doing something meaningful and tangible in remembrance of your child. Share as a family thoughts and suggestions about planting a tree or starting a rose garden, donating a book to the library or school, putting flowers on the altar, lighting a special candle or taking that long talked-of vacation. Tears and moments of sadness are okay, for they are expressions of love.

Remember:

- Take one day at a time.
- Keep things simple by playing down the holidays and special days, while they are so painful.
- Change your routine from past years.
- Make plans to be "busy" during at least part of the day (go out to lunch or to a movie, or visit friends)
- Give your older children some "space." They not only feel your extreme sadness at these times; they also have their own feelings to deal with.

The anticipation is often worse than the day itself!

From Fox Valley TCF Chapter, Aurora, Illinois



Gifts of Love

A love gift is a gift of money to The Compassionate Friends of Atlanta. It is usually in honor of a child who has died, but it can also be from individuals who want to honor a relative or friend who has died, a gift of thanksgiving that their own children are alive and well, or simply a gift from someone who wants to help in the work of our chapters.



The following donations are in support of the Atlanta Chapter newsletter, candlelight service, Web site and other outreach.

All chapters within TCF are totally dependent on funds from our families. We DO NOT receive funds from our National Office. Everything we need to operate our local chapters are paid directly from our local resources and our local family contributions. Thank you to all who contribute and support your local chapters. Some people contribute in memory of other's children.....this is a wonderful way for others to say "I am remembering your child." Other "Gifts of Love" are evident by all the compassionate and giving volunteers we have within our TCF Atlanta organization.

Love gifts to the Atlanta Chapter of TCF should be made payable to The Compassionate Friends and mailed to our treasurer: Jayne Newton, 808 Brentway Court, Lilburn, GA 30047.

Love Gifts

In Loving Memory of Todd Kirk Stien, from his mother Lorann M. Stien, Eau Claire, WI
In Loving Memory of Christopher Lee Simpson, from his grandmother Elizabeth Luke, Auburn, GA
In Loving Memory of Marc William Waidner, from his mother Mary Alice Wood, Lilburn, GA
In Loving Memory of Anthony Olbert Jr., from his mother Michela Hines, Newnan, GA
In Loving Memory of Michael Btembke, from his father Ghakarhi Btembke, Norcross, GA

In Loving Memory of Jenny Moriarty, from her father Lawrence Moriarty, Atlanta, GA
In Loving Memory of Ashley Craig, from her mother LaTangie Craig, Hampton, GA
In Loving Memory of Amanda Christine Warnock, from her mother Amy Osier, Winder, GA
In Loving Memory of Bill and Billy Snapp, from Ronnie and Kirby Knutson, Loves Park, IL
In Loving Memory of Bradley James Peerson, from his grandmother Jackie Fuller, Tucker, GA

In Loving Memory of Joey Capron, from his mother Carmen Capron, Atlanta, GA
In Loving Memory of Robert D. Parsons, from his mother Barbara Parsons, Sugar Hill, GA
In Loving Memory of Tyler Rollins, from Michael and Luella Ledford, Jasper, GA
In Loving Memory of Stephen Ledford, from his parents Michael and Luella Ledford, Jasper, GA
In Loving Memory of Charles Pilgreen, from his mother Brenda F. Shiplet, Birmingham, AL



®Our 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. ©2007

NEW SUBSCRIPTION - RENEWAL - CHANGE FORM - DONATIONS

If you are receiving our newsletter for the first time...everyone within The Compassionate Friends Organization wants to say We are sorry you have the need for this publication but we are glad you found us and we hope our newsletter will be helpful on your journey. Someone may have lovingly sent you the newsletter...and if so and you find it helpful, please complete the data sheet enclosed and return it so that we may add you to our newsletter database for future mailings. This is to insure that all the information we have is correct and complete. *This is for internal use only.*

Please print, filling in all applicable blanks/boxes:

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone (including area code) _____ E-mail: _____

Do you prefer to receive the newsletter by (check one): Mail E-mail (provide e-mail address above)

Child's Full Name: _____ Male Female

Child's Birth Date: _____ Child's Death Date: _____

Cause of Child's Death (optional): _____

Child's relationship to you (e.g. son, daughter, brother, sister, grandchild) _____

Names and ages of all surviving siblings living with you: _____

- How did you find out about The Compassionate Friends? Please circle one: (1) Friends (2) Family (3) Hospital (4) Church (5) School (6) Funeral Homes (7) Internet (8) Newspaper (9) Employers (Human Resources) (10) Other _____

Note: The information you have given above will be confidential (used for internal purposes only) unless you answer "yes" to one or more of the following questions:

1. Do you want your child's name to appear in the newsletter's "**We Remember You**" section of birth and death dates? Yes ___ No ___
2. Do you want to receive the daily e-newsletter from TCF Atlanta? If so, please include your email _____
2. Do you wish to have your child's name included on the Wall of Memory on our TCF Atlanta Web Site? Yes ___ No ___
3. May we include the above information in the TCF Atlanta Chapter directory? Yes _____ No _____

Voluntary donations are TCF Atlanta's only source of income. The Compassionate Friends needs to be here for the families who do not know today that they will need us tomorrow.

Yes, I want to help with TCF outreach...a donation is enclosed in Memory of _____

- I would like to apply my donation toward the following outreach: (1) _____ newsletter (2) _____ birthday/angel date cards
- (3) _____ newly-bereaved packets (4) _____ annual candlelight remembrance service (5) _____ TCF Atlanta Web site
- (6) _____ library (7) _____ general expenses

Make Checks Payable to: The Compassionate Friends

Please return to: The Compassionate Friends, c/o Jayne Newton (treasurer), 808 Brentway Court, Lilburn, GA 30047

Or Make Donations Online by Pay Pal

<http://www.tcfatlanta.org/donationdataform.html>