



The Compassionate Friends

Manhattan Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Our next meetings...

Aug 19
Sep 16
Oct 21
Nov 18

Manhattan Chapter Newsletter

August 2025

AUGUST 19TH MEETING—3RD TUESDAY IN-PERSON

In-person only **on the third Tuesday**, August 19th. We are still working to figure out how and when we can work in on-line meetings. It's by far worth the extra effort to come in-person, but we recognize not everyone can.

Grieving takes longer than we want it to.

Days, months, even years go by

*And we discover that the shock waves still
reverberate in our scarred spirits,*

*that our grieving is still hesitant, still halting,
still sparse of those occasions that are heal-
ing.*

*But grief runs by its own clock, and as surely
as we sometimes mourn with agonizing slow-
ness, we will leap through other days, making
astonishing strides toward recovery.*

~Molly Fumia, "Safe Passage"

HOPE IS WHERE YOU FIND IT

Olivia was born still – an umbilical cord too tightly wound.

Lucas was two days old when he died of complications.

Greta was only two years old when she was killed by falling debris.

Max was seven when he died from a brain tumor – Jasmina was only six.

Kareem was fifteen when he drowned along with his brother Kevin, twelve.

Peter was 22 when his friend lost control of the car he was driving his friends home in, Charlie was 23 when his prescription didn't work with his social life, Mark and Karen were on their honeymoon when their bus ran off a mountain road in Nepal, Kelli was 39 when she succumbed to ovarian cancer, Jimmy was 36 when a heart attack took him and his brother Charlie followed a year later when cancer chose him. Eleanor was 41, Philip was 45, Andrew was 47, Harvey was 59.....

Sudden, unexpected deaths – walking, running, skiing, skating, driving, flying, burning, drinking, drugging, falling, swimming, shooting, stabbing, hanging, jumping... heart attacks, brain tumors, seizures, aneurisms, strokes, organ failures, - so many ways to die.

No matter the age, no matter the reason – they were all our children – leaving us, their parents and siblings here to grieve their too early, unexpected deaths. Every day children die. While the world turns for most, for so many of us, the world suddenly stops. Losing a child sets survivors on a totally unanticipated life path.

(con't on page 2)

TELEPHONE FRIENDS: When you are having the kind of day you feel only another bereaved parent or sibling can understand, we can 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

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Newsletter Editor: **Marie Levine** marielevine2@verizon.net

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS MEETINGS are now monthly - in person on the third Tuesday of the month

WE MEET AT 7:00pm—arrive or sign on at 6:45pm

This month, Aug. 19, 2025, we will be meeting only in person at 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.

I FORGIVE

By Debbie Ortega

I've heard advice for the newly bereaved that forgiveness is an important part of healing. I've worked hard at that elusive "forgiveness" and came to the realization today that I am actually able to forgive quite a lot...

- I forgive myself for not forgiving the people that caused my daughter's death. Some things are just not "forgivable" and she would understand.
- I forgive others for sharing their "miracles" with me, not understanding how cruelly this attacks my heart, as I wonder where my daughter's "miracle" was.
- I forgive others for not understanding me. I don't understand anything anymore, so I can't expect others to understand me either.
- I forgive myself for not being able to do all the things I used to be able to do. I don't function as well as I used to and that's okay.
- I forgive others for continuing to live in that other world where I once lived with my daughter. It's a good world and I miss it a lot.
- I forgive myself for no longer fitting into that world and not always being able to take it. I am different now.
- I forgive others for avoiding me. They don't know what to say and, quite frankly, that leaves me with nothing to say to them either.
- I forgive my daughter for leaving me. She loved life and she loved me. I believe she loves me still.

This is probably not what people mean when they say we need to "forgive" but it's the best I can do. It's enough that I can do anything at all, and maybe they will forgive me as well.

For all Our Lost Children

~Betty Kenna, TCF, UK

I will see you again
in the fullness of time.
You will reach out your hand
I will take it in mine.

As together we walk,
all the sorrow filled years
will dissolve in a cloud
in the midst of our tears.

I will see you again,
we will laugh as before.
I will kiss your dear face,
as I pass through the door

to a place where you are,
and a bright shining sun
will assure my glad heart
that my life has begun. —————>

HOPE IS WHERE YOU FIND IT (con't from page 1)

This grief is different. There is so much to deal with even while disbelief is the prism through which everything else must now be seen. In a numb state of initial shock, we go through the motions necessary to shutting down a life only partially lived. At last, able to focus our grief we discover it's not like any grief we have ever experienced, learned about or lived through with anyone we have ever known. We try in vain to understand this mind-bending confusion while the uninitiated around us try to offer well intended but ultimately useless comfort and solace based upon their own limited understanding of loss. Our inability to fathom our new reality and the loss of hope for a future, creates even more pain and isolation. Only those who have lived this calamity recognize the future that newly bereaved parents face. The bereaved become aliens in a world in which they no longer feel like they belong.

Losing a child is the beginning of an extraordinary grief experience. Because healing doesn't begin as expected, doubt about one's own sanity begins to creep in. We begin to think that perhaps we are losing our minds. Healing seems unattainable. We are reluctant to "let go" as others encourage us to do. Our grief is the most solid thing we have. We hang on for dear life. "Getting over it" is an impossibility. They say we'll never be the same. They are right. Frustrated by our inability to describe how it "hurts", we finally find a measure of relief when we meet others who have lost a child. Without saying a word, we feel safe and understood in knowing they understand exactly how we are feeling. They've been there – and survived.

Parents who survive their children are chemically rearranged. Like a butterfly's metamorphosis, we too must confront changes in our personality, our physicality, our perspective, our health, our attitudes, our capabilities, our needs, our desires, our priorities and our understanding. Our healthy survival depends on our ability to reinvent ourselves. The future we spent a lifetime envisioning and working towards becomes a black hole – we have no idea where we're headed and we simply slide toward some unknown destination. Adjustment to this new reality can take years – the better part of a lifetime.

As Jason Greene, Greta's Dad said, "*children remain dead in ways adults do not.*" Eventually we do get over other inevitable losses. Like a stone in our pocket, we carry this loss for all of time. It takes a very long time to care about anything again. But hope does return – most often in the company of our Compassionate Friends.

Marie Levine

I will see you again,
though the journey be long
I will try, for your sake,
to sing some kind of song.

And for you I'll endeavor
to live through my pain,
'til the moment dear child,
when I see you again.

Siblings

What About Me?

Have you ever felt that, as a surviving brother or sister, we are often forgotten? I have felt this way quite often in the last six years. Over time, the feeling becomes less and less. Our parents' grief is so much different from ours. No more or less hurtful than ours, bit different. They lost their child, I hope that, in my lifetime I never have to know how that feels. I know how painful it was when Sean died. I don't want to know that pain of having a child die. But, often times, we are the "forgotten mourners". I love my brother very much and miss him just as much. I think that people sometimes forget that we are hurting also. My parents were offenders of that too.

I know they know my sister and I were hurting, but they were so wrapped up in what they were feeling that they didn't have time to worry about what we were feeling. I tried so hard to make my parents well again that I neglected my grief. Pretty much denied it. We really want to make our families "normal" again.

I have had some awful things said to me over the last six years. Two weeks after Sean died, someone said to me, "Well, you do still have a sister." Well, yes, I do still have a sister, but that doesn't lessen the pain of my brother's death and my sister can't possibly replace my brother. Probably the worst thing anyone has said to me is "why aren't you over this? Sean has been dead for six months." Well, it's not something you just "get over". I have learned a lot of things over the years and if I hadn't been in such a state of shock, maybe I would have had some good responses. When I think back on it, I wish I had. I have decided that, from what I have learned, I need to educate people and make them understand that siblings and friends have the right to grieve too.

As surviving siblings and friends, we also have to realize that we need to find a new "normal." We also need to know that it's okay to feel all of the things that we feel, be it anger, sadness, guilt or any other emotion. Just know that you are not crazy or wrong to grieve. Know also that it is all right to think and talk about them when you're ready, not when someone else says or thinks you should be ready. Death and grieving are, unfortunately, a part of life.

~ Traci Morlock, TCF, St. Louis

Anonymous in Raleigh, N.C.

The following is a response sent to Ann Landers by Dawn Morville Johnson, sibling representative on the TCF National Board of Directors.

Dear Ann Landers:

As a bereaved sibling, I was disappointed in your response to "Anonymous in Raleigh, N.C.," who asked whether it would be appropriate to send her parents a card on the anniversary of her brother's death. You advised her not to send a card, but to take her parents to dinner "with no mention of the sad anniversary."

Bereaved parents will tell you that the one thing they want to do is talk about their child. Ignoring the anniversary of a child's death is the same as ignoring the child's birthday: it makes bereaved parents feel as though their child did not exist. Many bereaved parents

(con't on page 4)

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.*

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](#)

TCF SIBLING CHATS

Some online chats for adult and teen siblings to share concerns and feelings are available on the TCF National website
[Click here to display the full schedule of chats for both parents and siblings](#)

What about Vacations

By Elaine Stillwell

When your heart is hurting after the loss of a loved one, you wonder if you will ever be able to "take a vacation" from grief. There are many answers to this question. The secret is to find the right one for you.

Vacations for my family were spent mostly at home. Our work schedules rarely permitted us time to go away and with three children we found traveling to be expensive. I have always lived on Long Island (NY), and my parents brainwashed us to think that living on Long Island was a permanent vacation. Do you think they worked for the tourist board?

After my 19-year-old daughter, Peggy, and my 21-year-old son, Denis, died in the same automobile accident, I never planned a vacation to "get away" from my surroundings. My home was my "nest" and the source of great comfort to me. Not everybody feels this way.

Staying with the familiar made me feel comfortable. Having my support circle nearby was important to me. Enjoying the pleasures that I had shared with Peggy and Denis kept them close to my heart. Even though tears could accompany these pleasures, the tears were healing. Whether it was simply walking along the beach where we had many family outings, or sitting by the pool where we had spent so many hours with swim team, or watching a soccer game which took so much of our time with three teams in the family, or noticing their favorite colors, flowers, TV programs, or foods. These things helped reinforce their presence forever in my mind, never to be erased.

Some families agonize whether to go away for a vacation after losing a loved one and some families can't get away fast enough! So you see how different we all are. It's tough for husbands and wives who disagree about vacation plans to find a reasonable "compromise" to give relief to their individual styles of grieving.

The rule of thumb is: Do what helps you. If taking a cruise, or flying to a distant sunny haven, or visiting a mountain or seaside retreat, or just relaxing at a nearby resort helps you gain a moment of peace, do it. But one thing I must caution you about, don't go alone. There is time to reflect or quietly meditate wherever you are, but when you are hurting so terribly, it is not wise to be alone for long periods of time. However, it is good to have someone to share your thoughts with, releasing some of those feelings that are haunting you. Having a good listener with you is wonderful medi-

cine for you. It's also good to have someone to hug. Remember, you need 4 hugs a day for survival, 8 hugs a day for maintenance, and 12 hugs a day for growth. Therefore, make sure you vacation with the right person!

Many grieving families that I have met have found solace in a trip "away" from their home base. Sometimes, just the change is what they need. Other times, it's leaving work or that "empty chair" behind. A little sunshine can warm our souls, so the warmer climates appeal to us and seem to bring an inner cheer. I know I am a "sunshine" person and can accomplish ten times as much on a sunny day, so I'm sure a sunny vacation would be productive for me.

In my early days of bereavement, I found that taking a little photo album like a "grandma's brag book" with me, filled with my favorite pictures of my Peggy and Denis, made it feel as if they were with me. Packing that album in every pocketbook I used, whether the large everyday variety or the tiny evening bag, it was like a pacifier to me. When a friend of mine told me that she dreaded going on vacation "without her daughter along," I suggested she take a little picture album, crammed full of her daughter's snapshots, with her on the trip and she did. When she returned, she called me and happily announced that it had made a difference to her, releasing some of that emptiness she had felt. So take a chance and try something different to help your heart. You might surprise yourself!

Other bereaved friends could not bear to stay home for major holidays and off they flew to far-away vacation spots. That worked for them, getting away from the hoopla of the holidays and the family gatherings that they did not feel strong enough yet to attend. Some of these bereaved families said they found a respite from their grief while "on vacation" but that coming home was the hardest, causing feelings of depression when they returned. So, we all have to find the balance that fits our lives. It doesn't happen overnight. It's something that requires "trial and error" by us to find the blend that lifts our spirits.

Vacations can be a time of "renewal" for us. We all know that we need a vacation "from grief." We just have to figure out what kind of vacation our own heart needs. Good luck!

Reprinted from Atlanta Area Newsletter

<http://www.tcfatlanta.org/JulyAug2000.htm>

Dear Ann Landers (con't from page 3)

have told me that their surviving children will not talk about their brother or sister who has died. Often this is because they are afraid of upsetting their parents. However, bereaved parents yearn to hear their children mention the dead child's name. "Anonymous" should be encouraged in her efforts to remember the anniversary of her brother's death by sending a card to her parents.

On the anniversary of my brother's death, I send a special card to my parents to tell them that I am thinking about them and remembering my brother. We open our hearts to each other and share our memories of him and how much we miss him. We also put flowers on his grave that day and have flowers on the church altar in his memory on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of his death. In other words, the day is not like any other day, so I don't treat it as such. My life and my parents' lives changed forever the day he died. Making no mention of it would only be another tragedy.

Recommended reading...

- ♦ The Bereaved Parent by Harriet Sarnoff
- ♦ First You Die by Marie Levine
- ♦ Talking to Heaven by James Van Praagh
- ♦ Beyond Tears by nine mothers
- ♦ Love Never Dies by Sandy Goodman
- ♦ The Worst Loss by Barbara D. Rossoff

⇒ take advantage of the book list on the TCF website www.compassionatefriends.org

⇒ go to www.centeringcorp.org, for an extensive list of resources for ALL those grieving for every possible reason – for parents, grandparents, siblings, mothers, fathers, teens, children...because of sudden death, accident, long term illness, infant loss, miscarriage, homicide, substance abuse, etc.

Reading other bereaved people's stories helps us. Take advantage of these resources. Discovering how much of what we feel is being experienced by fellow travelers helps us understand the process and restores hope.

...to our new members

Attending your first meeting is the hardest thing to do. But you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not TCF will work for you. Often, it is the second, third or fourth meeting where you will find just the right person or the right words said that will help you along in your grief.

...to our long standing members

We need your encouragement and continued support. You are what ties our group together. Sadly, each meeting brings new parents. *THINK BACK...* what would it have been like for you if there had not been any "oldtimers" to welcome you and share your grief and encourage you and tell you that in time, the pain will soften...with time, there is hope.

~ ~ ~

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.



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



8/1	AMY ROSENBERG , daughter of Carol Rebsch	8/19	GRAYSON LOLLER , son of Tania Rivera
8/1	TUSHAR ATRE , son of Shaku Atre	8/19	JAMES GIBBON , son of James (Jimie) Gibbon
8/2	ANDREW FREDERICK RUBIN , son of Barbara & George Rubin	8/20	JULIO BARRERA , son of Martha Riveira
8/2	BRITTANY MOORE , daughter of Paulet Moore	8/20	LAUREN MARIE NELSON , sister of Mickey (Michelle) Nelson
8/2	MICHAEL KLINOFSKY , brother of Melanie Klinofsky	8/21	FRANK UNTENER , son of Barbara Chase
8/3	JAKE MAJER , grandson of Linda Reed	8/21	GAGE TURZANI , Nephew of Liz Sherman
8/4	LOUIS KORENMAN , son of Sanders Korenman	8/21	OLIVER FREIBERG , son of Cathy Taub
8/5	JESSICA REVELEY , sister of Britt Bonney	8/21	SANGEETA LAL , brother of Seema Lal
8/6	BRADLEY CHAIN , son of Herbert Chain	8/22	MICHAEL RAVEN , son of Selma & Rob Raven
8/7	BRANDON OLIVO , son of Nancy & Juan Olivo	8/23	GAIL ROACH , daughter of Joyce Roche
8/7	CHRISTINE SCHLENDORF , daughter of Karen Schlendorf	8/23	LEO AYALA , son of Gila Ayala
8/7	LAURIE NICHOLS , daughter of Marie Jones	8/23	MONTE JONATHAN GOLUB , son of Ellie Gollub
8/7	SAMUEL TITUS , son of Sara Jenkins	8/25	BENJAMIN SOBILOFF , son of David & Marjorie Sobiloff
8/7	SYTIRA JAMES , daughter of Roslyn James, sister of Shantel	8/25	COLETTE WAINWRIGHT , sister of Katherine Sall
8/8	MALCOLM LIVESEY , son of Katey Bernard, brother of Gigi Livesey	8/25	JAMES ROACH , brother of Omar Roach
8/8	RAIDEN SHIMOYAMA , son of Jenna Agins & Toki Shimoyama	8/26	AMY KIMM , daughter of Arleen Becker
8/9	BRIAN GOLDBERG , son of Gloria & Arthur Goldberg	8/26	JOHNNY & HOLLY RAHN , twin children of Kathrin Laser & David Rahn
8/9	GER ANDLINGER , daughter of Jeanne Andlinger	8/27	CARLOS APONTE , son of Mildred Aponte
8/9	HANNAH POTIS , sister of Taylor Potis	8/27	MARGARET BRAUN-GRIEP , sister of Helen Braun
8/9	LUKA BALAC , son of Olgica Balac	8/28	BLAKE GOODMAN , brother of Claudia Goodman
8/9	ZUNILDE (ZUNNY) MARTE , daughter of Victor Marte	8/28	JACK CASSELS , son of Ellen Cassels-Conde & John Cassels, brother of Collin Cassels
8/10	BRITTANY MALVEAUX , sister of Jordan Malveaux	8/28	JAMIE MARCUS , daughter of Bruce Marcus
8/11	HAMEEN JASPER , daughter of Yolanda Jasper	8/28	LOGAN GENTRY , son of Christine Spiro
8/12	AVA NASCIMENTO , granddaughter of Eugenia Nascimento, niece of Laura Jones	8/29	ALEXIS ECHAVARRIA , son of Christina Echavarria
8/12	JULIANNA SANNINO , daughter of Dominick Sannino	8/29	GIAN PAOLA SANTINI , son of Joan Santini, brother of Giuliana Reitzfeld
8/12	MICHELLE SALOWE , daughter of Mary Ann Ludwig	8/29	JOSHUA ROBERT ESFORMES , son of Susan Esformes, brother of Jacob
8/15	BENJAMIN TEPPERBERG , son of Susann Tepperberg	8/29	SAM BERGER , son of Marla & David Berger
8/16	CAROLINE MONTGOMERY , daughter of Catherine Montgomery	8/30	ISAAC RAUCH , son of Marc Rauch & Lisa Anderson
8/16	ERIC LINETT , beloved nephew of Roberta Schine	8/30	LAEL MASE , daughter of Marla Mase
8/16	HUNTER MARSHAD , grandson of Erica & Neal Marshad	8/30	PETER MESSINA , son of Katherine Messina
8/16	MEL/LISA ANDRE , daughter of Darchelle Hinson-Andre	8/31	KIMANI FOSTER , daughter of Katrina Thomas
8/17	SHANNA JOSEPH , daughter of Lynn Platt, sister of Rebecca Wasserman	8/31	ROSITA CUNNINGHAM , sister of Sedel Mapp
8/18	DYLAN JOSEPH MAIDA , son of Lisa Burns & Sal Maida	8/31	ZACK KASNETZ , brother of Alex Kasnetz
8/18	MISCHA DRUCKER ZIMMERMAN , son of Henia Drucker		
8/18	VISHAL TUNGARE , brother of Ajay Tungare		

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.



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 Ikonomou
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 **CYRUS WANECKE**, son of Nolan Wanecke & Talya Ramchandani
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 **ALEC FELDMAN**, brother of Andrew Feldman
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 **ALEXANDRA POLLIO**, daughter of Kathleen Curcio
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 Yvette Perry
8/16 **RAIDEN SHIMOYAMA**, son of Jenna Agins & Toki Shimoyama
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 **DETRA MICHELLE MORRISON**, daughter of Denise Morrison
8/20 **JEFF CARPENTER**, son of Donna Carpenter
8/20 **LUKE NIGHSWANDER**, son of Matthew Nighswander
8/20 **RICKY BATASHOFF**, brother of Dana Stein
8/20 **SHANE ALVAREZ**, son of Melanie Alvarez
8/20 **STEPHANIE GUBIN**, daughter of Rita Mittman
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 **BRITTANY MOORE**, daughter of Paulet Moore
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 **OLIVER FREIBERG**, son of Cathy Taub
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
8/27 **MICHELLE SALOWE**, daughter of Mary Ann Ludwig
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 **JORDAN ELIAS VELAZQUEZ**, son of Kathleen Velazquez
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 **ALEXANDER KYLE NUNEZ**, son of Melba & Luis Nunez
9/7 **LAUREN HAROPULOS**, daughter of Mike & Barbara Haropulos
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
9/9 **AVIVA LIPSKY-KARASZ**, daughter of Julia Zangwill & Daniel Lipsky-Karasz
9/9 **KRISTOFFER WILLIAMS**, son of Anette Lian-Williams & Eric Williams
9/10 **MATTHEW NOVAK**, son of Clare Hogan
9/11 **CARRA POLEN**, daughter of Nella Hahn
9/11 **OLIVER LIEGEY**, son of Viva & Robert Draper
9/12 **AVA LOUISE HOUSE**, daughter of Molly House
9/12 **HARRIS KAPLANSKY**, son of Denise Gelfand
9/12 **JAYDEN ALEXANDER BAEZ**, son of Josephine Cartagena
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
9/15 **NNENE EZEONYIM**, daughter of Uche Ezeonyim

9/16 **PAUL THOMPSON**, son of Elaine Thompson
9/16 **WILLIAM EDWARDS**, brother of Michael Bernieri
9/17 **DETRA MICHELLE MORRISON**, daughter of Denise Morrison
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 **RASHAAD A. KING**, son of Susan King
9/21 **TATIANA HICKMAN**, sister of Autumn Hickman
9/21 **VUKAN IVANOVIC**, son of Vladimir Ivanovic
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 **ROSS DEWEES**, son of Chris Dewees
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—LOVED AND REMEMBERED
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



9/1 **ELSA ALMESTICA**, daughter of Kenneth Almestica
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, sister of Ellyn Robinson Monahan
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 **SEYQUAN CHAMBLISS**, son of Derricka Chambliss
9/7 **YEHUDA MILSTEIN**, son of Edith Bayne, brother of Ilana Milstein
9/8 **BRIAN CULLIMORE**, son of Teresa Cullimore
9/8 **PETER MESSINA**, son of Katherine Messina
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
9/10 **SARAH KATZ**, daughter of Michael & Jill Katz, sister of Dana Katz
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 **ALIX LECLAIR**, daughter of Julie Neches, sister of Dom LeClair
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 **CLAIRE MONTAIGNE**, daughter of Fen Montaigne
9/21 **LYNDON HOWARD**, son of Lila Howard
9/22 **JACK BRAUN**, brother of Hannah Braun
9/23 **DUSTIN TUNICK**, son of Jenifer Kelly
9/23 **SHEMAYNE PARKS**, daughter of Beverly Fortson, sister of Hannah Fortson
9/24 **NOAH REISMAN**, brother of Rachel Reisman
9/24 **ORION DUMITRIU**, son of Winnie Yang
9/24 **ROBERT BANNON**, brother of Marybeth Bannon
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) VIGORITA**, son of Patricia & Vincent Vigorita
9/25 **ROAN VAUGHAN**, son of Melissa Schreiber, Brendan Vaughan & Renee Dale
9/25 **SEAN COYLE**, brother of Krista Coyle
9/25 **WILLIAM GRIFFO**, son of Yvona & William Griffo, brother of Mike Griffo
9/26 **STEFAN THEGEBY**, son of Dale Thegeby
9/27 **WILLIAM MONEN**, son of Nancy Monen
9/28 **ASHLEY HOPE GOODMAN**, daughter of Karen Goodman
9/28 **AURELIE FRANCHITTI**, daughter of Marianna Vertsman, sister of Valerie Franchitti
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 the 3rd Tuesday of each month: AUG 19 SEP 16 OCT 21 NOV 18
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	Medford	2nd Friday	(631) 738-0809
Bronx	2nd Tuesday	(914) 714-4885	Rockville Centre	2nd Friday	(516) 766-4682
Brookhaven	2nd Friday	(631) 738-0809	Rockland County	3rd Tuesday	(845) 398-9762
Brooklyn	3rd Wednesday	(917) 952-9751	SmithPoint/Mastic	2nd Thursday	(631) 281-9004
Flushing	3rd Friday	(718) 746-5010	Staten Island	2nd & 4th Thurs.	(718) 983-0377
Manhasset	3rd Tuesday	(516) 466-2480	Syosset (Plainview)	3rd Friday	(718) 767-0904
Marine Park, Bklyn	3rd Friday	(718) 605-1545	White Plains	1st Thursday	(914) 381-3389

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](#)