

Our next meetings...

Nov 18

Dec 14 Candlelighting

Dec 16

Jan 20

Manhattan Chapter Newsletter

November 2025

NOV 18TH MEETING—3RD TUESDAY IN-PERSON

In-person only **on the third Tuesday**, November 18th. 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.

Worldwide Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

at the

Parish House of the Church of Ascension 12 W.11th Street, Manhattan, NY Doors open at 5:45pm - Family guests are welcome PLEASE RSVP and arrive by 6:15pm



REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Join us for this moving ceremony and celebration.

Come to remember and honor our children and siblings in person together at our Holiday Candle Lighting.

SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS FOR OUR SLIDESHOW!

Click here and see page 6 for more information.

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND IN PERSON:

Our national office will have a Virtual Candle Lighting on Dec. 14th at 7pm in each time zone. Go to www.compassionatefriends.org for information.

(Less than) Great Expectations

Life after losing a child is an ongoing coming to terms with missed expectations. It never ends. No matter how many years pass, no matter what else happens (good or bad), there is always that thought...what might have been.

Growing up, I had many dreams. They seem so simple now. I wanted to be a teacher. I wanted to find love and marry. I wanted to have lots of children. I dreamed of living in a house with a garden. I hoped I would do something lasting that would benefit mankind. Simple everyday dreams. I always expected I would be able to accomplish them.

Calamity and misfortune were never a part of my thought process. It's not supposed to be. Anticipating those possibilities would have been and continue to be paralyzing. Knowing then what we all know now, would we have taken the chances we did and dreamed the dreams that made us all what we have become?

Early on, I began to learn that life might contain a series of missed expectations. Becoming a teacher was the first big disappointment. School just couldn't hold my attention and when I accidentally landed an exciting job in the fashion industry, I rebounded totally and enjoyed an amazing career that took me around the world.

Love and marriage was a realized dream. Having a lot of children was another story. After seven years I was preparing to come to terms with being childless when, happily, we discovered Peter was on the way. Joy quickly erased the growing panic that preceded that anticipated disappointment. Adapting to being childless would have been an almost insurmountable (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

TCF MANHATTAN CHAPTER email: tcfmanhattan@gmail.com
TCF MANHATTAN website: www.compassionatefriends.nyc
CO-CHAPTER LEADERS: Dan Zweig: danzweigtcf@gmail.com

Jordon Ferber: beatniknudnik@yahoo.com

"Our Children" editor: Dan Zweig: danzweigtcf@gmail.com

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, Nov. 18, 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.

(Less than) Great Expectations (con't from page 1)

disappointment. I can remember my growing despair at the thought. Even now, it brings on an almost palpable ache in the pit of my stomach. I think about that feeling a lot these days.

The next missed expectation came upon discovering Peter would be an only child. That was a difficult time too. But it wasn't longlasting. After all, we did have Peter. It wasn't like we were childless. Like now.

We had Peter for 22 years. Coming to terms with the missed expectation of having him for the rest of our lives has become an ongoing, relentless pursuit; chasing after some impossible resolution that is clearly an exercise in futility. Life without Peter is one disappointment for which there is no resolve. This missed expectation requires total reinvention.

For ten years now I have worked hard at grieving and surviving. The first year was so very hard. But the second year was worse. You see, I expected (there's that word again) to feel better after the first year. But I soon discovered that the dreaded first anniversary did nothing, changed nothing and therefore, meant nothing. I was as miserable as ever and Peter was as invisible as ever. To this day, I don't know what I was expecting but, whatever it was, I didn't get it.

For ten years now, I've expected to achieve some resolution to the grievous pain of life without my treasured child. I've never really understood what "resolution" meant but I figured if I found it, I'd know.

As the holidays approach once again, I think perhaps "resolution" is the ability to function again as a seemingly "whole" person even when you're not. To be able to enjoy people and events again even when you're permanently sad inside. Life has become a strange collection of contradictions. Disbelief is a constant. Can it really be ten years I wonder? I have a friend who also wonders is it possible that it is 21 years!? We marvel that we are still here. Another missed expectation. We both thought we'd be following our kids sooner rather than later.

So here come the holidays again. My expectations are changing. I've learned to expect very little. I expect I will manage to enjoy a little Thanksgiving with friends. December will be filled with music, lights and the laughter of little children. I will smile at all the festivities and quietly wonder once again, what would it be like now, if Peter were here.

~ Marie Levine, 2003

There is someone inside of us who knows exactly what to do. Each of us possesses a natural wisdom that will guide us during this most difficult of times. By turning inward we will find our way through.

~ Molly Fumia, from "Safe Passage"

Worldwide Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 14th, 2025 Worldwide Candle Lighting Event In Manhattan

Parish House of the Church of Ascension 12 W.11th Street, Manhattan, NY

Click here for more information.

The Empty Seat at Our Thanksgiving Table

by Sarah Wildman

Grieving parents like me are told to gird themselves for anniversaries and holidays, for birthdays and religious events. We're advised to plan for days associated with joy. We consider exit strategies. We talk about how the markers of civil religion and religious observance are harder for us, now that we no longer exist exactly inside society, but run alongside it, observing. Each holiday centered on family is now barbed.

So, all that's to say, I have been approaching Thanksgiving this year with trepidation.

I love a holiday focused on gratitude and gathering, of food and camaraderie. I tend to cook when I'm sad or worried, and I've been both, a lot, of late. I bake challah and cakes and cookies. I prepare salads and mains and sides. I sauté and stir and sweat and focus. On any given Friday afternoon, my kitchen looks as though I'm expecting a crowd. But no matter how many I've invited, it is never the fullness of our table I see, but the absence of a place setting.

And yet, as much as holidays and calendar markers are as hard as promised, in this first half year of bereavement since our daughter Orli, 14, died from the complications of metastasized liver cancer, it is her daily absence that is the cruelest blow. It is making a pot of Orli's favorite black beans knowing she will never sit down to eat them; it is adding back chocolate into the recipes I had removed it from, for she, unfathomably, loathed it; it is setting the table again and again for three instead of four; it is the expansiveness of the back seat of the car. It is in this quotidian drama that our family has to work to find levity as well as management, joy and, yes, exit strategies — especially as, in so many of these moments, we find ourselves alone in the noticing.

The notes and text messages slow and stop, the absence drones on. Living in loss is heavy; it is made all the more so by a world overflowing with grief, and parental pain. I see myself in all these newly minted members of my terrible club.

It's also a remarkable amount of work, a second (or third) job. My partner, Ian, and I have sat down with groups and met with counselors. We have joined Zoom sessions, read the words of those who have come before us. Together with our surviving daughter, Hana, 10, we recently traveled to a conference at Boston Children's Hospital to process our grief and try to face the absence at our table with other similarly reeling families.

Such experiences aren't in search of solace or solution, but of place. It is powerful to be around people who recognize the insistency of loss, its daily presence, the continued impact of which so easily slips past others, unseen, as everyone else returns to the business of living. It has made me recognize how many people walk around concealing pain.

As a family, we have weathered a batch of life markers since Orli's death. Hana had a birthday in June, Ian in October. We have had Passover and Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and Sukkot, each of which was — the counselors were not wrong!— by turns meaningful and excruciating. Families arrived in synagogue, or at the holiday table, dressed and smiling, their children growing ever older, while Orli remains the age at which we parted.

Quietly, we mark our elder daughter missing, and wait on others to

(con't on page 4)

THE PROMISE

Your birth brought me starshine, the moon and the sun; my wishes, dreams gathered 'round my little one.

My life became sacred, full of promise and light, all wrapped in the girl-child bringing love at first sight.

The years of your living filled with laughter and tears, excitement, adventure, some boredom, some fears.

But ended too quickly, ahead of its time. The loss so horrendous, such heartbreak was mine.

But from the beginning, one thought rose so clear; never would your death erase the years that you were... here.

I would not be defeated or diminished by your death; I would hang on, learn to conquer, if it took my every breath.

For if your death destroyed my life, made both our lives a waste, 'twould deny your life's meaning and all the love you gave.

I vowed that years of sadness would change, with work and grace, to years of happiness, even joy, in which you'd have a place.

Memories of you, like shining stars in the patterns of my soul, are beacons flashing light and love, and with them I am whole.

In your honor, I live my life, now living it for two. Through all my life, you too will live, you lived, you live, you do.

~ Genesse Bourdeau Gentry

After a while you learn the subtle difference between holding a hand and chaining a soul. And you learn that love doesn't mean leaning and company doesn't always mean security.

And you begin to learn that kisses aren't contracts and presents aren't promises.

And you begin to accept your defeats with your head up and your eyes ahead with the grace of a woman, not the grief of a child.

And you learn to build all your roads on today because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain for plans and futures have a way of falling down in mid-flight.

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

After a while you learn that even sunshine burns if you get too much.

So you plant your own garden and decorate your own soul

instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers.

And you learn that you really can endure, that you really are strong and you really do have worth.

And you learn, and you learn... with every goodbye, you learn.

The Empty Seat at Thanksgiving (con't from page 2)

do the same. On Passover my father proposed adding a cup ("cos," in Hebrew) for Orli, the way we leave a cup for Elijah, noting that absence is woven into our observance. In late summer we even, ill advisedly, attended a wedding. It was too soon. We were not ready to be surrounded by unadulterated joy; we did not know how to hold ourselves, and our pain, without dulling the bride and groom's shine. We fled during cocktail hour.

But I have also found I relish the occasional dark humor of other parents who have lost children, who recognize the macabre place we all live, how comically awful it is to run into people who still don't know. "How's the family?" a writer I ran into asked me the other day. I wanted to say, "So Hana started volleyball, and, well, Orli's dead." Orli would have laughed. Instead I changed the subject.

I've been in awe of the strength and cheek of Hana, who decided to pen a letter to the writers of a children's television program to tell them what *real* drama looks like (her sister's seizure! Her miserable, hospitalized 14th birthday! The morning of her sister's death, when she said a final goodbye); of Ian, who gets up daily and throws himself into parenting as though the world hadn't ended in March.

This first Thanksgiving without Orli will also be the first time a group of friends and family that had traditionally gathered this time of year will be together since before Covid and cancer. The last time we assembled for the holiday the children ran freely in the hallways of our friends' apartment building, careening along beige walls and dragging their sticky hands, making a hilariously loud ruckus near the elevators. I can see Orli, her hair still long, untouched by the ravages of cancer treatment, by turns serious and silly, chasing her sister and cousins, healthy, red-cheeked, unaware of what was to come. I have a photo of her there as a toddler, in a dress from my childhood, a red-checkered pinafore, years away from the abyss.

I already long had a mixed relationship with Thanksgiving, partly because it always lands on or around my birthday. I loathed, as a child, that friends would be away, that school cupcakes almost never arrived on the actual day. As an adult the holiday neutralized — even, briefly, got happier.

Then Orli had her first biopsy on my birthday, a few days before Thanksgiving, in 2019. My relationship to the holiday tilted once more. As we waited in pre-op, she worried she had ruined my birthday; I promised her there was no place I'd rather be. That first cancer Thanksgiving Orli was in terrible pain, pale and wan and yet, unbelievably, smiling in the few photos I took that week. Chemotherapy had not yet begun; her diagnosis, let alone prognosis, was still elusive.

We rushed to assemble a home-based holiday with as much cheer as we could muster. She told us she felt like she was in a movie; we wished it were so. One night, as she lay in the bath, she implored me not to cry in front of her; it scared her. So I didn't. Instead we watched "The Greatest Showman" on repeat, and sang and cooked for many more people than we had on hand. For all the Thanksgivings that came after, I drew courage just being together.

We have tried to keep Orli with us, even as we feel ourselves slipping further away. These days I look for traces in how she approached holidays, and every day. I find myself seeking comfort

The Empty Seat at Thanksgiving (continued)

in Orli's journal notes of how proud she was of Hana for creating Ian's birthday party one year ago (a Formula One theme), and her joy last holiday season in receiving tickets to "Wicked." I love to hear the way Orli stories reach people, and receiving notes from her peers who let me in on things I might not have known: her favorite flower, a moment in which she extended a kindness, or was bolder than they felt they could be. I love hearing that her face is still on someone's home screen, or that a friend took her with them, in spirit, to a concert she would have loved. Not long after she died I stumbled across a note she'd tucked into my desk drawer, written on a handmade cut-out heart, that said, "I love you Ima, no matter what." It sits now in a Lucite frame, next to me. I see her beloved foxes everywhere.

It is these chispas ("sparks" in English), as you might say in Spanish, that let me face each small daily indignity of grief: when I am asked at a restaurant "How many will you be?" and I find myself searching for the right number, when I feel my heart seize each time I see siblings together and watch Hana watching them, when I hear the opening beats of "Anti-Hero" and think of Orli, asking for Taylor Swift, in yet another operating room.

We are fundamentally rewired as a family, as humans. We face the world differently, holding loss, in both rage and sadness. This holiday season, this year, countless others have joined us in this awful place. In this time of mass bereavement, as so many will be wondering how to set their tables, or if they will even be able to gather at all, I keep wondering if the key to seeing each other's humanity is in somehow recognizing how universal the terrible ongoing nature of loss is, how human it makes us, how frail, how essential each day is, when none of us has any idea about the next.

I wonder how we might all move forward, not just as each holiday comes, but as each day passes, not better, but altered. Meanwhile, the gratitude I'll have this Thanksgiving will still come: from having had the chance to know this love, even in its pain.

GRIEF: When Does It Stop Hurting

by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Anna Quindlen

Grief reminds one of the few things that has the power to silence us. It is a whisper in the world and a clamor within. More than sex, more than faith, even more than its usher death, grief is unspoken, publicly ignored except for those moments at the funeral, that are over too quickly, or the conversations among those of us who recognize in one another a kindred chasm deep in the center of who we are.

Maybe we do not speak of it because death will mark all of us sooner or later. Maybe it is unspoken because grief is only the first part of it. After a time it becomes something less sharp, but larger, to a more enduring thing called loss. Perhaps that is why this is the least explored passage: because it has no end.

The world loves closure, loves a thing that can, as they say, be gotten through. This is why it comes as a great surprise to find that loss is forever, that two decades after the event there are those occasions when something in you cries out at the continual presence of an absence. The landscape of our lives becomes as full of craters as the surface of the moon. We are defined by who we have lost.

Recommended reading...

A wealth of resources are available at www.centering.com. These are a few;

Love Never Dies; A Mother's Journey From Loss to Love by Sandy Goodman. Sandra shares her story in a way that will help you find your own path through your most private pain. You too, can emerge from the deepest hurt and darkness into the awareness that the loves you lost still remain with you in so many ways.

Beyond Tears: Living After Losing Child. Revised edition with a brand new chapter written by young adults. Nine mothers who met in a support group give cpmfort and direction to bereaved parents. They candidly chare with other grieving parents what to expect in the first year and beyond.

Into The Valley and Out Again: The Story of a Father's Journey by Richard Edler. After the unexpected death of his son, Rich's life seems to stop. The next few years were spent climbing out of the bottom of a valley he had not known existed before. It is a story about what is important in life, sorrow, faith, acceptance and rebirth.

The Bereaved Parent by Harriet Schiff. Many parents feel that no one can help because no one understands the complex ramifications of their tragedy. Harriet wrote this book to help other bereaved parents. Offers guidance and step-by-step suggestions on how to cope with the stages of grief, from the funeral to rebuilding your marriage.

For Bereaved Grandparents by Margaret Gerner. Written by a bereaved grandparent, this gentle resource addresses the issues grandparents are faced with when experiencing this double grief. Includes information about grief, helping your grieving child, what you ca.n do, grandfathers, holidays and deeper relationships.

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.

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.

Worldwide Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 14th, 2025
Worldwide Candle Lighting Event In Manhattan

at the

Parish House of the Church of Ascension 12 W.11th Street, Manhattan, NY

Doors open at 5:45pm - Please arrive by 6:15pm - Family guests are welcome - PLEASE RSVP Click here or the Events Tab on our website www.compassionatefriends.nyc for more information.

The Compassionate Friends - Worldwide Candle Lighting



* 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 11TH to:

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 2025)

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND IN PERSON: National will have Virtual Candle Lighting. Go to www.compassionatefriends.org.

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 – We raise needed funds at each meeting by passing a basket for voluntary contributions at our in-person meetings. We are so glad to hold online meetings whenever possible, but there is no 'basket' at our online meetings. If you are able to, whenever you can as an online participant, 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.







-			•
11/1	BRETT DOUGLAS, brother of Danielle Monaco	11/15	AARON HOROWITZ, son of Allan & Liz Horwitz
11/1	FLORENCE FRAZER, sister of Harri Molese	11/15	DYLAN RANDALL, son of Yenia & Robert Randall
11/1	LIAM ARDEN, son of Esther & Patrick Arden	11/15	JORDAN WEINSTEIN, daughter of Wendy J. Schriber
11/1	OLIVIA LAURA CASTRO, daughter of Gigi & Robert Castro	11/17	ADRIAN PURICELLI, son of Denise Puricelli, brother of Vironika
11/2	STEVEN SCHWARTZ, son of Ellen Schwartz	11/17	KATHLEEN BEAMER, sister of Laura Beamer
11/2	TY PICKETT, son of Jan Pickett	11/17	LINCOLN WHEELER-POWELL, son of John Powell &
11/3	NICK CARIS, son of Konstantina Caris		Britta Wheeler
11/4	ASHLEE D. BLAKE GUTIERREZ, daughter of Marlene & Francisco	11/17	LYLA SKYE MEDICI, daughter of Mimi Delle Donne,
	Guttierrez		sister of Meghan Matias
11/4	DMITRI PAJITNOV, son of Nina Pajitnova	11/17	TREVOR LOUGHLIN, son of Suzy & Joe Loughlin,
11/4	ELI BENDER, son of Sara & Evan Bender		brother of Juliette Loughlin
11/4	KEVIN MITCHELL, son of Jacquie & John Mitchell, brother of	11/18	JAMILA IRONS-JOHNSON, daughter of Jeannine Irons
	Kristopher & the late Kareem Mitchell	11/18	LIN GUO, brother of Sylvia Guo
11/4	MILES ELLIOT COUGHLIN, son of Fredricka Weinstein &	11/18	MATT RITTER, brother of Grace Ritter\
	Matthew Coughlin, brother of Marla Tolson, uncle of Lena Tolson	11/19	CRAIG MARTINEZ, son of Louis Hampton Martinez
11/4	TRAVIS FREEMAN, son of Daniel Freeman & Elizabeth Morse	11/19	SARA CHANGHONG ADAMS, daughter of Muriel Adams
11/5	PAULA VOLEN, daughter of Raizy Volen	11/20	DAVID LESSER, brother of Debbie Lesser
11/5	ROSE MAYR, sister of Anna Mayr	11/20	JEFFREY CARTER, son of Linda Carter
11/6	BENJAMIN ZWEIG, son of Sally Petrick & Daniel Zweig	11/21	JACK ROBERTS, son of Joanne Wright
11/7	KELLI ANNE AULETTA, daughter of Dick & Mary Auletta,	11/22	NICHOA WALKER, daughter of Mazrene Holmes
	sister of Kimberlee	11/23	INSANN LAWLOR, son of Serena Bhaduri
11/7	MALIK DUFOR, son of Waltrina DeFrantz-Dufor	11/23	JENNA HERNAN, daughter of Maria Hernan
11/7	MARY GIBBS, sister of Cynthia Gibbs-Pratt	11/23	TERRANCE RICHARDSON, son of Theresa Richardson,
11/7	MILO KESSLER, son of Alana Fishberg & Daryl Kessler		brother of Francina Branch Elysee
11/7	NICHOLAS SOTO, son of Deborah Freeman & Eddie B. Soto, Jr.	11/24	ARTHUR DUDIN, son of Stan & Irina Dudin
11/8	ADAM WEINER, son of Susan Weiner	11/24	ERIK BANKS, son of Laurene Buckley
11/8	DANNY MOONEY, JR., son of Danny Mooney	11/26	ALEXANDER MAXWELL, son of Deanna & Kent Grant
11/8	TEVIN A. HAMPTON, son of Patricia Lilly	11/26	CLARISSA JACKSON, sister of Jillian Jackson
11/9	AIMEE GANDOUR, sister of Molly Gandour	11/26	ISABELLA PALMER, daughter of Alan & Meghan Palmer
11/9	CHRISTOPHER ROTH, brother of Stephanie Roth	11/26	MARLA SUE COLLAZO, daughter of Lita & Joe Robinson, sister
11/9	GERRI SHIMMIN, sister of Marybeth Bannon		of Ellyn Robinson Monahan
11/9	ISAIAH WINCH, son of Jesse Winch, brother of	11/26	NOEL AMELLIO, son of Margaret M. Amellio
	Louisa-Carpenter Winch	11/27	CASEY ACKERMAN, son of Melissa and Hal Ackerman
11/9	MICHAEL RAMIREZ, son of Michele Cennamo	11/27	DANIELLE HYMOWITZ, daughter of Karen Hymowitz
11/9	SANDRA PLOUFFE, daughter of Margie & Bram Jelin	11/27	ISABEL XIE, baby daughter of Denise Chow & Wayne Xie
11/10	ALIX LECLAIR, daughter of Julie Neches, sister of Dom LeClair	11/27	KEVIN DEL ROSARIO, son of Annaliza del Rosario
11/10	DONNA MALIZIS, daughter of Agata Malizis	11/27	LUCAS SCOTT, brother of Erin Scott
11/10	MATTHEW GORDON, brother of Elizabeth Stilwell	11/27	RED LAYNE, daughter of Greg & Trillich Layne
11/10	MAX JACOBSON, son of Terry & Hugh Jacobson	11/28	ALAN ROSENTHAL, son of Lynne Rosenthal
11/11	CONNOR LEE-KAWANISHI, son of Choony Lee	11/28	GABRIEL ROCCOFORTE, son of Judith Weiss
11/12	BURTON SANDLES, son of Ina Sandles	11/28	SEAN COYLE, brother of Krista Coyle
11/12	GABRIEL HABERER, son of Leah Haberer	11/28	VYLETTE MOON, daughter of Jackie Hakiki
11/12	HENRY JAY, brother of Daniel Jay	11/29	EVAN FRIEDLANDER, son of Kathy Friedlander
11/12	YIANNIS STATHOPOULOS, son of Kathleen Negri Stathopoulos	11/29	MAMADON JOHNSON, sister of Djassi Johnson
11/13	THOMAS J. MANNO, son of Elizabeth M. Davey	11/29	STEVE DAVOREN, brother of Doug Davoren
11/14	CATHERINE CORENO, daughter of Carrie Tuhy, sister of	11/29	TREVOR MATTHEWS, son of Angela Matthews
	Annie Coreno	7 11/30	VICTOR "KAI" BROWN-KOLEY, son of Kari Coley



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



		1	
11/1	JUSTIN CRAIG LEDERMAN, son of Ruth Lederman	11/14	VICENTE EDUARDO, son of Tomasina Eduardo
11/1	MATT BEHAN, brother of Chris Behan	11/16	JAY SCHNEIDER, son of Bonnie Bowes
11/1	OLIVIA LAURA CASTRO, daughter of Gigi & Robert Castro	11/17	APARNA ROPPEL, daughter of Mark Roppel
11/1	SHANEIREE DAMES, daughter of Vivian Richardson	11/17	DYLAN LAKER, son of Claudette Kraus & Robert Laker
11/1	SKYLER CAGHLIN, son of Seana Caghlin, brother of	11/17	JASON ELLIS, son of Michael Ellis
	Cassandra Richardson	11/17	MATTHEW NOVAK, son of Clare Hogan
11/2	JASON ZAINTZ, son of Linda Zaintz	11/17	SYDNEY MARTINEZ, daughter of Fabiola Bello & Alex Martinez
11/2	KRISTEN DUBERRY, daughter of Michael Duberry	11/18	CHRISTOPHER MEYER, brother of Kimberly Meyer
11/3	VISHAL TUNGARE, brother of Ajay Tungare	11/18	KIERNAN BLAKER, brother of Darby Blaker
11/4	ILIA KRASOTINA, sister of Sofiya Krasotina	11/20	"SPROUT" WILSON, son of Elizabeth Minei
11/4	PARIS CAVIC, sister of Mel Cavic	11/20	NOEL AMELLIO, son of Margaret M. Amellio
11/4	SETH KAHN, son of Debbie & Harold Kahn	11/20	RORY DAZE CHONG, son of Pam Chong
11/5	CASSIE WILSON, sister of Kaylie Wilson	11/21	GEORGE MICHAEL KOTSIS, son of Doris Kotsis
11/5	GAVIN PESKIN, son of Leah Peskin	11/21	KATHLEEN BEAMER, sister of Laura Beamer
11/5	RACHEL AUSTER, daughter of Gail Auster	11/22	AMIR PRIZANT, brother of Ayelet Prizant
11/6	DAVID LESSER, brother of Debbie Lesser	11/22	ETHAN WASSERBERGER, son of Simon & Cynthia Wasserberger
11/6	RUSSELL GABAY, brother of Lori Gabay	11/24	CHRISTOPHER EISELE, son of Kathleen & John Montoya
11/7	JACOB PAUL ROBINSON-SWEET, son of Gail Robinson	11/24	PATRICE WALKER, daughter of Mazrene Holmes
11/8	JAMES GIBBON, son of James (Jimie) Gibbon	11/25	JESSICA REVELEY, sister of Britt Bonney
11/9	ALI SEEDAT, daughter of Deborah McKinzie	11/26	ALEX REY, son of Alex and Myrna Rey, brother of Amanda Rey
11/9	QUINDORA PERSUAD, daughter of Maria Cabassa	11/26	DR. AMY BETH ROSEN, daughter of Helen Rosen
11/9	GABRIEL HABERER, son of Leah Haberer	11/27	LYRA MANNING, daughter of Gloria Grayeb
11/10	PARKER KOLTCHAK, son of Deb Capone	11/28	RUBY MANE, daughter of Mohasin Mane
11/10	STEVEN HOUTERMAN, son of Awilda Rodriguez Houterman	11/29	BRONWEN PRADT, daughter of Katherine Pradt
11/11	BRENDA CHAPMAN, daughter of Della Scrugs	11/29	KHALIL KNOWLEDGE SMITH, son of Malazha Wright
11/11	LINDA GIOVE, daughter of Arlene Schechter	11/29	KOFI A. MENSAH JR., son of Rosinah Mensah & the late
11/11	MYLES CHANDLER, son of Marcia Chandler		Samuel A. Mensah, brother of Dr. Kofi A. Mensah, Ph. D
11/12	JON ROMULO, son of Tocy Friend	11/30	GINGER SIMMS, daughter of Larry Simms & Alison Ho
11/13	HENRY JAY, brother of Daniel Jay	11/30	JAMES PATRICK (JIMMY) SINISI, son of Ann Marie Sinisi
11/13	MICHAEL AARONSON, son of Dorothy Aaronson, brother of	11/30	JESSE VALENTINE, son of Joanna Valentine
	Robert Aaronson	11/30	LYDIA WOOD, daughter of Matt Wood
11/13	ROBERT CABALES, son of Susan Cabales	11/30	SHIMMER HALL, daughter of Janine James





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.







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

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 the total and tell us what needs to change.







•			•
12/1	VERNON KENNEDY, son of Tressie Kennedy	12/18	CHRISTOPHER DOMBROWSKI, brother of William &
12/2	JOEY, son of Shantel Morrison & Tamara Cantave		Brianne Dombrowski
12/2	JONATHAN MOORE, son of Ron & Ronnie Moore	12/18	DESTINI DOYLE , daughter of Annette & Kendall Doyle
12/2	SAVANNAH WIGGINS, daughter of Dolores Wiggins	12/19	JOEL MALDONADO, son of Alisha Murzi, grandson of
12/2	SUZANNE ZHOU, sister of Susan Zhou		Evelyn Murzi
12/2	ZOIE BENNETT, daughter of Zachary Bennett	12/19	JOSHUA ROBERT ESFORMES, son of Susan Esformes,
12/3	HENRY SZOR, son of Eva Grin		brother of Jacob
12/3	VYLETTE MOON, daughter of Jackie Hakiki	12/19	JUSTIN ALMON brother of Kristina Adam
12/4	ROBERT PATRICK JENKINS, son of Barbara Jenkins, brother	12/19	ROBERT RODRIGUEZ, son of Caroline Linares
	of Cheryl	12/20	TATE RAMSDEN, brother of Ashley Ramsden
12/6	ALEX HARRY SINGER, son of Susan & Lewis Singer	12/20	TROY O. MEYERS son of Claudette Hannibal
12/6	DYLAN JOSEPH MAIDA, son of Lisa Burns & Sal Maida	12/21	BAYLIN CODDINGTON, son of Debra F. Coddington
12/7	ROSS DEWEES, son of Chris Dewees	12/21	CAITLIN SANDERS, daughter of Veronica & Lamar Sanders
12/8	DYLAN RANDALL, son of Yenia & Robert Randall	12/21	JUDAH BRYNDAL, son of Dusty & David Bryndal
12/8	JADEN MAXWELL THOMAS, son of Louise Thomas, brother of	12/22	GREGORY ROTH, brother of Stephanie Roth
	Tanya	12/22	TODD C. FIORE, son of Yvonne Fiore
12/9	AREIS GORDON, son of Joselyn Gordon	12/23	AMANDA RUSSELL, sister of Katie Turner
12/9	SHONEN CHAMBERS, brother of Tiffani Chambers	12/23	QUENTIN MUNDY, son of Terri Mundy
12/10	CHRISTOPHER ROTH, brother of Stephanie Roth	12/24	ADAM AZZOLI, son of Amanda Azzoli
12/10	JOHN HULWIYA, brother of Vanessa Hulwiya	12/24	DANIEL O'NEILL TOLEDO, son of Kathleen O'Neill
12/10	ZUNILDE (ZUNNY) MARTE, daughter of Victor Marte	12/24	MONTE JONATHAN GOLLUB son of Ellie Gollub
12/11	HARRY GANDEL, grandson of Karen & Meyer Gross	12/24	RENZO SCHNIPPER, son of Matthew Schnipper and Marla Farina
12/11	JONAH HENIG, son of Abby Henig	12/24	RICHARD CONLEY, son of Phyllis Conley
12/12	CALLIE LONG, daughter of Jackie Long	12/25	CHARLIE SINISI, son of Ann Marie Sinisi, brother of Kelly and
12/12	CIANNA L. ALEXANDER, daughter of Rebecca Harper-Alexander		Dawn and the late Jimmy Sinisi
12/12	DANNY VOLEN, brother of Raizy Volen	12/25	CHRISTINA ROMAN, daughter of Dalila Oquendo
12/12	PAULA VOLEN, daughter of Raizy Volen	12/25	DAVID LANG BAREK, son of Peggy Lang
12/12	SHANA DOWDESWELL, daughter of Laurie & Roger Dowdeswell	12/25	LILY, SARAH & GRACE BADGER, daughters of Madonna
12/13	ALAN MYL son of Joanne Myl	10/05	Badger and Matt Badger
12/13	AMBER ASHTON, daughter of Tom & Eleanor Ashton	12/25	ROBERT SULKOWSKI, brother of Sarah Sulkowski
12/13	GEORGE DAVID MARAS, son of Marilyn Maras	12/26	ASHLEY CALAZAN, daughter of Erica Bonifacio
12/14	DANNY MAZRAANI, brother of Mona Mazraani	12/27	SAIGIA BRON, daughter of Florence Layayette
12/14	JIMMY ARMSTRONG, brother of Siobhan Armstrong	12/27	SANDRA CHU, Best friend of Emanuel Veras
12/14	STEVEN STERMAN, son of Lenore Salazar	12/27	THOMAS ROBERTS, brother of Victoria Roberts-Wierbowski
12/15	COLETTE WAINWRIGHT, sister of Katherine Sall	12/28	ANDY PERSAUD, son of Dennis Persaud, brother of
12/15	JEFFREY VANCHIRO, son of Sylvester (Sly) Vanchiro	10/00	Andrea Persaud
12/15	JESSIE MORGAN PEK, daughter of Karyn Pek	12/28	NASIR NEWSOME, son of Sharhon Newsome
12/15	JOSE SANFORD, son of Yolanda Rosado Ortiz & Gloria Perez	12/29	PAULINE FUCHS, daughter of Carolin Fuchs & Rene Groth
12/16	DARIA NORTON, daughter of Charlotte Savino & Lee Norton	12/30	KELLY ERIN GRAVES daughter of Gail Graves
12/18	ALEX BIBLER, son of Lindsay Bibler	12/30	OLIVER LIEGEY, son of Viva & Robert Draper
12/18	ARON LINDELL, son of Julie Lindell	12/31	IAN BOSIN, son of Judy Neustadter
		12/31	LIAM ARDEN, son of Esther and Patrick Arden





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	
ET	MORNING	EARLIER EVENING	LATER EVENING	Toll Free (877) 969-0010	
MON	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	First time CHAT orientation	General Bereavement	www.compassionatefriends.org email:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org	
			Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	<u> </u>	
TUE		Loss to Substance Related Causes	Bereaved less than 2 yrs	WE NEED NOT WALK ALONE	
		First time CHAT orientation	Bereaved more than 2 yrs	TCF Online National Magazine Click here for Information	
WED	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	First time CHAT orientation	General Bereavement	MARK YOUR CALENDARS!	
			Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	Our next Chapter meetings are	
THU		No Surviving Children	General Bereavement	the 3rd Tuesday of each month:	
		First time CHAT orientation	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	NOV 18 DEC 16 JAN 20 FEB 17	
FRI	General Bereavement	Pregnancy/Infant Loss	General Bereavement	No. 1.66 of the last of the la	
	Parents/Grandparents/Siblings		Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	Newsletter article submissions are welcome.	
SAT			General Bereavement	Please email to marielevine2@verizon.net	
			Parents/Grandparents/Siblings		
SUN		Suicide Loss	General Bereavement Issues	MAKE A DONATION	
			Parents/Grandparents/Siblings	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