



The Compassionate Friends

Manhattan Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Our next meetings...

Aug 9 & 23
Sep 13 & 27
Oct 11 & 25
Nov 8 & 22

Manhattan Chapter Newsletter

August 2022

Heartfelt thoughts from Marie Levine

As I write it is ten days until August 7th. Twenty-nine years since the worst day of my life. Another monumental anniversary day to be endured. Eleven days until I can once again begin to live the rest of my life. I think of all the people I've met, all the friends I've made, all the children who have joined Peter since that awful day. I look back at the road I've traveled, and it seems like another lifetime. I think of those who are new to this world and wonder what they think when they meet me...I wonder if I scare them when I announce that it has been 29 years. I wonder how I can assure them that they will survive, they will find the will to enjoy life again, they will learn how to cope and relish what once was. I think back to my earliest days when I was convinced, I was different than those who were ahead of me on this journey. For me, there seemed to be no hope...no recovery...no future...

Three and a half years after Peter died, I wrote about hope. It was after Columbine, after OJ Simpson, and Oklahoma City but before the Twin Towers, Aurora, Newtown and the hundreds of insane violent challenges since. The relentless march of murder and mayhem continues, leaving countless families to grieve and mourn for untold numbers of children carelessly tossed from this world. I don't know how we do it – but we do. We go on. I look back at how far I've traveled. I invite you to look back with me. See how hope lives. I dedicate this column to our newest compassionate friends... time is on your side.

SOME THOUGHTS ON HOPE by Marie Levine

The dictionary defines hope as entertaining a wish for
(con't in next column)

SOME THOUGHTS ON HOPE (continued)

something with some expectation... to look forward with confidence...that which is desired or anticipated...

It is 42 months since our son Peter was killed. At the time I remember thinking "abandon all hope who enters here..." I knew then that I had entered a different place, an uncharted place, a dark place. The only hope I entertained was the hope that I would join Peter sooner rather than later. I became acquainted, even intimate, with despair.

Time, after such an event, becomes concentrated. So much emotional and physical energy goes into survival and grieving. Progress is made in such microscopic increments. Then one day, you look up and begin to recognize a new you...and it seems impossible that only a few years, not a lifetime, has gone by.

My thoughts today, as I travel toward the four-year mark, are on the resilience of the human spirit and how indomitable we truly are. During the course of the past 42 months, we have been witness to Oklahoma City, countless murders including the much publicized murders of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson, the crash of TWA 800, and now the death of Ennis Cosby. (remember, this was written in 1996!) And how many quiet, unpublicized deaths have occurred since, leaving how many broken, grieving parents, grandparents and siblings in their wake. Our numbers grow daily, and as we move further into this indescribable place, we are brought back again and again to the beginning... the very dark, unspeakable beginning of a journey to our own metamorphosis.

Peter was our only child. He and I had a particularly unique and close relationship. He was, more than anything, my best friend, and, I thought, my reason for living. I was recently reminded of how I used to answer people who asked how many children I had. "One!" I used to declare proudly. "I did it right the first time!" How innocent. How arrogant I was then. How unaware of the

(con't on page 3)

TELEPHONE FRIENDS: When you are having the kind of day you feel only another bereaved parent or sibling can understand, we are willing to listen and share with you. Don't hesitate to call our Manhattan Chapter phone for meeting information **(917) 300 3706**. To speak with someone please call one of the following volunteers; Jacquie Mitchell (eves) (347) 414-1780 jacquienytcf@gmail.com and for siblings, Jordon Ferber (917) 837-7752, beatniknudnik@yahoo.com

TCF MANHATTAN CHAPTER email: tcfmanhattan@gmail.com
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"Our Children" editor: **Dan Zweig:** danzweigtcf@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: **Marie Levine** marielevine2@verizon.net

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS MEETINGS are always the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month

WE MEET USING ZOOM AT 7:00pm—sign on at 6:45pm

As soon as possible, we hope to return in person to the
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church
55th Street and Fifth Ave (enter at 7 West 55th St.

The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance self-help organization offering friendship and understanding to bereaved parents, grandparents and siblings. We are a group seeking support in our grief or are able to give it. Among us your religion, your race, your politics, your job or social standing are not important. We care about your grief—the tragedy that each of us have shared—and how we can grow through it, not back to the person we were, but to the person we can become.



TCF 45th National Conference
Houston, TX • August 5-7, 2022

45TH TCF NATIONAL CONFERENCE

LOVE SOARS THROUGH CLOUDS OF HOPE

Friday-Sunday, August 5-7, 2022 Houston, TX

[Click here for more information](#)



TCF 45th National Conference
Houston, TX • August 5-7, 2022

The 45th TCF National Conference

August 5-7, 2022 in Houston, TX.

We are very pleased to welcome back TCF's annual national conference, this year in person! This eagerly anticipated event for those bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings who attend seeking renewed hope, ways of coping with their grief, and friendships made with those who truly understand the painful loss of a child, sibling, or grandchild. With inspirational keynote speakers, numerous workshops including a wide variety of topics, and the always memorable candle lighting program on Saturday evening, culminating with the popular Walk to Remember on Sunday morning, and so much more, the TCF 45th National Conference is a much-needed gift that we give to ourselves. Conference registration will open in mid-March.

This year's conference will be held at the Marriott Marquis Houston. Reservations can now be made [online](#) at TCF's dedicated reservation link. TCF's discounted room rate with Marriott is \$149 per night plus tax.

Please note that each attendee will only be able to reserve two rooms. Since the conference begins early on Friday and pre-conference activities are offered on Thursday evening, attendees usually find it beneficial to arrive on Thursday.

[Click here for more information](#)

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.

Our children have died at all ages and from many different causes, but our love for our children 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 and creeds.

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 we feel helpless and see no hope.

Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength;

some of us are struggling to find answers.

Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or deep depression;

others radiate an inner peace.

It is pain we will share just as we share the love for our children.

We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves, but we are committed to building a future together as we reach out to each other

in love, and 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.

Online Support from the National Compassionate Friends Website

Live Chats

The Compassionate Friends offers "virtual chapters" through an Online Support Community (live chats). This program was established to encourage connecting and sharing among parents, grandparents, and siblings (over the age of 18) grieving the death of a child. The rooms supply support, encouragement, and friendship. The friendly atmosphere encourages conversation among friends; friends who understand the emotions you're experiencing. There are general bereavement sessions as well as more specific sessions.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and a list and schedule of Live Chats.

Private Facebook Groups

The Compassionate Friends offers a variety of Private Facebook Groups. These pages cover a wide range of topics and are moderated by bereaved parents, siblings, or grandparents. They may be accessed only after a request to join is approved by a moderator.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and a list of Private Facebook Groups.

SOME THOUGHTS ON HOPE... (con't from page 1)

possibilities. Now, the question strikes me as an intrusion and brings on an immediate hostility. It's really none of your business I want to say. But I don't. "I had one" is my standard answer now. It usually stops people in their tracks. They don't dare go further.

When I think that it is only three and a half years since Peter's death, I am astounded at the progress I've made towards hope. Whereas in the beginning I thought my survival would be a betrayal of my love for Peter, I've begun to understand what so many of my compassionate friends have described. I still do have a son. He just happens to live inside me. In my mind he is very much alive and everything I do is still being judged by him. But make no mistake. It will never be enough. I'll miss his wedding and my grandchildren. I'll miss him helping me through my old age. I will always miss talking to him on the phone and laughing with him, and cooking for him and looking at him... always with awe and wonder at his accomplishments. I'm so sad and angry that he is missing a life.

But I live on. I never stop wondering how but I have become at ease with my despair and more comfortable with hope... hope that the day will go peacefully, hope that I will get some measure of satisfaction or pleasure from the people I meet, the work that I do, the movies that I see, the books that I read, the places that I go, the plans that I make.

As you can see, these thoughts could never be understood by the uninitiated. But to we who have entered into this uncharted place, to find those that have entered here only just before us, who reach out to help us find our footing even while they grope towards some inexplicable peace for themselves, gives us hope. Hope that the pain will become more manageable. Hope that we can find a measure of peace, and hope that with dignity and grace we can continue our lives as tribute to our lost children.

"If you mention his name I may cry. If you don't mention his name, you will break my heart."

Marie Levine, 1996

"I was shocked that I did not die from grief. And I know now that I will not die from it, because I choose not to. I may run, or shake wildly, or lie paralyzed on the ground for a while, but I will not ultimately succumb."

~ Molly Fumia, "Safe Passage"

SHOCK AND AWE, AND MORE

by Nora Yood

Shock and awe recently refers to the unexpected and unanticipated military offensive by one nation against another, rendering the target devastated materially and morally. The leadership, the military, the population, clueless that disaster was hurtling toward them. Stunned and disbelieving, they cannot process, yet rationally respond to the trauma. This immobility and loss of mooring is the phenomenon labeled shock and awe. Shock that the unfathomable has become the undeniable. Awe toward the forces that have vanquished them. Stripped of their sense of control and powerless over the horrifying outcome, the victims seem paralyzed to address immediate concerns and to plan for the future as they are forced to choose a course of action in which none of the alternatives are deemed acceptable.

While shock and awe usually refers to a political initiative, the death of a child can be understood as a personal attack of shock and awe. Nothing prepares a parent for this loss. In the case of death caused by accident, violent crime, heart attack or other sudden, fatal medical ailment, the shock is obvious. But even with the passing over a prolonged chronic illness, when the end does finally arrive, it still feels as if a rogue bomb, planted by a cruel, cold adversary, has exploded killing an innocent bystander. If a son or daughter fails to win the battle against addiction or succumbs to suicide, the bereaved parents are utterly surprised that the right therapy, medication, treatment to bring about recovery and mental stability was not discovered before it was too late. And after that unquantifiable, unknowable while, when shock no longer guards them against the inevitable truth, they are filled with awe that it could be possible that their child is gone and they are still present, adrift in a world that has become alien and incomprehensible.

During the first days, weeks, months after my son died, it felt like I was having an out of body experience. My mind's eye seemed disconnected to the physical being that waked and worked, slept and ate, and behaved almost like a normal person. Who was that stranger wearing my face?

When our child dies, part of us dies too, and our core identity is diminished. We are vulnerable and incomplete, always missing our loved one. Yet we are greater than the sum of our grief, sadness and loneliness. As we learn to accept life on life's terms, we realize we are capable of resilience and courage we never thought possible. We strive, despite the challenge, to affirm the preciousness and sanctity of life, honor the gift that we were given during the years spent with our child, and continue to be a parent of a beloved son or daughter whose memory is a blessing.

We embody the paradox that we are both lesser and larger than we once were, and bravely stand in the truth of whom we are now – mothers and fathers who endure – shock and awe and more.

~ Nora Yood

I DIDN'T KNOW (TO KARA)

I didn't know – you had to go
that fateful night three years ago.
I didn't know – there was no sign
Was it part of some grand design?

I didn't know – it was so abrupt.
You would go to sleep and not wake up.
I didn't know – who would believe?
Something caused your brain to seize,

and we'd be left to mourn and grieve.
I didn't know when we said goodnight
without my Kara's love and light
that life would never again be right.

I didn't know – how could it be thus?
That you're no longer here with us.
But I do know – (when I am quiet and calm)
you are still my child, I am still your Mom.

I do know – sometimes it seems so clear,
your spirit surrounds us, you're somehow near.
I do know – it is not inane
to believe we'll unite on some other plane.

I do know – what makes sense to do
is to follow examples left by you.
To be tolerant, loving, peaceful and giving.
To donate, care deeply, somehow, go on living.

So with pride and with love, overwhelming my heart –
I am grateful to you.
You have made your mark.

~Louise Karayean Williams, TCF Smith Point Chapter

A POEM...

*We are connected,
my child and I
by an invisible cord
not seen by the eye.
It's not like the cord
That connects us 'til birth
This cord can't be seen
by any on earth.
This cord does its work
right from the start.
It binds us together
attached to my heart.
I know that it's there
though no one can see
the invisible cord
from my child to me.
The strength of this cord
man could create.
It withstands the test,
can hold any weight.
And though you are gone,
though you're not here with me,
the cord is still there
but no one can see.
It pulls at my heart.
I am bruised, I am sore.
But this cord is my lifeline
as never before.
I am thankful that nature
connects us this way.
A mother and child
death can't take away*

~author unknown

Gifts of Love

A Love Gift is a donation given in memory of a child who has died, or sometimes a memorial to a relative or friend. It can be in honor of a happy event that you would like to acknowledge, or simply a gift from someone who wants to help in the work of our chapter.

All TCF chapters 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 can contribute and support this chapter. Please see 'Making a Contribution' below:

Passing the Basket – During normal times, we raise needed funds at each meeting by passing a basket for voluntary contributions. In this time without in person meetings, the Manhattan Chapter is going without the resources we usually get from the basket passed during our meetings. We are so glad to be able to hold the online meetings, and if you are able to, once a month or whenever you can, please help and make a 'Basket' contribution to help our organization.

Making a contribution –

Easiest way – online – use a credit card securely with Paypal – Click this link: [Please donate here](#)

Or you may mail a check to The Compassionate Friends, c/o Sally Petrick, 945 West End Ave Apt 2B, New York, NY 10025. Please make your check payable to The Compassionate Friends – Manhattan Chapter. We need and appreciate your support.

Siblings

A BROTHER'S DEATH

by Barbara Lazaar Ascher

Barbara Lazaar Ascher's brother Bobby died of AIDS at the age of 31. Following is an excerpt of a beautifully written and sensitive article describing the author's struggle with grief. In an almost poetic style, she brings to life the chaos of grief. "A Brother's Death" was originally printed in the NY Times magazine.

When we first learned of Bobby's illness, it seemed incomprehensible that this could be happening to our baby brother. There were days when it seemed we had to concentrate on putting one foot in front of the other if we were to walk at all. If we traveled more than a couple of blocks, we were exhausted for the rest of the day.

We were hungry. We weren't hungry. We made chocolate chip cookies and brownies and didn't eat them. We opened and closed the refrigerator door, looking for something that might cushion the pain, fill the chasm that was opening from within.

Now I realize that this was the beginning of grief which starts in the stomach, yawning like a gaping mouth in Munch's painting "The Scream". But what did we know of grief? We were young; our beloveds had not yet died. I began to understand that grieving is like walking. The urge is there, but you need a guiding hand, you need someone to teach you how.

I went to speak to a wise and trusted minister at my church who warned there were bad times ahead. The death of a sibling, he said, grievous in itself, is also a startling reminder of our own mortality. I suppose its no dissimilar to the time in youth when we first learned of our origins and began to understand, if they made me, then they can make another. After that we became the nervous sentinels of our territory. When a sibling dies, the absolute certainty of death replaces the cherished illusion that maybe we'll be exceptions. When a sibling dies, death tugs at our own shittails. There is no unclasping its persistent grip. "You too", it says. "Yes, even you".

When you are new to grief, you learn there is no second-guessing it. It will have its way with you. Don't be fooled by statistics you read: Widows have one bad year; orphans three. Grief doesn't read schedules.

(con't in next column)

TUESDAYS

TUESDAYS AT 7:00PM

With Jordon Ferber - Sibling Leader

Siblings in the Manhattan Chapter meet every Tuesday of the month and more.

Sign up to get our siblings schedule emails

[Click here for exclusive sibling emails](#)

And access our regular Chapter website for the parent/sibling meetings and activities.

www.compassionatefriends.nyc

A Brother's Death

(con't from left column)

One morning, three weeks after Bobby died, I arose feeling happy and energetic. Well now, I thought, I guess we've taken care of that. Wrong. The next morning I was awakened by a wail I thought was coming from the storm outside until I realized it was coming from me.

Grief will fool you with its disguises. Some days you insist you're fine, you're just angry at a friend who said the wrong thing. One day I wept into the lettuce and peaches at a local market when an acquaintance approached to scold me for my stand in an old battle. Of course, we both assumed she was responsible for my tears.

You learn that you can cry and stop and laugh and even follow a taxi drivers command to "have a nice day", and then cry again. You learn there is no such thing as crying forever. Three months ago I was certain I would never be happy again. I was wrong.

Grief is like the wind. When it is blowing hard you adjust your sails and run before it. If it blows too hard, you stay in the harbor, close the hatches and don't take calls. When it's gentle, you go sailing, have a picnic, take a swim.

You go wherever it takes you. There are no bulwarks to withstand it. Should you erect one, it will eventually tire of the game and blow the walls in.

We cannot know another's grief, as deeply personal as love and pain. I cannot measure my own against the sorrow of my brother's friends who must wonder every day which among them will be next... I shy away from my brother's own grief when, upon being diagnosed, he heard the final click of the door as it closed on possibility.

A friend of mine said of her son when he died at 30, "He was just beginning to look out at the world and make maps". So was my brother. And then there was no place to go.

The Compassionate Friends 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 need our families to be there.

Sometimes we must walk alone, taking our memories with us, 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 a responsibility to be strong even when we feel weak.

Yet we can go on because we understand better than many the value of family and the precious gift of life.

Our goal is not to be the forgotten mourners that we are, but to walk together to face tomorrow as the surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends.



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



8/1 **TUSHAR ATRE**, son of Shaku Atre
 8/2 **ANDREW FREDERICK RUBIN**, son of Barbara & George Rubin
 8/2 **MICHAEL KLINOFISKY**, brother of Melanie Klinofsky
 8/3 **JAKE MAJER**, grandson of Linda Reed
 8/4 **LOUIS KORENMAN**, son of Sanders Korenman
 8/5 **JESSICA REVELEY**, sister of Britt Bonney
 8/6 **BRADLEY CHAIN**, son of Herbert Chain
 8/7 **CHRISTINE SCHLENDORF**, daughter of Karen Schlendorf
 8/7 **LAURIE NICHOLS**, daughter of Marie Jones
 8/7 **SAMUEL TITUS**, son of Sara Jenkins
 8/8 **RAIDEN SHIMOYAMA**, son of Jenna Agins & Toku Shimoyana
 8/9 **BRIAN GOLDBERG**, son of Gloria & Arthur Goldberg
 8/9 **GER ANDLINGER**, daughter of Jeanne Andlinger
 8/9 **HANNAH POTIS**, sister of Taylor Potis
 8/9 **ZUNILDE (ZUNNY) MARTE**, daughter of Victor Marte
 8/10 **BRITTANY MALVEAUX**, sister of Jordan Malveaux
 8/11 **HAMEEN JASPER**, daughter of Yolanda Jasper
 8/12 **AVA NASCIMENTO**, granddaughter of Eugenia Nascimento, niece of Laura Jones
 8/15 **BENJAMIN TEPPERBERG**, son of Susann Tepperberg
 8/16 **CAROLINE MONTGOMERY**, daughter of Catherine Montgomery
 8/16 **HUNTER MARSHAD**, grandson of Erica & Neal Marshad
 8/16 **MEL'LISA ANDRE**, daughter of Darchelle Hinson-Andre
 8/17 **SHANNA JOSEPH**, daughter of Lynn Platt, sister of Rebecca Wasserman
 8/18 **DYLAN JOSEPH MAIDA**, son of Lisa Burns & Sal Maida
 8/18 **MISCHA DRUCKER ZIMMERMAN**, son of Henia Drucker

8/18 **VISHAL TUNGARE**, brother of Ajay Tungare
 8/19 **GRAYSON LOLLER**, son of Tania Rivera
 8/19 **JAMES GIBBON**, son of James (Jimie) Gibbon
 8/20 **JULIO BARRERA**, son of Martha Riveira
 8/20 **LAUREN MARIE NELSON**, sister of Mickey (Michelle) Nelson
 8/21 **FRANK UNTENER**, son of Barbara Chase
 8/21 **GAGE TURZANI**, Nephew of Liz Sherman
 8/21 **SANGEETA LAL**, brother of Seema Lal
 8/22 **MICHAEL RAVEN**, son of Selma & Rob Raven
 8/23 **GAIL ROACH**, daughter of Joyce Roche
 8/23 **MONTE JONATHAN GOLUB**, son of Ellie Gollub
 8/25 **BENJAMIN SOBILOFF**, son of David & Marjorie Sobilloff
 8/25 **JAMES ROACH**, brother of Omar Roach
 8/26 **AMY KIMM**, daughter of Arleen Becker
 8/26 **JOHNNY & HOLLY RAHN**, twin children of Kathrin Laser & David Rahn
 8/27 **MARGARET BRAUN-GRIEP**, sister of Helen Braun
 8/28 **BLAKE GOODMAN**, brother of Claudia Goodman
 8/28 **JAMIE MARCUS**, daughter of Bruce Marcus
 8/28 **LOGAN GENTRY**, son of Christine Spiro
 8/29 **ALEXIS ECHAVARRIA**, son of Christina Echavarria
 8/29 **JOSHUA ROBERT ESFORMES**, son of Susan Esformes, brother of Jacob
 8/29 **SAM BERGER**, son of Marla & David Berger
 8/30 **LAEL MASE**, daughter of Marla Mase
 8/31 **KIMANI FOSTER**, daughter of Katrina Thomas
 8/31 **ROSITA CUNNINGHAM**, sister of Sedel Mapp



Our Children Remembrances — Changes

A longstanding tradition in our Manhattan Chapter of Compassionate Friends newsletter has been the listing of our children's and sibling's birthdays and anniversaries. I know I look *first* at each issue of the newsletter to see my child's listing, my sister's listing, and scan for the birthdays and anniversaries of my TCF friends loved ones.

It is very important that our listings are correct and meaningful and we try to keep the listings as accurate and up to date as possible, but we are not perfect. Should you desire a change to your loved one's listing or if your listing is missing, please let us know. Email to tcfmanhattan.nyc@gmail.com and tell us what needs to change.

Dan Zweig



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



8/1 **JOHN RICHARDSON**, son of Vivian Richardson
8/1 **LUIS LARA**, son of Harry & Maria Ruff
8/1 **MANUEL RODRIGUEZ**, son of Irene Rodriguez
8/1 **TIMOTHY KOK**, brother of Tse Wei Kok
8/2 **ETHAN MAGDER**, son of Andrea & Gary Magder, brother of Abbi Magder
8/2 **KANNE IKONOMOU**, sister of Natasha Ikononou
8/2 **KARINA VETRANO**, sister of Tara Vetrano
8/2 **WILLIAM JOHN**, brother of Joseph John & MaryLee Bertrand
8/3 **DESHA BEAMER**, sister of Laura Beamer
8/3 **JONATHAN DIAZ**, son of Jeanette Diaz
8/3 **MICHAEL DURNIN**, son of Karen & Mike Durnin
8/3 **SHANNA JOSEPH**, daughter of Lynn Platt, sister of Rebecca Wasserman
8/4 **ALEXIS ECHAVARRIA**, son of Christina Echavarria
8/4 **CHADWICK ALEXANDER ANDERSON**, son of Stacie Hawkins
8/5 **BENJAMIN SOBILOFF**, son of David & Marjorie Sobilloff
8/5 **CASEY ACKERMAN**, son of Melissa and Hal Ackerman
8/5 **HOLLY OESTREICH**, daughter of Joyce Oestreich
8/6 **BENJAMIN TEPPERBERG**, son of Susann Tepperberg
8/6 **BURKE TAYLOR**, brother of Emily Yoshikawa
8/6 **MICAH DAWKINS-WILLIAMS**, son of Rhodina Williams
8/7 **BELLA BRODSKY**, sister of Jennifer Brodsky
8/7 **MICHAEL MOSS**, son of Michaela & Bob Moss
8/7 **PETER ADAM LEVINE**, beloved son of Marie Levine & the late Philip Levine
8/8 **ALISON GERTZ**, daughter of Carol & the late Jerry Gertz
8/9 **NICHOA WALKER**, daughter of Mazrene Holmes
8/10 **GAGE TURZANI**, Nephew of Liz Sherman
8/11 **CHRISTOPHER PALMER**, son of Darlene and Douglas Palmer
8/11 **RUTH DOUGHTY**, sister of Louise Doughty
8/12 **MIA SACASA**, daughter of Malik Sacasa
8/15 **BEN BREEN**, son of Carol Breen
8/16 **ALAN SOLITAR**, son of Susie & Bruce Solitar
8/16 **CHARLIE-ROSE MCCALL**, daughter of Yolette Perry
8/16 **RAIDEN SHIMOYAMA**, son of Jenna Agins & Toku Shimoyana
8/18 **ERIK BANKS**, son of Laurene Buckley
8/18 **FORREST RYZY-RYSKI**, brother of Sophia Rzyz-Ryski

8/18 **MARINA ELIZABETH CLOOS**, daughter of Alice Cloos
8/18 **NONI BIALE**, daughter of Margaret and Noam Biale
8/19 **ARTURO LAULO**, brother of Luz Laulo
8/19 **DONALD BROWN**, son of Desiree Brown
8/19 **KHALID ALBABA**, son of Kerri Albaba
8/20 **BRYANT GIBBS**, brother of Cynthia Gibbs-Pratt
8/20 **JEFF CARPENTER**, son of Donna Carpenter
8/20 **RICKY BATASHOFF**, brother of Dana Stein
8/20 **SHANE ALVAREZ**, son of Melanie Alvarez
8/21 **DYLAN BISCH**, son of Eileen Eck
8/21 **JEFFREY CARTER**, son of Linda Carter
8/21 **ROSE MAYR**, sister of Anna Mayr
8/22 **ANNETTE JOSEPH**, daughter of Era Joseph, sister of Jeanette
8/22 **FABIAN ABNEY**, nephew of Chiffon Abney
8/22 **JANIE GONG**, daughter of Alan & Daisy Gong
8/23 **JOANNA ZWEIG**, Ben's aunt, sister of Daniel Zweig
8/24 **DESIRA (DESI) PACUK**, sister of Nikkie Pacuk
8/24 **DIANE HASS**, daughter of Lillian Hass
8/24 **MARIA CUNARD**, sister of Angela George
8/25 **MEGAN YODER**, sister of Kyle Yoder
8/25 **SANGEETA LAL**, brother of Seema Lal
8/26 **JOHNNY & HOLLY RAHN**, twin children of Kathrin Laser & David Rahn
8/26 **LAURA FELDSTEIN**, daughter of Marilyn & Al Feldstein
8/27 **DAVID GLASS**, son of Jack & Laura Glass
8/28 **BRITTANY MCGRATH**, sister of Chelsea McGrath
8/28 **NICK CARIS**, son of Konstantina Caris
8/29 **JACOB MORGAN**, brother of Kelsey Morgan
8/29 **JOSEPH BABY**, brother of Marilyn Baby, son of Yohannan Baby
8/29 **JOSHUA UNDERWOOD**, brother of Sarah Underwood
8/29 **LINDA MARQUEZ**, daughter of Hilda Mendoza
8/29 **TRYGVE WASBOTTEN**, son of Marilyn Wasbotten
8/30 **CASEY LOW**, brother of Dara Low
8/31 **BENJAMIN ZWEIG**, son of Sally Petrick & Daniel Zweig
8/31 **CHRISTINE FORNATO**, sister of Theresa Fornato
8/31 **GALIAH GARBER**, sister of Anath Garber
8/31 **NOAH STERN**, son of Barbara Samuels & Nicholas Stern
8/31 **TYLEAH MCFADDEN**, daughter of Lisa Jenkins, sister of Nadirah McFadden





OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



9/1 **DWAYNE NELSON**, son of Amelia Brewer-Nelson
 9/1 **MARK H. IHDE**, son of Linda & Don Ihde
 9/1 **ROSE LIANG**, sister of Holly & Chue Liang
 9/2 **CHRISTOPHER RISTO**, son of Grace Piegaro
 9/2 **GEORGE MICHAEL KOTSIS**, son of Doris Kotsis
 9/3 **BETTY DIBIASO**, daughter of Susan Carty
 9/4 **JOVI RAMOS**, son of Desiree Ramos
 9/6 **HENRY SZOR**, son of Eva Grin
 9/6 **MAX GLEZOS-CHARTOFF**, son of Julie Chartoff & Irene Glezos
 9/7 **TOMMASO CERASE**, son of Barbara Riccardi & Alessandro Cerase
 9/8 **AHMAD SHARRIEFF-AL-BEY**, son of Rashied Sharrieff-Al-Bey
 9/8 **CALLUM ROCHE**, son of Sean Roche
 9/8 **CYRUS SINK**, son of Susan Huggins
 9/8 **MELISSA ANN WALSH**, sister of Stephanie Walsh
 9/8 **THERESA MARTIN HOUGH**, daughter of Sara Martin
 9/10 **MATTHEW NOVAK**, son of Clare Hogan
 9/12 **AVA LOUISE HOUSE**, daughter of Molly House
 9/12 **HARRIS KAPLANSKY**, son of Denise Gelfand
 9/12 **LIANNA GONZALEZ**, daughter of Dahiana De La Cruz
 9/12 **SAIGIA BRON**, daughter of Florence Layayette
 9/12 **SOPHIA JOLIET AGUIRRE**, daughter of Monica Deliz
 9/12 **SYDNEY MARTINEZ**, daughter of Fabiola Bello & Alex Martinez
 9/13 **CANDICE CHEN**, daughter of Belle Tung
 9/13 **TROY HALL**, son of Victor Hall
 9/14 **CASEY STRAKA**, son of Dana Straka
 9/14 **GALIAH GARBER**, sister of Anath Garber
 9/15 **MICHAEL MCFARLAND**, son of Tamara McFarland
 9/16 **PAUL THOMPSON**, son of Elaine Thompson
 9/17 **KARIM HALAWI**, brother of Lama Halawi
 9/18 **DAVID PICARD**, son of Darlene Picard

9/18 **IAN MALSON**, brother of Caitlin Malson
 9/19 **ILIA KRASOTINA**, sister of Sofiya Krasotina
 9/19 **TYLEAH MCFADDEN**, daughter of Lisa Jenkins, sister of Nadirah McFadden
 9/21 **CHRISTOPHER LUKE ELMER**, son of Anne Elmer & Jeff Elmer
 9/21 **GINGER SIMMS**, daughter of Larry Simms & Alison Ho
 9/21 **TATIANA HICKMAN**, sister of Autumn Hickman
 9/21 **WONDER HAMILTON**, daughter of Gary & Jennifer Hamilton
 9/22 **ALEXANDRA DISANTIS**, daughter of Margo & Frank DeSantis
 9/22 **JAMES HAYS**, brother of Claire Hays
 9/23 **CASEY CRUZ**, daughter of Ibelka Cruz
 9/23 **GREGORY ROTH**, brother of Stephanie Roth
 9/25 **CHRISTOPHER DOMBROWSKI**, brother of William & Brianne Dombrowski
 9/26 **MITCHELL WALKER**, son of Fountain Walker
 9/27 **ARON LINDELL**, son of Julie Lindell
 9/27 **JAY SCHNEIDER**, son of Bonnie Bowes
 9/27 **WILLIAM JOHN**, brother of Joseph John
 9/28 **ALEX BIBLER**, son of Lindsay Bibler
 9/28 **KRISTEN DUBERRY**, daughter of Michael Duberry
 9/28 **PAMELA ARGUELLO**, daughter of Doris Carraquillo, sister of Vinny Urena and Brandon Arguello
 9/28 **RYAN CHRISTIAN BALLON**, brother of Dylan Ballon
 9/29 **ANDREW SCHLEIFER**, son of Kittyhawk Schleifer
 9/29 **BOBBY BEATTIE**, brother of Rose Beattie
 9/29 **DANIEL SNYDER**, brother of Lisa Snyder
 9/29 **LILY BADGER**, daughter of Madonna and Matt Badger
 9/29 **MARY ANN VALVERDE**, sister of Victoria Soto
 9/29 **SOPHIA MELILLO**, daughter of Kristen Leigh
 9/30 **BELLA BRODSKY**, sister of Jennifer Brodsky
 9/30 **CHRISTOPHER WAGNER**, son of Linda & Edward Wagner



Our Children Remembrances — Changes

A longstanding tradition in our Manhattan Chapter of Compassionate Friends newsletter has been the listing of our children's and sibling's birthdays and anniversaries. I know I look *first* at each issue of the newsletter to see my child's listing, my sister's listing, and scan for the birthdays and anniversaries of my TCF friends loved ones.

It is very important that our listings are correct and meaningful and we try to keep the listings as accurate and up to date as possible, but we are not perfect. Should you desire a change to your loved one's listing or if your listing is missing, please let us know. Email to tcfmanhattan.nyc@gmail.com and tell us what needs to change.

Dan Zweig



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



9/2 **IMOGEN ROCHE**, daughter of Theseus Roche
9/2 **ROWENNA WIGHT WHITE**, daughter of Nancy Wight
9/2 **YULIA KRASHENNAYA**, sister of Deb Faynshteyn
9/3 **BRENDEN CARSON**, son of Debra Carson
9/3 **CALEB SANDE**, grandson of Renee & Hervey Sande
9/3 **SEAN KIMERLING**, son of Ervine & Noah Kimerling
9/4 **ADEDAYO ADEWALE**, son of Modesta Baltazar
9/4 **MARLA SUE COLLAZO**, daughter of Lita & Joe Robinson
9/4 **ZANE MANDEL-MICHALAK**, son of Janet Robinson
9/5 **NOAH BOWER**, son of Pat Bower Cooley
9/6 **SHAUN BECKWITH CHASEN**, son of Dr. Barbara Chasen
9/6 **TIM MAGEE**, son of Mary & Tim Magee
9/7 **PATRIC KARN**, brother of Lisa Kaye
9/7 **YEHUDA MILSTEIN**, son of Edith Bayne, brother of Ilana Milstein
9/8 **BRIAN CULLIMORE**, son of Teresa Cullimore
9/9 **BRIAN MEEHAN**, brother of Kevin Meehan
9/9 **JORDAN WEINSTEIN**, daughter of Wendy J. Schriber
9/10 **KRISTINA ESPOSITO**, daughter of Cecilia Esposito
9/11 **AARON HOROWITZ**, son of Allan & Liz Horwitz
9/11 **CHRISTIAN FUERSICH**, son of Janet Fuersich
9/11 **JOHN COOPER JR.**, brother of Keith P. Cooper
9/12 **ADAM WEINER**, son of Susan Weiner
9/12 **ANDREW BALTINI**, brother of Kevin Baltini
9/12 **BLAKE GOODMAN**, brother of Claudia Goodman
9/12 **JENNA HERNAN**, daughter of Maria Hernan
9/13 **JAMES RUSSO**, brother of Adrienne Russo
9/13 **JASMIN REQUENA**, daughter of Eleanor Requena, sister of Jaqueline
9/14 **EMRE EDEPLI**, son of Levant & Kirsten Edepli
9/14 **JOHN MARZANO**, son of Claire Martino
9/14 **TATIANA HICKMAN**, sister of Autumn Hickman
9/15 **CHRIS SANTIAGO**, son of Eve Ortega
9/15 **CHRISTOPHER MALLIN**, son of Robert Mallin
9/15 **GEORGE MICHAEL PEREZ**, son of Priscilla Perez
9/15 **MARSHALL FORDE**, son of Asurf Forde, brother of Marcel Forde
9/15 **YVONNE BURDEN**, sister of Crystal Burden
9/16 **JON MICHAEL CAMINITI**, son of David Caminiti, Linda Caminiti and brother of Jacqueline
9/16 **KIARR LACEY MONROE**, son of Xenia Vasquez & Lacey Monroe

9/16 **PAUL WALKER**, son of Ellen Walker
9/17 **EVAN FRIEDLANDER**, son of Kathy Friedlander
9/17 **PAMELA ARGUELLO**, daughter of Doris Carraquillo, sister of Vinny Urena and Brandon Arguello
9/17 **TIM CARPENTER**, son of Donna Carpenter
9/17 **TOMMASO CERASE**, son of Barbara Riccardi & Alessandro Cerase
9/18 **GLEN FRASER**, son of James Fraser
9/18 **LUCY GRAVES**, daughter of Edward Graves
9/19 **AVA LOUISE HOUSE**, daughter of Molly House
9/19 **ERIC ROSENBERG**, son of Sharon Rosenberg
9/19 **KASRIEL BENJAMIN**, son of Sarah & Tony Benjamin
9/19 **WILLIE GWATHMEY**, brother of Katie Gwathmey
9/20 **ISABELLA CARROLL**, daughter of Doreen Carroll
9/21 **AIDAN HERNANDEZ**, son of Maura Moloney and Victor Hernandez
9/21 **BENJAMIN GOURDJI**, son of Anna Gourdji
9/21 **LYNDON HOWARD**, son of Lila Howard
9/23 **DUSTIN TUNICK**, son of Jenifer Kelly
9/24 **NOAH REISMAN**, brother of Rachel Reisman
9/24 **ORION DUMITRIU**, son of Winnie Yang
9/24 **SOPHIE ANN MISSHUK**, daughter of Evan Misshuk
9/25 **CELINA PACHECO**, daughter of Evelyn Gonzalez
9/25 **ELIOT BARTLETT**, brother of Emanuekl (Man) Bartlett
9/25 **ISAIAH WINCH**, son of Jesse Winch, brother of Louisa-Carpenter Winch
9/25 **JOHN THOMAS (TOMMY) VIGORTIA**, son of Patricia Vigorita
9/25 **SEAN COYLE**, brother of Krista Coyle
9/25 **WILLIAM GRIFFO**, son of Yvona & William Griffo, brother of Mike Griffo
9/28 **ASHLEY HOPE GOODMAN**, daughter of Karen Goodman
9/28 **JAMIE MARCUS**, daughter of Bruce Marcus
9/29 **KARIM HALAWI**, brother of Lama Halawi
9/29 **LAUREN MARIE NELSON**, sister of Mickey (Michelle) Nelson
9/29 **PAMELA SUE CHAIKEN**, daughter of Sandy & Lionel Chaiken, sister of Stephanie
9/30 **ANTHONY HELZER**, son of Donna Romer
9/30 **JO ANNA BURRO**, daughter of Jeanette Burro



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS CHAT SCHEDULE. Click here to display exact times and to see entire schedule				The Compassionate Friends National Office 48660 Pontiac Trail #930808, Wixom, MI 48393 Toll Free (877) 969-0010 www.compassionatefriends.org email:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org
ET	MORNING	EARLIER EVENING	LATER EVENING	
MON	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	First time CHAT orientation	General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	WE NEED NOT WALK ALONE TCF Online National Magazine Click here for Information
TUE		Loss to Substance Related Causes First time CHAT orientation	Bereaved less than 2 yrs Bereaved more than 2 yrs	
WED	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	First time CHAT orientation	General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Our next Chapter meetings are Tuesdays: AUG 9 SEP 13 OCT 11 NOV 8 AUG 23 SEP 27 OCT 25 NOV 22
THU		No Surviving Children First time CHAT orientation	General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	
FRI	General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	Pregnancy/Infant Loss	General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	Newsletter article submissions are welcome. Please email to marielevine2@verizon.net
SAT			General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	
SUN		Suicide Loss	General Bereavement Issues Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	MAKE A DONATION Click here to Donate to the Manhattan Chapter

OUR COMPASSIONATE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS

Babylon	1st Friday	(516) 795-8644	Rockville Centre	2nd Friday	(516) 766-4682
Bronx	2nd Tuesday	(914) 714-4885	Rockland County	3rd Tuesday	(845) 398-9762
Brookhaven	2nd Friday	(631) 738-0809	SmithPoint/Mastic	2nd Thursday	(631) 281-9004
Brooklyn	3rd Wednesday	(917) 952-9751	Staten Island	2nd & 4th Thurs.	(718) 983-0377
Flushing	3rd Friday	(718) 746-5010	Syosset (Plainview)	3rd Friday	(718) 767-0904
Manhasset	3rd Tuesday	(516) 466-2480	Twin Forks/Hamptons	3rd Friday	(646) 894-0317
Marine Park, Bklyn	3rd Friday	(718) 605-1545	White Plains	1st Thursday	(914) 381-3389
Medford	2nd Friday	(631) 738-0809			

PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUPS

Click below for National Website's Listing of groups.

24/7 PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUPS

[TCF – Loss of a Child](#)
[TCF – Loss of a Stepchild](#)
[TCF – Loss of an Only Child/All Your Children](#)
[TCF – Multiple Losses](#)
[TCF – Daughterless Mothers](#)
[TCF – Men in Grief](#)
[TCF – Bereaved LGBTQ Parents with Loss of a Child](#)
[TCF – Bereaved Parents with Grandchild Visitation Issues](#)
[TCF – Loss to Miscarriage or Stillbirth](#)
[TCF – Infant and Toddler Loss](#)
[TCF – Loss of a Child 4 -12 Years Old](#)
[TCF – Loss of a Child 13-19 Years Old](#)
[TCF – Loss of an Adult Child](#)
[TCF – Loss of a Child with Special Needs](#)

[TCF – Loss of a Grandchild](#)
[TCF – Grandparents Raising their Grandchildren](#)
[TCF – Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Loss of an Infant Grandchild](#)
[TCF – Loss to Long-term Illness](#)
[TCF – Loss to Cancer](#)
[TCF – Loss After Withdrawing Life Support](#)
[TCF – Loss to Mental Illness](#)
[TCF – Sudden Death](#)
[TCF – Loss to Suicide](#)
[TCF – Loss to Homicide](#)
[TCF – Loss to Substance Related Causes](#)
[TCF – Loss to a Drunk/Impaired Driver](#)
[TCF – Grieving with Faith and Hope](#)
[TCF – Reading Your Way Through Grief](#)

The Compassionate Friends
c/o Sally Petrick - Treasurer
945 West End Ave Apt 2B
New York, NY 10025

Making a Donation—Now Online

Many of us are grateful for what Compassionate Friends has done for them and want to lend their support, even those who do not currently attend our meetings.
You can still mail a check to the address to the left or donate online.

[Click here to Donate to the Manhattan Chapter](#)