



# *The Compassionate Friends*

## *Manhattan Chapter*

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

**Our next meetings...**  
Nov 15  
Dec 20  
\* Dec 11 Candle Lighting  
Jan 17

### Manhattan Chapter Newsletter

November 2022

#### Telling Time...

We're about to turn the clocks back. But only one hour. I think, if only I could really turn the clock back. Like Superman, when Lois Lane gets killed. I think that now, more than any other time in my life, I am constantly reminded of time. How much I've lost, how little I seem to have left.

It's holiday time. As I write, Halloween is days away. By the time you are reading this Thanksgiving will be days away. And then, the roller coaster ride to Christmas, Chanukah and another New Year.

I am still brought short each day with the realization that I am moving on through time but Peter is not. At each new meeting I am brought back face to face with the haunting specter of raw, inconsolable, indescribable grief and disbelief. As each newly bereaved parent finds us, I meet myself again and again. And I am once again introduced to the effects of time.

In the beginning time stood still. From the moment I learned of Peter's death, and for months after, it seemed as if time had simply stopped. There were days, when lost in a reverie of disbelief, I would suddenly "come to" to discover hours had passed. When

I did finally go out of my house alone, I would be startled to find it had taken me hours to get only a short distance from my house. Where did that time go?

At the end of my first year of grieving, I often felt as though people expected me to be pretty far along towards healing. My anger and resentment began then, when I realized that time had nothing to do with grieving. A friend, coming to her son's second anniversary tells me her employer of more than 20 years is pressuring her to go back on a full time schedule at work. She's told by this

(con't on page 2)

#### Thanksgiving... a time of meditation

Thanksgiving...a time of meditation and thankfulness. Thanksgiving – a time of bitter pain and haunting memories for many bereaved parents. "How will we cope with the holidays?" How will we survive this happy time?" "What is there to be thankful for?"

These questions toss upon our souls at times, at the very dark times, and taunt us with doubt and fear. Fighting the creeping bitterness, we wait and long for the days of January.

As the years pass however, the holidays are no longer tinged with horror and emptiness. As the acceptance of the death settles in our hearts, the holiday smiles become more genuine. At least some of the warmth can return.

But for parents who have only recently (and recently can encompass months or years) suffered the death of a child, the holidays are bleak indeed.

Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that despondency and sorrow at this time of year are normal. What else could be expected of a grieving parent? Joy? Laughter? A sense of overwhelming love and our outstretched arms? No... never.

What can we do....

We can refrain from demanding too much of ourselves. We can recognize that at this point, we are emotionally exhausted; we are lonely, and we are sad. Maybe we are also angry, guilty and/or bitter. The feelings that arrive with the beginning of a holiday season without our beloved sons and daughters are not to be ignored or pushed into the corners of our hearts.

By recognizing all of this, we can say "no" to situations or people, even loved friends, who will create more pain. We can cry, silently or loudly, without shame. We can long for the essence of our children and remember them with love.

(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 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

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TCF MANHATTAN website: [www.compassionatefriends.nyc](http://www.compassionatefriends.nyc)  
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THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS MEETINGS are now monthly - always the third Tuesday 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.*

## Telling Time...

(con't from page 1)

30 year old, unmarried, childless manager, that "two years should be enough. Time to get back on track". Another friend, sixteen years into her grieving, is startled almost every day when she realizes that in another year, she'll have missed her daughter longer than she had her alive.

A dear, dear friend of mine, a gal I worked with many years ago and who I used to refer to as "the daughter I never had", had a little girl years ago. She was born the day after Peter was killed. Today, at 29, she represents all of time to me. She is the measure of all I have lost. As well as what I've gained.

But it is the chronic, constant reminder of time itself that comes with this territory. Every month brings another marker...a birthday, anniversary, holiday...the first, the second, the third...When do we stop counting? I suppose in the next millennium. Meanwhile, we continue to mark the times of our lives. Always with the names, the love and the memories of our beloved children, more remembered than ever. At this, the holiday-est time of the year, I wish you all a peaceful time, all season.

## Marie Levine

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## Thanksgiving... a time of meditation (con't from page 1)

The dreams of lifetimes die when children die. The hurt is often nearly unbearable. But, if we allow ourselves the freedom of grief and sorrow, we also open the paths to new happiness and new hopes and new dreams.

And the child who was a part of us will live in our memories and our hearts! I recently read a child's book about beginnings and endings, depicting how days don't end but night begins; autumn marks the beginning of winter and leaves fall from the trees to the ground and feed the earth for new life. Death is a final ending to life on earth. For bereaved parents however, who suffer the pain, the tragedy, the terrible doubts, the ending of a life can be the beginning of new feelings as new understanding and hopefully new compassion. But first we need to follow the instincts of our souls, and allow our bodies and our hearts to grieve.

~TCF, Terre Haute, IN

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*"We know ourselves by the stories we tell. Losing you has dismantled my storyline and shaken my plot; the tale I tell about who I am and where I am going doesn't make sense anymore.*

*I want desperately to find other words that will imagine my life anew. I just don't know where and how that story will begin."*

~ **Molly Fumia**, "Safe Passage"

## The First Thanksgiving

Today is Thanksgiving Lord,  
and I don't know what to say.  
On June 15<sup>th</sup> of this fractured year,  
you took my son away.  
Why should I be giving thanks?  
It makes no sense to pray.  
If you were listening to my prayers  
you would have let him stay.

I have wonderful friends and relatives Lord,  
still, it's very tough.  
I love each and every one of them,  
and yet, it's not enough.  
The pain is unbelievable.  
It cuts right through my soul.  
Although my family helps me cope,  
We are no longer whole.

Could you send a sign Lord,  
That heaven does exist?  
Is my child in a better place,  
not cursed by you, but kissed?  
If I could give thanks once again,  
if I knew he was safe and well,  
and in spite of the hole in my broken heart,  
survive this endless hell.

~**Madelaine Perri Kasden**, TCF, Manhattan  
*In memory of her beloved son, **Neill Perri***

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## ...from Healing after loss by Marsha Whitmore Hickman

*"there is no way out, only a way forward"*

~ Michael Hollings

"Is there no relief from this wound?" we wonder. "Is there no where I can go to turn aside, to get away?". What we would like to do, often, is to go back. Go back before the accident. Go back before the illness. But that world no longer exists. Our grief experience is a watershed and it has cut us off forever from that world that now seems so simple and almost idyllic (though we know better) – the life we knew with our loved one, the life Before This Happened.

Still, we keep trying, remembering, wishing until the thought pattern is established in our brain: this is your world now; this is what your life is like. Convinced, bit by bit, we begin to go forward – into a new sense of time and relationships, including a new relationship with the one who has died, a new relationship with ourselves.

Our other available choice is to stand still, and we may try it for a while. But we know we will turn to stone if we let that happen. No, we must keep moving, and in the only direction that is open to us – forward. Forward into a new land, into unknown adventure, unknown territory. I stand at the threshold of new life. What will I do? I can stand still. Or I can go forward. These are my choices.

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# Worldwide Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 11th, 2022

## Worldwide Candle Lighting Event In Manhattan

Plan to sign in beginning at 6:00PM

**Our event for 2022 may be virtual on Zoom. It will be best viewed on a computer screen.**

### The Compassionate Friends - Worldwide Candle Lighting



***We remember... that their light will always shine.***

***\* Remember - if in person...be sure to bring a framed photo of your loved one to be displayed in the ballroom during the evening.***

**Important - take note!**

***There will be an ongoing slideshow of all our children...***

**To include your loved one in this beautiful memorial, please email your photos by DECEMBER 8TH to:**

**[photosmtcf@gmail.com](mailto:photosmtcf@gmail.com)**

We suggest you send two photos - a young, "sunrise" photo and a "sunset" more recent photo.

Be sure to indicate your child's **full name exactly as you wish it to appear!**

**(If you had photos in last year's slideshow, just request to use the same photos for 2022)**

## 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.

## Recommended reading...

- ◆ The Bereaved Parent by Harriet Sarnoff
- ◆ First You Die by Marie Levine
- ◆ Talking to Heaven by James Van Praagh

⇒ take advantage of the book list on the TCF website [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

⇒ go to [www.centeringcorp.org](http://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 help 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.

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### ...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.

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## 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 accessed only after a request to join is approved by a moderator.

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

## Siblings

### OUTSIDE HIS BEDROOM DOOR

I look into his private world,  
Outside his bedroom door.  
A place where he once laughed and lived,  
a place he lives no more.

The friends who came to visit,  
the bed where he did seep...  
tears begin to cloud my eyes,  
I stand as I do weep.

The desk where he did his homework,  
the clothes that he did wear,  
his life that he was living  
without a single care.

Some pictures that were special,  
a girlfriend's secret note.  
His television he did watch,  
on the table, his remote.

His hats sit on a rack now,  
his helmet from his bike...  
the memories are painful.  
A life I do not like.

His cologne no longer lingers  
as it did once in our home.  
Visions of him by my side  
but I just stand alone.

His pillow and his blanket  
still sit upon his bed.  
Waiting for him to come home,  
lie down and place his head.

How I long for him to be here  
in the safety of his room.  
Nothing to ever harm him.  
Our lives could then resume.

I look into his private world  
outside his bedroom door.  
A place where he once laughed and lived.  
A place he lives no more

~~Lyndie Sorenson,  
*in memory of her brother Joey Sorenson*

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## 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](#)

### My First Five Years As An Only Child

I've been without my brother for five years. I guess the hard part is over now. Sometimes I think I have aged thirty years in the past five. In a strange way, these past five years have been the best and worst years of my life. I have accomplished the many things of a typical young adult; learning to drive, graduating from high school, going to college, and starting a career.

In these five years, although I have learned to accept that he is not coming back, the difficult part is dealing with it day by day.

My relationship with George ended just when we started to become friends. The childish fights and other annoyances of having a big brother were changing to real conversations and to having an occasional ally. I am angry about all the things that we have missed and all the things that will never be, and I guess I always will be. Five years heals a lot of wounds, but the hurt will always be there, no matter how many years pass.

In these past five years have been forced to grow up too fast. I have been forced into a new outlook on life. I have felt lonely and alone. I now realize that I will never be the same person as before. Maybe I am a better person because of what I have been through. Five years ago I never thought I would survive, but I am still here dealing with it every day. I don't know what the next five years will bring, but at least I have made it this far.

~ Kristin Steiner, TCF Staten Island

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### 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.*

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## OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



11/1	<b>BRETT DOUGLAS</b> , brother of Danielle Monaco	11/15	<b>JORDAN WEINSTEIN</b> , daughter of Wendy J. Schriber
11/1	<b>FLORENCE FRAZER</b> , sister of Harri Molese	11/17	<b>ADRIAN PURICELLI</b> , son of Denise Puricelli, brother of Vironika
11/1	<b>LIAM ARDEN</b> , son of Esther & Patrick Arden	11/17	<b>KATHLEEN BEAMER</b> , sister of Laura Beamer
11/1	<b>OLIVIA LAURA CASTRO</b> , daughter of Gigi & Robert Castro	11/17	<b>LINCOLN WHEELER-POWELL</b> , son of John Powell & Britta Wheeler
11/2	<b>STEVEN SCHWARTZ</b> , son of Ellen Schwartz	11/17	<b>LYLA SKYE MEDICI</b> , daughter of Mimi Delle Donne, sister of Meghan Matias
11/2	<b>TERESA MILLER-D'ALESSANDRO</b> , daughter of Mariana & Bob Miller-D'Alessandro	11/17	<b>TREVOR LOUGHLIN</b> , son of Suzy & Joe Loughlin, brother of Juliette Loughlin
11/2	<b>TY PICKETT</b> , son of Jan Pickett	11/18	<b>JAMILA IRONS-JOHNSON</b> , daughter of Jeannine Irons
11/3	<b>NICK CARIS</b> , son of Konstantina Caris	11/19	<b>CRAIG MARTINEZ</b> , son of Louis Hampton Martinez
11/4	<b>ASHLEE D. BLAKE GUTIERREZ</b> , daughter of Marlene & Francisco Guttierrez	11/19	<b>SARA CHANGHONG ADAMS</b> , daughter of Muriel Adams
11/4	<b>DMITRI PAJITNOV</b> , son of Nina Pajitnova	11/20	<b>DAVID LESSER</b> , brother of Debbie Lesser
11/4	<b>KEVIN MITCHELL</b> , son of Jacquie & John Mitchell, brother of Kristopher & the late Kareem Mitchell	11/20	<b>JEFFREY CARTER</b> , son of Linda Carter
11/5	<b>PAULA VOLEN</b> , daughter of Raizy Volen	11/21	<b>JACK ROBERTS</b> , son of Joanne Wright
11/5	<b>ROSE MAYR</b> , sister of Anna Mayr	11/22	<b>NICHOA WALKER</b> , daughter of Mazrene Holmes
11/6	<b>BENJAMIN ZWEIG</b> , son of Sally Petrick & Daniel Zweig	11/23	<b>INSANN LAWLOR</b> , son of Serena Bhaduri
11/7	<b>KELLI ANNE AULETTA</b> , daughter of Dick & Mary Auletta, sister of Kimberlee	11/23	<b>JENNA HERNAN</b> , daughter of Maria Hernan
11/7	<b>MALIK DUFOR</b> , son of Waltrina DeFrantz-Dufor	11/23	<b>TERRANCE RICHARDSON</b> , son of Theresa Richardson, brother of Francina Branch Elysee
11/7	<b>MARY GIBBS</b> , sister of Cynthia Gibbs-Pratt	11/24	<b>ARTHUR DUDIN</b> , son of Stan & Irina Dudin
11/7	<b>MILO KESSLER</b> , son of Alana Fishberg & Daryl Kessler	11/24	<b>ERIK BANKS</b> , son of Laurene Buckley
11/7	<b>NICHOLAS SOTO</b> , son of Deborah Freeman & Eddie B. Soto, Jr.	11/26	<b>ALEXANDER MAXWELL</b> , son of Deanna & Kent Grant
11/8	<b>ADAM WEINER</b> , son of Susan Weiner	11/26	<b>CLARISSA JACKSON</b> , sister of Jillian Jackson
11/8	<b>TEVIN A. HAMPTON</b> , son of Patricia Lilly	11/26	<b>MARLA SUE COLLAZO</b> , daughter of Lita & Joe Robinson
11/9	<b>AIMEE GANDOUR</b> , sister of Molly Gandour	11/26	<b>NOEL AMELLIO</b> , son of Margaret M. Amellio
11/9	<b>CHRISTOPHER ROTH</b> , brother of Stephanie Roth	11/27	<b>CASEY ACKERMAN</b> , son of Melissa and Hal Ackerman
11/9	<b>ISAIAH WINCH</b> , son of Jesse Winch, brother of Louisa-Carpenter Winch	11/27	<b>DANIELLE HYMOWITZ</b> , daughter of Karen Hymowitz
11/9	<b>MICHAEL RAMIREZ</b> , son of Michele Cennamo	11/27	<b>ISABEL XIE</b> , baby daughter of Denise Chow & Wayne Xie
11/9	<b>SANDRA PLOUFFE</b> , daughter of Margie & Bram Jelin	11/27	<b>KEVIN DEL ROSARIO</b> , son of Annaliza del Rosario
11/10	<b>DONNA MALIZIS</b> , daughter of Agata Malizis	11/27	<b>LUCAS SCOTT</b> , brother of Erin Scott
11/10	<b>MATTHEW GORDON</b> , brother of Elizabeth Stilwell	11/27	<b>RED LAYNE</b> , daughter of Greg & Trillich Layne
11/10	<b>MAX JACOBSON</b> , son of Terry & Hugh Jacobson	11/28	<b>ALAN ROSENTHAL</b> , son of Lynne Rosenthal
11/11	<b>CONNOR LEE-KAWANISHI</b> , son of Choony Lee	11/28	<b>GABRIEL ROCCOFORTE</b> , son of Judith Weiss
11/12	<b>BURTON SANDLES</b> , son of Ina Sandles	11/28	<b>SEAN COYLE</b> , brother of Krista Coyle
11/12	<b>HENRY JAY</b> , brother of Daniel Jay	11/28	<b>VYLETTE MOON</b> , daughter of Jackie Hakiki
11/12	<b>YIANNIS STATHOPOULOS</b> , son of Kathleen Negri Stathopoulos	11/29	<b>EVAN FRIEDLANDER</b> , son of Kathy Friedlander
11/13	<b>THOMAS J. MANNO</b> , son of Elizabeth M. Davey	11/29	<b>MAMADON JOHNSON</b> , sister of Djassi Johnson
11/14	<b>CATHERINE CORENU</b> , daughter of Carrie Tuhy	11/29	<b>STEVE DAVOREN</b> , brother of Doug Davoren
11/15	<b>AARON HOROWITZ</b> , son of Allan & Liz Horwitz	11/29	<b>TREVOR MATTHEWS</b> , son of Angela Matthews
11/15	<b>DYLAN RANDALL</b> , son of Yenya & Robert Randall		





## OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



11/1 **JUSTIN CRAIG LEDERMAN**, son of Ruth Lederman  
11/1 **MATT BEHAN**, brother of Chris Behan  
11/1 **OLIVIA LAURA CASTRO**, daughter of Gigi & Robert Castro  
11/1 **SHANEIREE DAMES**, daughter of Vivian Richardson  
11/1 **SKYLER CAGHLIN**, son of Seana Caghlín, brother of Cassandra Richardson  
11/2 **JASON ZAINITZ**, son of Linda Zaintz  
11/2 **KRISTEN DUBERRY**, daughter of Michael Duberry  
11/3 **VISHAL TUNGARE**, brother of Ajay Tungare  
11/4 **ILIA KRASOTINA**, sister of Sofiya Krasotina  
11/4 **PARIS CAVIC**, sister of Mel Cavic  
11/4 **SETH KAHN**, son of Debbie & Harold Kahn  
11/5 **CASSIE WILSON**, sister of Kaylie Wilson  
11/5 **GAVIN PESKIN**, son of Leah Peskin  
11/5 **RACHEL AUSTER**, daughter of Gail Auster  
11/6 **DAVID LESSER**, brother of Debbie Lesser  
11/6 **RUSSELL GABAY**, brother of Lori Gabay  
11/8 **JAMES GIBBON**, son of James (Jimie) Gibbon  
11/9 **ALI SEEDAT**, daughter of Deborah McKinzie  
11/9 **QUINDORA PERSUAD**, daughter of Maria Cabassa  
11/10 **PARKER KOLTCHAK**, son of Deb Capone  
11/10 **STEVEN HOUTERMAN**, son of Awilda Rodriguez Houterman  
11/11 **BRENDA CHAPMAN**, daughter of Della Scrugs  
11/11 **LINDA GIOVE**, daughter of Arlene Schechter  
11/11 **MYLES CHANDLER**, son of Marcia Chandler  
11/12 **JON ROMULO**, son of Tocy Friend  
11/13 **HENRY JAY**, brother of Daniel Jay  
11/13 **MICHAEL AARONSON**, son of Dorothy Aaronson, brother of Robert Aaronson  
11/13 **ROBERT CABALES**, son of Susan Cabaes

11/14 **VICENTE EDUARDO**, son of Tomasina Eduardo  
11/16 **JAY SCHNEIDER**, son of Bonnie Bowes  
11/17 **DYLAN LAKER**, son of Claudette Kraus & Robert Laker  
11/17 **JASON ELLIS**, son of Michael Ellis  
11/17 **MATTHEW NOVAK**, son of Clare Hogan  
11/17 **SYDNEY MARTINEZ**, daughter of Fabiola Bello & Alex Martinez  
11/18 **CHRISTOPHER MEYER**, brother of Kimberly Meyer  
11/18 **KIERNAN BLAKER**, brother of Darby Blaker  
11/20 **"SPROUT" WILSON**, son of Elizabeth Minei  
11/20 **NOEL AMELLIO**, son of Margaret M. Amellio  
11/20 **RORY DAZE CHONG**, son of Pam Chong  
11/21 **GEORGE MICHAEL KOTSIS**, son of Doris Kotsis  
11/21 **KATHLEEN BEAMER**, sister of Laura Beamer  
11/22 **AMIR PRIZANT**, brother of Ayelet Prizant  
11/22 **ETHAN WASSERBERGER**, son of Simon & Cynthia Wasserberger  
11/24 **CHRISTOPHER EISELE**, son of Kathleen & John Montoya  
11/24 **PATRICE WALKER**, daughter of Mazrene Holmes  
11/25 **JESSICA REVELEY**, sister of Britt Bonney  
11/26 **ALEX REY**, son of Alex and Myrna Rey, brother of Amanda Rey  
11/26 **DR. AMY BETH ROSEN**, daughter of Helen Rosen  
11/28 **RUBY MANE**, daughter of Mohasin Mane  
11/29 **BRONWEN PRADT**, daughter of Katherine Pradt  
11/29 **KHALIL KNOWLEDGE SMITH**, son of Malazha Wright  
11/29 **KOFI A. MENSAH JR.**, son of Rosinah Mensah & the late Samuel A. Mensah, brother of Dr. Kofi A. Mensah, Ph. D  
11/30 **GINGER SIMMS**, daughter of Larry Simms & Alison Ho  
11/30 **JAMES PATRICK (JIMMY) SINISI**, son of Ann Marie Sinisi  
11/30 **JESSE VALENTINE**, son of Joanna Valentine  
11/30 **LYDIA WOOD**, daughter of Matt Wood  
11/30 **SHIMMER HALL**, daughter of Janine James



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Dan Zweig



## OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



12/1	<b>CASSIE WILSON</b> , sister of Kaylie Wilson	12/15	<b>THOMAS ROBERTS</b> , brother of Victoria Roberts-Wierbowski
12/1	<b>GLEN FRASER</b> , son of James Fraser	12/16	<b>MICHELLE GITTENS</b> , daughter of Lenise Ballard-Gittens
12/1	<b>ROBERT GOODEN</b> , son of Tonya & Frank Gooden	12/16	<b>WILFRED DeVALLE</b> , son of Carmen DelValle, brother of Judy DelValle
12/2	<b>FORREST RYZY-RYSKI</b> , brother of Sophia Rzyz-Ryski	12/17	<b>JAMES MONTGOMERY</b> , son of Denise Montgomery
12/2	<b>JANIE GONG</b> , daughter of Alan & Daisy Gong	12/17	<b>RICKY BATASHOFF</b> , brother of Dana Stein
12/2	<b>JENNIFER CARGILL</b> , daughter of Virginia Crosby	12/17	<b>STEFAN PAKULSKI</b> , brother of Marek Pakulski
12/3	<b>PAULINE FUCHS</b> , daughter of Carolin Fuchs & Rene Groth	12/18	<b>DAVID GLASS</b> , son of Jack & Laura Glass
12/3	<b>YVONNE BURDEN</b> , sister of Crystal Burden	12/18	<b>ZIGGY MARTINEZ</b> , son of Sally Tucker
12/4	<b>JESSE ARATOW</b> , son of Susanna Hoffman	12/20	<b>DANIEL O'NEILL TOLEDO</b> , son of Kathleen O'Neill
12/4	<b>MEGAN YODER</b> , sister of Kyle Yoder	12/20	<b>EUGENE BONACCI</b> , brother of Meredith Bonacci
12/4	<b>SETH KAHN</b> , son of Debbie & Harold Kahn	12/21	<b>DAVID ALEXANDER</b> , brother of Farah Alexander
12/5	<b>GLENN SPELLER JR.</b> , son of Glenn Speller Sr.	12/21	<b>MELISSA AVRIN</b> , sister of Andrew Avrin
12/5	<b>MEGAN SMITH</b> , daughter of Ann Smith	12/22	<b>MATT BEHAN</b> , brother of Chris Behan
12/6	<b>AARON BENVENISTE</b> , grandson of Susan & Richard Rosenbluth	12/23	<b>JON MICHAEL CAMINITI</b> , son of Charles & Linda Caminiti, brother of Jacqueline Caminiti
12/6	<b>DESIRA (Desi) PACUK</b> , sister of Nikkie Pacuk	12/26	<b>ETHAN WASSERBERGER</b> , son of Simon & Cynthia Wasserberger
12/6	<b>YEHUDA MILSTEIN</b> , son of Edith Bayne, brother of Ilana Milstein	12/26	<b>OWEN MULLER</b> son of Jane K. Muller
12/7	<b>JOHN BARNES</b> , son of Hana Barnes	12/27	<b>NORBI MORGENSTEIN</b> , son of Gary Morgenstein
12/7	<b>RYAN THOMAS</b> , son of Jacqueline Thomas	12/28	<b>SCOTT LACROIX</b> , brother of Kendra Lacroix
12/8	<b>SAMMY COHEN ECKSTEIN</b> , son of Amy Cohen & Gary Eckstein	12/29	<b>ARTURO LAULO</b> , brother of Luz Laulo
12/10	<b>JONAH HENIG</b> , son of Abby Henig	12/29	<b>CALEB SANDE</b> , grandson of Renee & Hervey Sande
12/11	<b>JAMES PATRICK (Jimmy) SINISI</b> , son of AnneMarie Sinisi	12/29	<b>NASIR NEWSOME</b> , son of Sharhon Newsome
12/11	<b>MIKE CHARY</b> , brother of EllaRose Chary	12/29	<b>VALDING DURAN</b> , son of Milagros Bueno
12/13	<b>CAMDYN JAYEL DUCKWORTH</b> , daughter of Tiffany Clark	12/30	<b>MICHAEL McGOVERN</b> , son of Harri Molese
12/14	<b>AMELIA (Yannie) CORBETT</b> , sister of Sara Corbett	12/31	<b>JOEY HOLLIDAY</b> , son of Billy & Terry Holliday
12/14	<b>DUSTIN TUNICK</b> , son of Jenifer Kelly	12/31	<b>ROBERT WILLIAMS JR.</b> , son of Kimberly Hatwood
12/14	<b>DYLAN BISCH</b> , son of Eileen Eck	12/31	<b>RUSSELL FERBER</b> , son of David Ferber & Dorothy Jordon, brother of Jordon Ferber
12/14	<b>LISA WEINER</b> , sister of Abby Moller	12/31	<b>WILLIE GWATHMEY</b> , brother of Katie Gwathmey
12/14	<b>MATTHEW SADI</b> , son of Sheri & Tzuri Sadi		
12/14	<b>MICHAEL MOUSSA</b> , son of Mariam Moussa		
12/15	<b>BRANDON MYERS</b> , brother of Rachel Myers		
12/15	<b>HAYLEE LABBAN</b> , daughter of Penelope Coward		



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## OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



12/2	<b>JONATHAN MOORE</b> , son of Ron & Ronnie Moore	12/18	<b>ARON LINDELL</b> , son of Julie Lindell
12/2	<b>SAVANNAH WIGGINS</b> , daughter of Dolores Wiggins	12/18	<b>CHRISTOPHER DOMBROWSKI</b> , brother of William & Brianne Dombrowski
12/2	<b>SUZANNE ZHOU</b> , sister of Susan Zhou	12/18	<b>DESTINI DOYLE</b> , daughter of Annette & Kendall Doyle
12/2	<b>ZOIE BENNETT</b> , daughter of Zachary Bennett	12/19	<b>JOSHUA ROBERT ESFORMES</b> , son of Susan Esformes, brother of Jacob
12/3	<b>HENRY SZOR</b> , son of Eva Grin	12/19	<b>JUSTIN ALMON</b> brother of Kristina Adam
12/3	<b>VYLETTE MOON</b> , daughter of Jackie Hakiki	12/19	<b>ROBERT RODRIGUEZ</b> , son of Caroline Linares
12/4	<b>ROBERT PATRICK JENKINS</b> , son of Barbara Jenkins, brother of Cheryl	12/20	<b>TATE RAMSDEN</b> , brother of Ashley Ramsden
12/6	<b>ALEX HARRY SINGER</b> , son of Susan & Lewis Singer	12/20	<b>TROY O. MEYERS</b> son of Claudette Hannibal
12/6	<b>DYLAN JOSEPH MAIDA</b> , son of Lisa Burns & Sal Maida	12/21	<b>BAYLIN CODDINGTON</b> , son of Debra F. Coddington
12/8	<b>DYLAN RANDALL</b> , son of Yenja & Robert Randall	12/21	<b>JUDAH BRYNDAL</b> , son of Dusty & David Bryndal
12/8	<b>JADEN MAXWELL THOMAS</b> , son of Louise Thomas, brother of Tanya	12/22	<b>GREGORY ROTH</b> , brother of Stephanie Roth
12/9	<b>AREIS GORDON</b> , son of Joselyn Gordon	12/22	<b>TODD C. FIORE</b> , son of Yvonne Fiore
12/9	<b>SHONEN CHAMBERS</b> , brother of Tiffani Chambers	12/23	<b>AMANDA RUSSELL</b> , sister of Katie Turner
12/10	<b>CHRISTOPHER ROTH</b> , brother of Stephanie Roth	12/23	<b>QUENTIN MUNDY</b> , son of Terri Mundy
12/10	<b>JOHN HULWIYA</b> , brother of Vanessa Hulwiya	12/24	<b>ADAM AZZOLI</b> , son of Amanda Azzoli
12/10	<b>ZUNILDE (ZUNNY) MARTE</b> , daughter of Victor Marte	12/24	<b>DANIEL O'NEILL TOLEDO</b> , son of Kathleen O'Neill
12/11	<b>HARRY GANDEL</b> , grandson of Karen & Meyer Gross	12/24	<b>MONTE JONATHAN GOLLUB</b> son of Ellie Gollub
12/11	<b>JONAH HENIG</b> , son of Abby Henig	12/24	<b>RICHARD CONLEY</b> , son of Phyllis Conley
12/12	<b>CALLIE LONG</b> , daughter of Jackie Long	12/25	<b>CHARLIE SINISI</b> , son of Ann Marie Sinisi, brother of Kelly and Dawn and the late Jimmy Sinisi
12/12	<b>CIANNA L. ALEXANDER</b> , daughter of Rebecca Harper-Alexander	12/25	<b>DAVID LANG BAREK</b> , son of Peggy Lang
12/12	<b>DANNY VOLEN</b> , brother of Raizy Volen	12/25	<b>LILY, SARAH &amp; GRACE BADGER</b> , daughters of Madonna Badger and Matt Badger
12/12	<b>PAULA VOLEN</b> , daughter of Raizy Volen	12/25	<b>ROBERT SULKOWSKI</b> , brother of Sarah Sulkowski
12/12	<b>SHANA DOWDESWELL</b> , daughter of Laurie & Roger Dowdeswell	12/27	<b>SAIGIA BRON</b> , daughter of Florence Layayette
12/13	<b>ALAN MYL</b> son of Joanne Myl	12/27	<b>SANDRA CHU</b> , Best friend of Emanuel Veras
12/13	<b>AMBER ASHTON</b> , daughter of Tom & Eleanor Ashton	12/27	<b>THOMAS ROBERTS</b> , brother of Victoria Roberts-Wierbowski
12/13	<b>GEORGE DAVID MARAS</b> , son of Marilyn Maras	12/28	<b>ANDY PERSAUD</b> , son of Dennis Peraud, brother of Andrea Persaud
12/14	<b>DANNY MAZRAANI</b> , brother of Mona Mazraani	12/29	<b>PAULINE FUCHS</b> , daughter of Carolin Fuchs & Rene Groth
12/14	<b>JIMMY ARMSTRONG</b> , brother of Siobhan Armstrong	12/30	<b>KELLY ERIN GRAVES</b> daughter of Gail Graves
12/15	<b>JEFFREY VANCHIRO</b> , son of Sylvester (Sly) Vanchiro	12/31	<b>LIAM ARDEN</b> , son of Esther and Patrick Arden
12/15	<b>JOSE SANFORD</b> , son of Yolanda Rosado Ortiz & Gloria Perez		
12/16	<b>DARIA NORTON</b> , daughter of Charlotte Savino & Lee Norton		
12/18	<b>ALEX BIBLER</b> , son of Lindsay Bibler		



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS CHAT SCHEDULE. <a href="#">Click here to display exact times and to see entire schedule</a>				<b>The Compassionate Friends National Office</b> 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	<b>WE NEED NOT WALK ALONE</b> <b>TCF Online National Magazine</b> <a href="#">Click here for Information</a>
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	<b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS!</b> Our next Chapter meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month: <b>NOV 15 DEC 20 JAN 17 FEB 21</b>
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	<b>Newsletter article submissions are welcome.</b> Please email to <a href="mailto:marielevine2@verizon.net">marielevine2@verizon.net</a>
SAT			General Bereavement Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	
SUN		Suicide Loss	General Bereavement Issues Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	<b>MAKE A DONATION</b> <a href="#">Click here to Donate to the Manhattan Chapter</a>

### 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](#)