



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

July | August | September
2012

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.”

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www.tcfatlanta.org

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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

Directions: From I-285/Perimeter Freeway, take the LaVista Road exit and
proceed east on LaVista Road (left turn from the inner loop, right
turn from the outer loop). We're about a mile ahead on the left.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings:
July 10, August 14 and September 11

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!”

*You Need Not Walk Alone.
We Are The Compassionate Friends.*

TCF 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 The Compassionate Friends.

Siblings Walking Together (Formerly the Sibling Credo)

We are the surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends. We are brought together by the deaths of our brothers and sisters. Open your hearts to us, but have patience with us. Sometimes we will need the support of our friends. At other times we need our families to be there. Sometimes we must walk alone, taking our memories with us, continuing to become the individuals we want to be. We cannot be our dead brother or sister; however, a special part of them lives on with us. When our brothers and sisters died, our lives changed. We are living a life very different from what we envisioned, and we feel the responsibility to be strong even when we feel weak. Yet we can go on because we understand better than many others the value of family and the precious gift of life. Our goal is not to be the forgotten mourners that we sometimes are, but to walk together to face our tomorrows as surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends. ©The Compassionate Friends.

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Announcements

TCF 35th National/International Conference: July 20-22, 2012



35TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE,
5TH INTERNATIONAL GATHERING
July 20-22, 2012 | Costa Mesa, California

Although pre-registration has ended for the conference, with the motto “Oceans of Love, Mountains of Memories,” members can register for the conference on-site starting Friday July 20, in Costa Mesa, California. You can still download a registration brochure from the 2012 national conference page at www.compassionatefriends.org under *News and Events*. For questions, you can also call the National Office at 877-969-0010.

To learn more about the conference, please visit the TCF national website:
http://www.compassionatefriends.org/News_Events/Conferences/TCF_2012_Nat_Conference_and_5th_Intern_Gathering.aspx.

Candlelight Service Set for December 1, 2012

Be sure your calendars are marked for our chapter’s annual Candlelight Service, which will be Saturday, December 1, 2012, at 7 p.m.



More information about the Candlelight Service will be included in the fall newsletter, which will be published the first week of October.

We will hold a Candlelight Planning meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 26, at Cindy Durham’s house. We will be discussing possible speakers, music, centerpieces, etc. If you have suggestions that you would like the committee to consider – or would like to serve on the planning committee – please e-mail Cindy Durham at cindy_durham@bellsouth.net.

Chapter Newsletter: Recruiting Volunteers

By Abigail Arthur-Chillman

The chapter is seeking a new newsletter editor. Two years ago, I became the editor of our chapter’s newsletter. It has been a great experience for me. Over the years I have had the opportunity to read stories about the children, grandchildren, and siblings remembered in our chapter and to provide articles of support for our members. With a heavy heart, the time has come for me to step aside and recruit another editor. Thank you for your encouragement over the years.



For those who are interested, I will be available to “show you the ropes” and offer input and recommendations for creating the next newsletter edition (Fall 2012).

For more information, please contact me at:
newslettereditor@tcfatlanta.org.

Monthly Meeting Room Update

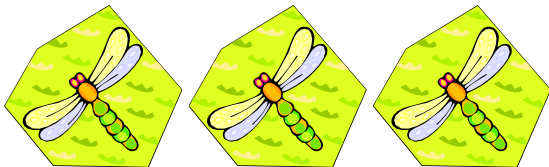
Our monthly meetings, currently held in the Fellowship Room at the First Christian Church of Atlanta, may be moving in the months ahead to a new room at the church. Please watch for details in the monthly meeting email reminder.

5th Annual Youth 4 Healthy Hearts Concert



The Fifth Annual Youth for Healthy Hearts Benefit Gospel Concert benefitting The Clinton Ron Walker Scholarship Fund will take place on October 6, at Greenbriar Mall. Greenbriar Mall is located at 2841 Greenbriar Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30331.

For more information, please contact Candace Walker (cawa719@yahoo.com), or visit: <http://www.youth4healthyhearts.com/index.html>.



6th Annual Teen Victim Impact Program Memory WALK-A-Thon

The Teen Victim Impact Program (TVIP) formerly known as, "It Won't Happen To Me" (a 501(c)(3) organization), is holding its 6th annual walk-a-thon on Saturday, October 6at Tribble Mill Park in Gwinnett County.

The organization represents more than 100 families who have lost a teen from the Atlanta area. For the last five years, the TVIP has held a Memory Walk on behalf of the families who have lost teens in driving-related car crashes.

This Walk is a powerful Walk. The group has more than 100 photos of teens along the WALK where parents can light candles and lay flowers in memory of their teen.

In addition, the group provides lunch and families get to know one another.



For more information, please contact:

Bill Richardson
President
Non- Profit 501 (c)(3)
Teen Victim Impact Program
2645 Youth Monroe Rd.
Monroe, GA 30655

<http://www.tvip.org>
<http://www.itwonthappentome.org/>
bill@tvip.org
[770-289-8598](tel:770-289-8598)

If you are unable to attend the conference, we encourage you to follow along with us on Facebook at [The Compassionate Friends/USA](http://www.facebook.com/TCFUSA) (<http://www.facebook.com/TCFUSA>). Our intent is to provide you daily updates from the conference – posts and pictures!

69 Names to be carried on Atlanta Chapter's 2012 Walk to Remember Banner

The names of 69 children, grandchildren or siblings of Atlanta Chapter members have been placed on the banner to be carried by chapter members in the annual Walk to Remember at the National TCF Conference this month in Costa Mesa, California. The conference will be held July 20 – 22. The banner will be carried by chapter members attending the conference.



2011 TCF 34th National Conference TCF Atlanta walk participants Trish Maham, Candace Walker, and Maureen Beamer, in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota.

Richard Allen
David Arnold Barrett
Desha Beamer
Kathleen Beamer
Dariaan Berryman
Jonathan Aaron Blumenfeld
Garry L. Brooks
Cain Brown
Derek L. Brown
Michael Btembke
David Burns
Jacob Allen Butler
Joey Capron
Richard Alan Cartin
Jason Daniel Cirafisi
Aleah Conners
John Wayne Cunningham
Jason Curnutt
A.J. DeVol
Matthew A. Dobbs
Christopher "CJ" Downs
Joseph Edward Doyle
James Anthony Durham

Geoffrey P. Edwards
Angie Espeche
Christopher Ronald Faller
Gary Farnsworth
Wytosha Foster
Kristin Gillis
Chad Gordon
Shawn Marie Gordon
Bonnie Catherine Haddock
Michael D. Hamilton
Micki Henderson
Matthew Hinson
Christopher Hobbs
David Hoegler
Summer Holyfield
Brendon Hope
Carissa Ellen Hunsaker
Kanda Jacobs
Kennon Jernigan
Jamarr Jordan
Derrick M. Kelly
Karla Leija
Jason Maham

Robert Malkin
Kevin W. McFarlin
Vikki Mooneyhan
Me'Chelle A. Murphy
Sean Murray
Ricky Otter
Brian Joseph Parker
Timothy Patrick Parker
Jefferey Armstrong Patterson
John Daniel Pettyjohn
Charles A. Pilgreen
Allen Palmer Shugart
Dr. Anthony Staiano
Melanie Lorene Stoeppelwerth
Vaughn Mack Taylor
Melanie Brooke Thompson
Evan Throckmorton
Michelle Stanton Turner
Imani Thompson Twine
Clinton Ron Walker
Jason Wilshe
Lauren Woodbury
Aaron Woodruff

The Hawk

By Lydia Burns, TCF Atlanta

The air is warm beneath my wings
As I glide in the air for things, I see
A wooden cross, a family brings
Placed carefully here, oh the memories.

I hear them talk, they named this place
The tears they fall and sunset brings
The heavy heart I feel the pain
Of a child now resting here.

The deer in sunset visit the site,
The sun it rises and shines real bright
I can't read the markings on the cross
But know the pain of a young life lost.

I land in a tree over their heads
As they talk of the life this young one led
His love for hiking and my native lands
And all their dreams for him they had.

On this mountain, the stories linger
In the blowing wind his warmth is felt
For this young man gone before his time
Now lives with me on this countryside.

For David on his 38th Birthday, September 11, 1972



Another September 11th meaning

The year after the attack on September 11, 2002, we were all gathered to celebrate David's 30th birthday. He didn't feel like celebrating because of all the lives lost that day the year before. It was difficult trying to be happy for him yet being sad for them. We were lucky we did get to celebrate one more birthday – his 31st, and last one earthbound.

I know there are sad people on September 11. He didn't die in the Twin Towers, he didn't die in the war, and he wasn't a hero to our country. He was our son, September 11 will always be his birthday, without presents or cake, and the 4th of July will always be the day we said goodbye.

Lydia Burns, TCF Atlanta
David's mom 9/11/1972 - 7/2/2004



The Sounds of Silence

By Mel Winer

Reprinted from *We Need Not Walk Alone*, the national magazine of The Compassionate Friends. Copyright 1997.

The sounds of silence are everywhere – it is the silent pain of the loss of our son Andy, it is the silence of our home because one of our children is gone, and it is the silence of the sudden quiet that comes over people when we mention Andy.

We have become both better and worse in the six years since Andy died of cancer at the age of 22. We are better because we are able to get on with our lives and even enjoy ourselves occasionally. We have gotten worse because, as the years go by, we feel his loss more deeply.

We feel his loss every time we participate in a celebration marking some milestone of our friends and relatives or their children. We feel the loss because any celebrations of our own will always be incomplete – one person will always be absent and not there to celebrate with us or to enjoy his own milestones. The pain of his absence is always present at these events.

When Andy died, the pain of his loss was a sharp acute screaming pain that tore a hole inside of us. Now, the pain is a silent quiet steady pain. The hole is still inside us, covered by a scar, but it is still there. It doesn't scream out loud any more but instead just remains as a quiet steady and never-ending ache and sadness – a silent pain.

The silence of our home is a different kind of quiet. By now, if Andy had lived, he probably would have been out on his own. We would have been "empty nesters" anyway. But, when a home becomes empty because of the death of a child, it is a different kind of empty nest. Our daughter Lesley is married and out on her own, the way it should be. But, Andy is gone for a different reason.

So, the silence of our empty nest is not the silence of knowing we raised two children and now they are both out leading their own lives. Instead it is the silence of a home that is empty because one child is gone forever – of having to deal with the reality that phone calls only come from one child, not two; that only one child stops by for a visit, not two; that one child is forever gone from the nest. There is a silence in our home that often seems to pervade every space. It is a sad silence, not the temporary quiet of a happy home.

And then, there is the silence of relatives and friends when we talk about Andy – not about his death but about the things he did while alive. It is as if Andy has become a forbidden topic because he died, as if his death wiped out the 22 years he did live. It occurs when a relative whispers that our son died when someone asked how old he was – like his life and what happened to him was a big secret. It occurs when people suddenly get a funny look on their faces and don't know what to say next when you mention something about Andy. It occurs when you get the feeling that people want to avoid you because you remind them of a horror that could happen to anyone. It is a silence that reminds you that your emotions and feelings are different from that of others and that you will always have to live with the sounds of silence resulting from your son's death.

At Last

*By Donald Moyers
TCF Galveston County, Texas*

It has been a long time now
And much longer it will be
As I live in stages of grief
Of which I cannot seem to flee

Often I'm curled up in a ball
Or trying to escape and run
But what good does that do
That fateful day will not be undone

Since that day of tragedy
Life is not the same
And I'll never be able to return
To the daily life from which I came

Acceptance of their death is not easy for me
Yet I must endure this life so distraught
I know all I can do now is to abide
Lest all that's left, will go for naught

Tragedy I never thought would happen
So just take heed my friends

This "Is what it is"
Until my life on Earth finally ends

Someday, when my life is all done
No longer will I feel like this
I'll leave this sadness passed
Then tears will no longer fall
At last

*Dedication: "At Last" by Donald Moyers of TCF
Galveston County, Texas.*

*For my son, my heart, my best friend Jason Maham,
I love you forever Mum.*

Trish Maham, TCF Atlanta



Grandparents Remembrance

*By Susan Mackey
TCF Rutland, Vermont*

We are the grieving grandparents, the shepherds of our children and grandchildren's lives. Our grief is two-fold and at times, we feel powerless to help. We seek to comfort our children in the depths of their grief and yet we need the time and space to face our own broken hearts. We have been robbed of the special tender touch a grandparent shares with a grandchild, and we have lost a symbol of our immortality. As we walk by our child's side, we both give and draw strength. We reach into their hearts to comfort them, and when they reach out to us in their distress, we begin the journey to heal together. We continue to be their guardians. We allow traditions to change to accommodate their loss. We support the new ones, which symbolize the small steps on their journey. It is in their healing that our hearts find comfort.

When a child dies, siblings often referred to themselves as “the forgotten mourners.” The Compassionate Friends of Atlanta Siblings Group provides support to teens and adults after the death of a sibling. See page one of this newsletter for meeting times and location.

Ask Dr. Paulson

Mary A. Paulson, Ph.D., is a bereaved sibling as well as a child and adolescent psychologist at Harding Hospital in Worthington, Ohio. Her question and answer column, aimed at bereaved siblings and the family who loves them, appeared in TCF's national magazine, *We Need Not Walk Alone* (and previously TCF's National Newsletter) for 15 years. She has now retired from writing this column and Dr. Heidi Horsley, licensed psychologist, social worker, and bereaved sibling will continue answering sibling related questions in *We Need Not Walk Alone*. Copyright 2006-2012. These excerpts were reprinted from the February and March 2012 editions of the *E-Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends*.

Q. What are some ways I can remember my sibling? How have other bereaved siblings memorialized their dead brother or sister?

A. That's a great question to which there will be as many answers as there are people to ask. The place to start with that answer for you would be:

- 1) What are you doing when you feel peace, comfort, and have a smile on your lips when you think about your brother or sister?
- 2) What things did you enjoy doing together?
- 3) What would fit in your budget and time to do?
- 4) What would make you feel that you were honoring your brother or sister?

Whether it's a collage of pictures, a scrapbook, a donation to a good cause, lecturing, writing a book, volunteering for a worthy cause, setting up a scholarship fund, etc., the important part would be doing something that would bring peace, comfort, and smiles to you and your family. I have given you a place to start. From there, I would recommend that you continue to ask this question of others you love and respect until a concrete idea is formed. Good luck on your venture. I think this will be a great step in your healing process.

Do I Have To?

By Jackie Rosen, TCF N. Dade/S. Broward, FL

Mom, do I have to stop loving my brother because he is not here?

Will I forget all about him because he's not near?

I remember all the things we did together, even though we were very young.

I laugh and feel warm each time I think of a particularly funny one.

Sometimes I get so angry that he's no longer here to share, But I know he knows it's only because of how much I still care.

I miss him, so even though at times we didn't agree, Just knowing he was there made things feel safe for me.

He always felt he had to be my strong, protective big brother,

And that's a bond we'll always share forever with each other.

He tried to protect me even when he, too, was just scared.

No, I won't stop loving that big brother of mine,

Not now, not ever, not till the end of time.

He will always be a part of what makes me be me.

And that's the part of our love that will live eternally.

Dedication: "Do I Have To?" by Jackie Rosen.

For Michael "Cale" Hill from his sister Kim Adams with love forever.

Kim Adams, TCF Atlanta



Our Children, Grandchildren and Siblings' Birthdates



July, August, and September

Lynn H. Paschall

7/1

Daughter of Carolyn R. Richardson

Amber Gilstrap

7/3

Daughter of Kathleen Cornog

Mechelle A Murphy

7/3

Daughter of Brenda J. Murphy

Tommy Boyert

7/5

Son of Tom and Mary Boyert

Kay Cee Herring

7/7

Daughter of David and Ginny Herring

Christopher Kuzela

7/7

Son of Ed and Pat Kuzela

Jenny Moriarty

7/12

Daughter of Larry Moriarty

Mervyn Lanier "Corky" Twyman

7/16

Son of Carol McNeal

Vernon Philipe Battle

7/17

Son of Barbara Knox and
Brother of Glorqua Tarantine

Michael Waite Mann

7/17

Son of Anita Mann

Stephanie Christele Simon

7/23

Daughter of Sandra Simon

Nicholas Ryan Gardner

7/25

Son of Michelle and Dewey Gardner
and Grandson of Pilar Turk

Paul Perry

7/25

Son of Mary L. Perry

Christopher Shim

7/25

Son of Deon and Jean Shim

Matthew Thomas Crowell

7/27

Son of Barry and Doris Crowell

Michael Rice Lee

7/29

Son of Anthony and Amber Lee

Arnessa Darlene Royster

7/31

Daughter of Carolyn Gordon

Genna Watson

7/31

Daughter of Gene Watson

Amanda Irene Smith

8/1

Daughter of Earl and Paulette Cagle

Neal McArthur, Jr.

8/9

Son of Shirley McArthur

Audrey Davis Urda

8/9

Daughter of Missy and Matt Urda

John Sistrunk

8/10

Son of Sarah Smith Sistrunk

Shawn Christopher Rogers

8/12

Son of Karen Brady

Julian Oliver Carter

8/12

Son of Bryan and Julie Carter

Paul Abraham

8/13

Son of Alan and Deborah Abraham

Mashanda Nicole Taylor

8/13

Daughter of Michelle Taylor-Scott

Audrey Sophia Britt

8/14

Daughter of Adrian and Kristi Britt

Janet Ford Lambert

8/14

Daughter of Troy and Natalie Ford

Natalie Marie Webb

8/16

Daughter of Jennifer Webb

Taylor Arianna Mills

8/17

Daughter of Zeporice Mills

Duane Clinton Byrd

8/19

Son of Linda Byrd

Christine Elizabeth Tate

8/19

Sister of Leah Davis

Ryan Christopher Jones

8/19

Son of Stephen and Rachel Jones

Margie Ann Lind

8/21

Daughter of Bette and Bob Lind

Christopher Lee Simpson

8/22

Grandson of Elizabeth Luke

Christopher Lee Simpson

8/22

Son of Tricia and Kenny Simpson

Todd Brandon Wehunt

8/23

Son of Wanda Wehunt

Zachary Mark Elliott

8/25

Son of Robin Elliott

Joshua Benjamin Goforth
8/25
Son of John and Sue Goforth

Bayonne Phyleese Wilson
8/25
Daughter of Phyllis A. Grier

Brayden Michael Eanes
8/27
Son of Kelly Eanes

Brayden Eanes
8/27
Grandson of Al and Jan Pittman

Brittany Ann Hopkins
8/28
Daughter of Denise Hopkins

Brandon Marquis Williams
8/28
Son of Selena Randolph

Joshua Todd Davis
8/30
Son of Judy Davis

Bradley James Peerson
9/5
Son of Pam and Jon Peerson,
Brother of Blake Peerson, and
Grandson of Jackie Fuller

Anthony Chad Willis
9/6
Son of Mark and Ginger Willis

Xavier Khamani Ray
9/7
Son of Stephanie Ray

Samuel West
9/10
Brother of Tom West

David W. Burns
9/11
Son of Lydia Burns

Richard West
9/11
Brother of Tom West

Jacob Allen Butler
9/13
Son of Sally J. Dixon

Anita Marepally
9/15
Sister of
Archana Vemulapalli-Marepally

Sharon Denise Garrett-Jeudi
9/16
Daughter of Tanya Garrett

Troy G. Diebel
9/19
Son of Kathy and George Charles

Sam Peek
9/19
Son of Bobby and Carol Peek

Cornishia Matthews
9/19
Daughter of Gwendolyn Stegall

Brandon Charles Williams
9/20
Son of Sharon Williams

Imani Thompson Twine
9/21
Daughter of
Stephanie Thompson Harris and
Daughter of Dirk Twine

Dane Tolson
9/21
Son of Jeanie Lovelady

Mark East
9/22
Son of Jeff East

Jessica Dodge
9/25
Daughter of Dan and Tamie Dodge

Hadiyah Rasheedah Evans
9/25
Daughter of Patricia Evans

Sherry Engel
9/25
Daughter of Lou Ellen Huskey and
Sister of Andrea Huskey

John Brendon Hope
9/26
Son of Terri and John Hope

Sarah Lynn Preston
9/27
Daughter of Barbara Simmons

Georgia Wimberly Pierce
9/29
Daughter of Michael and
Anna Pierce

Kawasiki S. Ricks
9/29
Son of Beverly Ricks





July, August, and September

David W. Burns

7/2

Son of Lydia Burns

Marquis Sekou Overstreet

7/4

Son of Nathaniel Overstreet and
Keisha Langhorne

David Arnold Barrett

7/5

Son of Jacqueline Barrett

Ian Gabriel Keller

7/7

Brother of Dru Miller

Nichelle Yvette 'Nikki' Twyman

7/10

Daughter of Carol McNeal

Genna Watson

7/12

Daughter of Gene Watson

Paul Perry

7/13

Son of Mary L. Perry

Janice Benator

7/13

Daughter of Carol Wolper

Padraic Dirr

7/15

Son of Jim Dirr

Zekia M Rhodes

7/17

Granddaughter of Beverly Ricks

Meleia Warren Willis-Starbuck

7/17

Daughter of John and Kimberly
Starbuck

Autumn DuBose

7/19

Daughter of John DuBose

James Anthony Durham

7/22

Son of Cindy Durham and
Brother of Katie Durham

Allen Shugart

7/23

Son of Kelli and Henry Shugart

Shemariah Tafari Downer

7/25

Son of Barbara H. Forbes

Dr. Thomas Brown IV

7/27

Son of Lillie Brown

Ali Ramiz Okay

7/28

Son of Jullie Okay

Sarah Lynn Preston

7/29

Daughter of Barbara Simmons

Richard West

7/31

Brother of Tom West

Michael Btembke

8/3

Son of Ghakarhi Btembke

Christopher Douglas Andrew Dirr

8/3

Son of Jim Dirr

J'Muar Taylor

8/4

Son of Cheryl A. Taylor

Samuel West

8/4

Brother of Tom West

Mechelle A. Murphy

8/7

Daughter of Brenda J. Murphy

Donald Wesley Carithers

8/8

Son of Susan and John Carithers and
Brother of Brooke Carithers

Reezin N. "Chip" Swilley, Jr.

8/9

Son of Reezin and Elsie Swilley

Ronnie Keith Batchelor

8/14

Son of Ron Batchelor

Kathleen Darko

8/15

Daughter of Joanne Darko

Mandi Lynn Mast

8/15

Daughter of Diane and Daniel Mast

Amanda Kay Rose

8/15

Daughter of Barbara and Jim Sinke
Rose

Jason Maham

8/17

Son of Trish Maham

Tommy Boyert

8/18

Son of Tom and Mary Boyert

Clarissa Cunningham

8/20

Daughter of Winston and Judy
Cunningham

Regina L. Randall

8/20

Daughter of Tanya Garrett

Brian Patrick Devine

8/21

Son of Eileen and Patrick Devine and
Brother of Colleen Devine

Jennifer Gryzinski

8/21

Daughter of Lisa Mary Katz

Carrie Ann Plumley

8/21

Daughter of Deborah Plumley

Annie Hope Shlevin

8/21

Daughter of Barbara Shlevin

Antwain Danta Whatley

8/21

Son of Gloria Whatley

Dorienne Lindsay Smith

8/22

Daughter of Pamela Earle Smith

Neal McArthur, Jr.

8/23

Son of Shirley McArthur

Audrey Sophia Britt

8/25

Daughter of Adrian and Kristi Britt

James Daniel Smith

8/26

Son of Judith Smith

Christopher Allen Williams

8/29

Son of Cynthia Williams

Todd Brandon Wehunt

8/31

Son of Wanda Wehunt

Anika Alford

9/2

Daughter of Selma Calaman

Ryan Christopher Jones

9/2

Son of Stephen and Rachel Jones

Chad Gordon

9/3

Son of Jayne and Wayne Newton and
Brother of Lisa Gordon Remshik

Joshua Todd Davis

9/8

Son of Judy Davis

Spencer McCrea Oedel

9/11

Son of Amy Lighthill

Carter Martin

9/12

Son of Scott and Leigh Ann Martin

Maria-Victoria Boucugnani

9/13

Daughter of Lynda and Tom
Whitehead

Mark Cozine

9/14

Son of Anne Franzen

Michael Moskowitz

9/14

Brother of Arnie Moskowitz

Terrell Wilson

9/15

Son of Tracy Wilson

Dane Tolson

9/16

Son of Jeanie Lovelady

Anthony Quinn Johnson Jr.

8/24

Son of Crystal Johnson

Jacob Guy Halbrooks

9/25

Brother of Amy Smith

Sharon Elizabeth Zick

9/25

Daughter of Paul and Rebecca Zick

Marcellus Montez Richardson

9/26

Son of Paulette Perry

Michelle Reeves

9/26

Daughter of Jim and BJ Reeves

Ashley Craig

9/27

Daughter of La Tangie Craig

Bill Hawley

9/27

Son of Carol and Bill Hawley

Brittany Ann Hopkins

9/27

Daughter of Denise Hopkins

John Daniel Pettyjohn

9/27

Son of Julia Moon Pettyjohn

LCpl John R. Cagle

9/28

Son of Carolyn Cagle

David Underwood

9/29

Son of Sunny Underwood

Henry Robinson Cart

9/30

Son of Roberta and Rob Cart

Matthew Meehan

9/30

Son of Michael Meehan and
Vicki Webb



TCF National Organization is on Facebook and Twitter



Please visit and help promote The Compassionate Friends National Organization's Facebook page by becoming a fan. You can get there by:

- Clicking the link from TCF's national website home page at www.compassionatefriends.org.
- Log into Facebook and search for *The Compassionate Friends/USA*.
- Visiting www.facebook.com/TCFUSA

"We want this to be both an informative and supportive place for those of us who are mourning the death of a child, sibling, or grandchild," says TCF's Executive Director Patricia Loder. "All are welcome to leave messages and talk about the child and their grief. As in our meetings, we especially appreciate shared insights about anything that has brought you comfort, hope, or some measure of peace."

Our Facebook page provides a forum for free and open conversation. While messages are reviewed, they will not be screened before they are posted. So we are asking members to be gentle and respectful of one another and to use common sense in their posts – no offensive language, no overt selling of products or services and no religious proselytizing. TCF is now also on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/#!/tcfofusa>). Please keep in mind that all opinions expressed are those of the individual poster and do not necessarily reflect those of The Compassionate Friends, Inc. or its sponsors.

In addition to the social support aspect, The Compassionate Friends/USA Facebook and Twitter pages will have information about upcoming events such as conferences, the Walk to Remember, and the Worldwide Candle Lighting. Please visit often and contribute to the conversations.

These social media initiatives are important to TCF because they will help increase public awareness about our organization and better enable us to fulfill our mission to help bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents.

For more information, you may call TCF's National Office toll-free at 877-969-0010 or write Wayne@compassionatefriends.org.

TCF Atlanta: The Compassionate Friends of Atlanta is also on Facebook.

We invite you to join. For more information, visit the following links:

- www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=43057397614
- www.facebook.com/TCFAtlantaSiblings

You will need to log into Facebook to join the group. You will also need a Facebook account (it's free).

Our hope is that you will be able to connect to someone to help you in your grief journey. Remember "*We Need Not Walk Alone*."

Sign Up for The Compassionate Friends E-Newsletter

The Compassionate Friends National Office publishes a monthly e-newsletter designed to keep you up-to-date on what's going on with the organization and its 630 chapters.

Published once a month (as well as occasional special editions), the e-newsletter includes information on such things as TCF National Conferences, the Walk to Remember, the Worldwide Candle Lighting, regional conferences, and other events of importance.

Each e-newsletter also includes a story specially selected from a past edition of "*We Need Not Walk Alone*," the national magazine of The Compassionate Friends. For the siblings, the e-newsletter features a past question and answer column by Dr. Mary Paulson.

All you have to do to receive The Compassionate Friends e-newsletter is sign up for it online by visiting The Compassionate Friends national website at www.compassionatefriends.org and clicking on e-newsletter at the top of the Home page.



*"The passage of time alone does not cause our grief to end,
but its softening touch helps us to survive."*

~ Wayne Loder

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 chapter.

The following donations are in support of the Atlanta Chapter newsletter, candlelight service, website 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 is 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 Michael Moskowitz, from Gayle E. Brown, Atlanta, GA
In Loving Memory of Michael Moskowitz, from his brother Arnie Moskowitz, Atlanta, GA
In Loving Memory of Michael Waite Mann, from his mother Anita Mann, Decatur, GA
In Loving Memory of Christopher Simpson, from his grandmother, Elizabeth Luke, Auburn, GA
In Loving Memory of Jennifer Dailey, from her parents Robert and Joanne Dailey, Lilburn, GA
In Loving Memory of Joey Capron, from his mother Carmen Capron, Atlanta, GA
In Loving Memory of Kevin McFarlin, from his sister Kelly McKellar, Bethlehem, GA
In Loving Memory of Charles Pilgreen, from his mother Brenda Shiplet, Birmingham, AL

A Walk to Remember

For a list of *A Walk to Remember* donations, please see page 5.

TCF Atlanta: Membership Form

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) _____ Email: _____

Our chapter publishes a quarterly newsletter that is available electronically – at no cost. Please clearly print your e-mail address so we can send it to you:

E-Mail: _____

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? Enter # here _____ (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

3. Do you wish to have your child's name included on the Wall of Memory on our TCF Atlanta Web Site? Yes ☐ No ☐
4. 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) ☐ Library (6) ☐ 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, return by e-mail to: jayne@tcfatlanta.org

Or Make Donations Online by Pay Pal at <http://www.tcfatlanta.org/donationdataform.html>