

Our next meetings...

Sep 16 Oct 21

Nov 18

Dec 16

Manhattan Chapter Newsletter

September 2025

SEPT 16TH MEETING—3RD TUESDAY IN-PERSON

In-person only **on the third Tuesday**, September 16th. 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.

SURVIVING

There's no way to know, in those first, early years, if the crying will stop, be an ending to tears.

But slowly, so slowly, through the grieving and time, will come moments and days, when hopefulness shines.

Backwards and forwards, into darkness, then out, we begin to start living; scraps of new life peek out.

This happens most surely, survivors will tell, when we find time for others and give of ourselves.

~ Genesse Bourdeau Gentry

~ From "Stars in the Deepest Night" 1999

SOME THOUGHTS ON HOPE

by Marie Levine

As I assemble this newsletter I realize it is August 7th. Thirty-two years since the worst day of my life. Another monumental anniversary day to be endured. Tomorrow I can once again begin to live the rest of my life. I think of all the people I've met, all the friends I've made, all the children who have joined Peter since that awful day. I look back at the road I've traveled, and it seems like another lifetime. I think of those who are new to this world and wonder what they think when they meet me...I wonder if I scare them when I announce that it has been more than 30 years. I wonder how I can assure them that they will survive, they will find the will to enjoy life again, they will learn how to cope and relish what once was. I think back to my earliest days when I was convinced I was different than those who were ahead of me on this journey. For me, there seemed to be no hope...no recovery...no future...

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

(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

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"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, Sept. 16, 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.

Forget those calls for 'closure'

This morning there is an editorial in the Atlanta Journal Constitution entitled "As we move on, forget those calls for 'closure'". With a headline like that, I had to read the article & found I agreed with nearly everything the author, E.R. Shipp, wrote. I'm not going to include the entire editorial, but I would like to share a few paragraphs:

She starts with "Let's bring closure to "closure" Events of the past days are tragic reminders that the word is more wish than reality."

In the middle she writes "In Connecticut, where Michael Skakel is finally on trial in the long-unsolved 1975 murder of Martha Moxley, her mother may be pleased that the prosecution has gotten this far, but even a conviction can never be her balm in Gilead. Her daughter is, and has been for nearly 27 years, dead, lost to her entirely. The pain will never subside; the memories will never be erased; the anger will only be tempered. And yet we talk of "closure".

She ends with: "My colleagues in the media should drop the word "closure", which they bandy about almost from the start of any tragedy. Rather than admit they are seeking ways to move on to something more immediate, they claim that what the rest of us want is "closure". But we cannot close ourselves off. We can never stop asking Why? Yes, we shall move forward. But forget "closure".

I just wanted to share this because I know there's been a lot of discussion here about closure and moving on. However, I preferred the author's terminology of "moving forward" which to me seemed very different from "moving on". I resent it when someone tells me they expect me to move on. As though I could brush my hands of this disaster, put it away in a closet or the corner of the basement, way back to the deepest depths of my mind, and leave it there to "move on" to whatever else life holds. I can't move on in that manner of speaking, but moving forward, yes, there is little choice about that. With my son's spiritual presence as much a part of me as my hands and legs, with the past memories that I talk about although not nearly as much as the present goings on, with the tragedy of his death always with me, which has provided me with a new perspective & view of life, with the lessons I've learned from his life & death, moving forward becomes a reality, moving forward and taking tragic events & making triumphant changes, moving forward becomes a way of life. Moving on vs. moving forward - it may all be just a matter of semantics, but it is the way it is.

~ Meg Avery, Lawrenceville TCF

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.

SOME THOUGHTS ON HOPE

(con't from page 1)

The dictionary defines hope as entertaining a wish for something with some expectation... to look forward with confidence...that which is desired or anticipated...

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

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

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

Peter was our only child. He and I had a particularly unique and close relationship. He was, more than anything, my best friend, and, I thought, my reason for living. I was recently reminded of how I used to answer people who asked how many children I had. "One!" I used to declare proudly. "I did it right the first time!" How innocent. How arrogant I was then. How unaware of the possibilities. Now, the guestion strikes me as an intrusion and brings on an immediate hostility. It's really none of your business I want to say. But I don't. "I had one" is my standard answer now. It usually stops people in their tracks. They don't dare go further.

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

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

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

~ Marie Levine, 1997

Don't Tell Me

Please don't tell me you know how I feel,

Unless you have lost your child too,

Please don't tell me my broken heart will heal,

Because that is just not true,

Please don't tell me my son is in a better place,

Though it is true, I want him here with me,

Don't tell me someday I'll hear his voice, see his face,

Beyond today I cannot see,

Don't tell me it is time to move on,

Because I cannot,

Don't tell me to face the fact he is gone,

Because denial is something I can't stop,

Don't tell me to be thankful for the time I had,

Because I wanted more.

Don't tell me when I am my old self you will be glad,

I'll never be as I was before,

What you can tell me is you will be here for me,

That you will listen when I talk of my child,

You can share with me my precious memories,

You can even cry with me for a while,

And please don't hesitate to say his name,

Because it is something I long to hear everyday,

Friend please realize that I can never be the same,

But if you stand by me, you may like the new person I become someday.

Judi Walker

(In Memory of Shane)

Siblings

What About Me?

Last month's sibling article was titled "What About Me?"

Leading a parent's group at TCF most every month and remembering my son Ben, I don't get to talk very often about my big sister Joanna...Aunt Joanna to Ben...who loved him and grieved him so deeply when he passed, like any parent would do.

The last half of August is always difficult, Joanna died on Aug. 23rd, 8 years ago now, and Ben died on Aug. 31st. I am so glad when September finally arrives.

As my big sister, 3 years older than me, Joanna was always in my life from the time I was born. Growing up, she taught me the alphabet and of course, how to sing it. On trips we would sing songs and harmonize in the car all along the way. That is, when we weren't playing geography, or spotting license plates. According to Hoyle, we learned and played 30 or 40 different card games. War, go fish, gin rummy, honeymoon bridge, whist, cribbage, you name it. Joanna's the one who taught how to dance to rock & roll – chacha anyone?

Eight years gone, there isn't a day that goes by where something doesn't remind me of Joanna. And on those special days – our birthdays for example, we would always aim to be the (con't in next column)

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

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

first to call. I so miss that first call on my birthday and miss making it on hers.

Joanna was the healthiest person I have ever known. She was a dancer, hiker, swimmer, yoga instructor, and only ate organic food. Then one day when she was swimming laps at the pool, she felt some discomfort in her chest. The diagnosis, lung cancer which took her two years later. Joanna really never smoked cigarettes. Go figure. It's so unfair...isn't it always?

So Joanna, this is about you. I love you, sister. I miss you and think about you every day one way or another.

~ Dan Zweig, Manhattan TCF

SUMMER THOUGHTS

Summer is a time when things naturally slow down, a time when many are waiting for the orderly routine of their lives to begin again. For those of us in grief whose lives are already in limbo, it can seem endless if we let it. Seeing children, babies and teenagers is not easy for us, and we see them everywhere from shopping centers to beaches. Everyone is out living, loving, enjoying carefree activities with their children, and we want to scream, "It's not fair!" I was sitting on my patio one evening at dusk recently listing to the shouts of children playing, and I was crying as I remembered the sounds that my child used to make. I became very depressed as I thought what a long summer this was going to be.

In my reverie, I was reminded of a recent comment that I had heard at a TCF meeting: "My child was such a loving, giving person. He would not want me to waste my life being bitter." "I also remember a good friend telling me to "count my blessings" and naming all the things I had to be grateful for. I was furious at that time. Nothing I had to be grateful for could compensate for the fact that my child had died. Now, sitting in the twilight of this early summer evening, I began to see things differently. I determined that this summer would not be an eternity: I would not let it be. I decided first of all to stay busy.

I am also going to try to enjoy the simple things that used to give me so much pleasure, like flowers, and working in my garden. I then decided to try to be truly grateful for the blessings that I have, like my husband, my friends, my job etc.

It has been almost 5 years for me, and I know that last year this would not have worked. Of course I still have times of sadness; I know I always will. But I have decided that in the process of grieving we close so many doors, the only way to recovery is to reopen them gradually at our own pace.

I know I will never be the same person I was before the death of my child, but I hope eventually in some ways I will be a better person because suffering can be beneficial if we learn and grow through it. A year ago I didn't feel that way, and I know I still have a long way to go, but in the meantime, I know the greatest tribute to my child will be to enjoy this summer as he would have done.

~ Libby Gonzales, TCF Huntsville, AL

CHOOSING HOPE

Robert Frost once wrote, "You have freedom when you're easy in your harness." I believe I read that in junior high school. It had no real meaning to me at that time. But many years, and many tears later, I have come to realize what Frost was referencing.

Soon, I will be marking the seventh anniversary of the death of my only child, Todd Mennen. Seven years seems, perhaps to some, a milestone. But it's not really. There are no "milestones" on this journey of grief after the death of our children. But we do change. We have no choice. We weep, we evolve, we change, we grow, we learn, we share, we ask for help, we give help, we reach out and finally, we become someone different than we once were. That is the reality of this grief.

Become easy in my harness was no small task, nor did it happen in magical stages with epiphanies proclaiming, "here is a milestone, a moment you can remember for the wisdom you found."

Wisdom doesn't arrive with fanfare; wisdom seeps slowly into one's mind, forming an ever-changing perspective until, at last, we have come to accept our "harness". Our harness is the death of our child. Once we accept this fact, we move forward into the light of hope and we begin to feel hope and a different type of freedom.

Am I "easy in my harness?" Finally, I can say that I probably am most of the time. There are days when I find it chokingly restrictive and cruel in its pain. But these days are fewer as time passes.

I have found a new kind of "freedom in my harness." It isn't the joyful freedom from the days before my child died, but it is a freedom nonetheless. My freedom is the light of hope that shines from deep within my soul as I now hold my child in my mind and heart. My child is with me in my harness as I continue on the balance of my life's journey. For this mother, hope is knowing that death does not restrict me from my child's life. Death changes only the plane of our relationship, for I am his mother and he is my son. We will love our children for all of eternity. This is the freedom in our harness that comes with consciously choosing hope.

~ Annette Mennen Baldwin, TCF Katy, TX in memory of her son Todd Mennen

The Cord

We are connected, my child and I, by an invisible cord not seen by the eye.

It's not like the cord that connects us 'til birth. This cord can't been seen by any on Earth.

This cord does its work right from the start. It binds us together attached to my heart.

I know that it's there though no one can see the invisible cord from my child to me.

The strength of this cord is hard to describe. It can't be destroyed. It can't be denied.

It's stronger than any cord man could create. It withstands the test, can hold any weight. And though you are gone, though you're not here with me, the cord is still there but no one can see.

It pulls at my heart...
I am bruised...I am sore, but this cord is my lifeline as never before.

I am thankful that God connects us this way. A mother and child death can't take it away!

Author Unknown

Recommended reading...

♦ The Bereaved Parent
 by Harriet Sarnoff
 ♦ First You Die
 by Marie Levine
 ♦ Talking to Heaven
 by James Van Praagh
 by nine mothers
 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 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.



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED





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9/1	DWAYNE NELSON, son of Amelia Brewer-Nelson	9/16	PAUL THOMPSON, son of Elaine Thompson
9/1	MARK H. IHDE, son of Linda & Don Ihde	9/16	WILLIAM EDWARDS, brother of Michael Bernieri
9/1	ROSE LIANG, sister of Holly & Chue Liang	9/17	DETRA MICHELLE MORRISON , daughter of Denise Morrison
9/2	CHRISTOPHER RISTO, son of Grace Piegaro	9/17	KARIM HALAWI, brother of Lama Halawi
9/2	GEORGE MICHAEL KOTSIS, son of Doris Kotsis	9/18	DAVID PICARD, son of Darlene Picard
9/3	BETTY DIBIASO, daughter of Susan Carty	9/18	IAN MALSON, brother of Caitlin Malson
9/4	JORDAN ELIAS VELAZQUEZ, son of Kathleen Velazquez	9/19	ILIA KRASOTINA, sister of Sofiya Krasotina
9/4	JOVI RAMOS, son of Desiree Ramos	9/19	TYLEAH MCFADDEN, daughter of Lisa Jenkins, sister of
9/6	HENRY SZOR, son of Eva Grin		Nadirah McFadden
9/6	MAX GLEZOS-CHARTOFF, son of Julie Chartoff & Irene Glezos	9/21	CHRISTOPHER LUKE ELMER, son of Anne Elmer & Jeff Elmer
9/7	ALEXANDER KYLE NUNEZ, son of Melba & Luis Nunez	9/21	GINGER SIMMS, daughter of Larry Simms & Alison Ho
9/7	LAUREN HAROPULOS, daughter of Mike & Barbara Haropulos	9/21	RASHAAD A. KING, son of Susan King
9/7	TOMMASO CERASE, son of Barbara Riccardi & Alessandro	9/21	TATIANA HICKMAN, sister of Autumn Hickman
	Cerase	9/21	VUKAN IVANOVIC, son of Vladimir Ivanovic
9/8	AHMAD SHARRIEFF-AL-BEY, son of Rashied Sharrieff-Al-Bey	9/21	WONDER HAMILTON, daughter of Gary & Jennifer Hamilton
9/8	CALLUM ROCHE, son of Sean Roche	9/22	ALEXANDRA DISANTIS, daughter of Margo & Frank DeSantis
9/8	CYRUS SINK, son of Susan Huggins	9/22	JAMES HAYS, brother of Claire Hays
9/8	MELISSA ANN WALSH, sister of Stephanie Walsh	9/23	CASEY CRUZ, daughter of Ibelka Cruz
9/8	THERESA MARTIN HOUGH, daughter of Sara Martin	9/23	GREGORY ROTH, brother of Stephanie Roth
9/9	AVIVA LIPSKY-KARASZ, daughter of Julia Zangwill & Daniel	9/25	CHRISTOPHER DOMBROWSKI, brother of William &
	Lipsky-Karasz		Brianne Dombrowski
9/9	KRISTOFFER WILLIAMS, son of Anette Lian-Williams & Eric	9/26	MITCHELL WALKER, son of Fountain Walker
	Williams	9/27	ARON LINDELL, son of Julie Lindell
9/10	MATTHEW NOVAK, son of Clare Hogan	9/27	JAY SCHNEIDER, son of Bonnie Bowes
9/11	CARRA POLEN, daughter of Nella Hahn	9/27	WILLIAM JOHN, brother of Joseph John
9/11	OLIVER LIEGEY, son of Viva & Robert Draper	9/28	ALEX BIBLER, son of Lindsay Bibler
9/12	AVA LOUISE HOUSE, daughter of Molly House	9/28	KRISTEN DUBERRY, daughter of Michael Duberry
9/12	HARRIS KAPLANSKY, son of Denise Gelfand	9/28	PAMELA ARGUELLO, daughter of Doris Carraquillo,
9/12	JAYDEN ALEXANDER BAEZ, son of Josephine Cartagena		sister of Vinny Urena and Brandon Arguello
9/12	LIANNA GONZALEZ, daughter of Dahiana De La Cruz	9/28	ROSS DEWEES, son of Chris Dewees
9/12	SAIGIA BRON, daughter of Florence Layayette	9/28	RYAN CHRISTIAN BALLON, brother of Dylan Ballon
9/12	SOPHIA JOLIET AGUIRRE, daughter of Monica Deliz	9/29	ANDREW SCHLEIFER, son of Kittyhawk Schleifer
9/12	SYDNEY MARTINEZ, daughter of Fabiola Bello & Alex Martinez	9/29	BOBBY BEATTIE, brother of Rose Beattie
9/13	CANDICE CHEN, daughter of Belle Tung	9/29	DANIEL SNYDER, brother of Lisa Snyder
9/13	TROY HALL, son of Victor Hall	9/29	LILY BADGER, daughter of Madonna and Matt Badger
9/14	CASEY STRAKA, son of Dana Straka	9/29	MARY ANN VALVERDE, sister of Victoria Soto
9/14	GALIAH GARBER, sister of Anath Garber	9/29	SOPHIA MELILLO, daughter of Kristen Leigh
9/15	MICHAEL MCFARLAND, son of Tamara McFarland	9/30	BELLA BRODSKY, sister of Jennifer Brodsky
9/15	NNENE EZEONYIM, daughter of Uche Ezeonyim	9/30	CHRISTOPHER WAGNER, son of Linda & Edward Wagner
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Vinny Urena and Brandon Arguello

OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED





9/1	ELSA ALMESTICA, daughter of Kenneth Almestica	9/17	TIM CARPENTER, son of Donna Carpenter	
9/2	IMOGEN ROCHE, daughter of Theseus Roche	9/17	TOMMASO CERASE, son of Barbara Riccardi &	
9/2	ROWENNA WIGHT WHITE, daughter of Nancy Wight		Alessandro Cerase	
9/2	YULIA KRASHENNAYA, sister of Deb Faynshteyn	9/18	GLEN FRASER, son of James Fraser	
9/3	BRENDEN CARSON, son of Debra Carson	9/18	LUCY GRAVES, daughter of Edward Graves	
9/3	CALEB SANDE, grandson of Renee & Hervey Sande	9/19	ALIX LECLAIR, daughter of Julie Neches, sister of Dom LeClair	
9/3	SEAN KIMERLING, son of Ervine & Noah Kimerling	9/19	AVA LOUISE HOUSE, daughter of Molly House	
9/4	ADEDAYO ADEWALE, son of Modesta Baltazar	9/19	ERIC ROSENBERG, son of Sharon Rosenberg	
9/4	MARLA SUE COLLAZO, daughter of Lita & Joe Robinson, sister of	9/19	KASRIEL BENJAMIN, son of Sarah & Tony Benjamin	
	Ellyn Robinson Monahan	9/19	WILLIE GWATHMEY, brother of Katie Gwathmey	
9/4	ZANE MANDEL-MICHALAK, son of Janet Robinson	9/20	ISABELLA CARROLL, daughter of Doreen Carroll	
9/5	NOAH BOWER, son of Pat Bower Cooley	9/21	AIDAN HERNANDEZ, son of Maura Moloney and	
9/6	SHAUN BECKWITH CHASEN, son of Dr. Barbara Chasen		Victor Hernandez	
9/6	TIM MAGEE, son of Mary & Tim Magee	9/21	BENJAMIN GOURDJI, son of Anna Gourdji	
9/7	PATRIC KARN, brother of Lisa Kaye	9/21	CLAIRE MONTAIGNE, daughter of Fen Montaigne	
9/7	SEYQUAN CHAMBLISS, son of Derricka Chambliss	9/21	LYNDON HOWARD, son of Lila Howard	
9/7	YEHUDA MILSTEIN, son of Edith Bayne, brother of Ilana Milstein	9/22	JACK BRAUN, brother of Hannah Braun	
9/8	BRIAN CULLIMORE, son of Teresa Cullimore	9/23	DUSTIN TUNICK, son of Jenifer Kelly	
9/8	PETER MESSINA, son of Katherine Messina	9/23	SHEMAYNE PARKS, daughter of Beverly Fortson, sister of	
9/9	BRIAN MEEHAN, brother of Kevin Meehan		Hannah Fortson	
9/9	JORDAN WEINSTEIN, daughter of Wendy J. Schriber	9/24	NOAH REISMAN, brother of Rachel Reisman	
9/10	KRISTINA ESPOSITO, daughter of Cecilia Esposito	9/24	ORION DUMITRIU, son of Winnie Yang	
9/10	SARAH KATZ, daughter of Michael & Jill Katz, sister of Dana Katz	9/24	ROBERT BANNON, brother of Marybeth Bannon	
9/11	AARON HOROWITZ, son of Allan & Liz Horwitz	9/24	SOPHIE ANN MISSHUK, daughter of Evan Misshuk	
9/11	CHRISTIAN FUERSICH, son of Janet Fuersich	9/25	CELINA PACHECO, daughter of Evelyn Gonzalez	
9/11	JOHN COOPER JR., brother of Keith P. Cooper	9/25	ELIOT BARTLETT, brother of Emanuekl (Man) Bartlett	
9/12	ADAM WEINER, son of Susan Weiner	9/25	ISAIAH WINCH, son of Jesse Winch, brother of	
9/12	ANDREW BALTINI, brother of Kevin Baltini		Louisa-Carpenter Winch	
9/12	BLAKE GOODMAN, brother of Claudia Goodman	9/25	JOHN THOMAS (TOMMY) VIGORITA, son of Patricia &	
9/12	JENNA HERNAN, daughter of Maria Hernan		Vincent Vigorita	
9/13	JAMES RUSSO, brother of Adrienne Russo	9/25	ROAN VAUGHAN, son of Melissa Schreiber, Brendan Vaughan	
9/13	JASMIN REQUENA, daughter of Eleanor Requena, sister of Jaqueline		& Renee Dale	
9/14	EMRE EDEPLI, son of Levant & Kirsten Edepli	9/25	SEAN COYLE, brother of Krista Coyle	
9/14	JOHN MARZANO, son of Claire Martino	9/25	WILLIAM GRIFFO, son of Yvona & William Griffo, brother	
9/14	TATIANA HICKMAN, sister of Autumn Hickman		of Mike Griffo	
9/15	CHRIS SANTIAGO, son of Eve Ortega	9/26	STEFAN THEGEBY, son of Dale Thegeby	
9/15	CHRISTOPHER MALLIN, son of Robert Mallin	9/27	WILLIAM MONEN, son of Nancy Monen	
9/15	GEORGE MICHAEL PEREZ, son of Priscilla Perez	9/28	ASHLEY HOPE GOODMAN, daughter of Karen Goodman	
9/15	MARSHALL FORDE, son of Asurf Forde, brother of Marcel Forde	9/28	AURELIE FRANCHITTI, daughter of Marianna Vertsman,	
9/15	YVONNE BURDEN, sister of Crystal Burden		sister of Valerie Franchitti	
9/16	JON MICHAEL CAMINITI, son of David Caminiti, Linda Caminiti	9/28	JAMIE MARCUS, daughter of Bruce Marcus	
	and brother of Jacqueline	9/29	KARIM HALAWI, brother of Lama Halawi	
9/16	KIARR LACEY MONROE, son of Xenia Vasquez & Lacey Monroe	9/29	LAUREN MARIE NELSON, sister of Mickey (Michelle) Nelson	
9/16	MICHAEL CYRUS, son of Linda Reed	9/29	PAMELA SUE CHAIKEN, daughter of Sandy & Lionel Chaiken,	
9/16	PAUL WALKER, son of Ellen Walker		sister of Stephanie	
9/17	EVAN FRIEDLANDER, son of Kathy Friedlander	9/30	ANTHONY HELZER, son of Donna Romer	
9/17	PAMELA ARGUELLO, daughter of Doris Carraquillo, sister of	9/30	JO ANNA BURRO, daughter of Jeanette Burro	



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



10/1	AMBER ASHTON, daughter of Tom & Eleanor Ashton	10/18	RENEE THOMPSON, daughter of Gregory & Joy Thompson		
10/1	PAX DESMORAIS, son of Lian & Tim DesMorais	10/20	ADAM FELDBERG, son of Tsipi Taube		
10/2	NEILL PERRI, son of Maddie & Cliff Kasden	10/21	ALEXIS NICOLE NEGRON, daughter of		
10/2	ROBERT BANNON, brother of Marybeth Bannon		German (Herman) Negron		
10/3	JAKE GOLDBERG, son of Gene Goldberg, brother of Ben Goldberg	10/21	MELQUAIN JATELLE ANDERSON, son of Michelle		
10/3	JASON MARKS, son of Helena Marks		Barnes-Anderson		
10/3	SKYLER CAGHLIN, son of Seana Caghlin, brother of	10/21	SHEMAYNE PARKS, daughter of Beverly Fortson, sister of		
	Cassandra Richardson		Hannah Fortson		
10/4	JACOB MORGAN, brother of Kelsey Morgan	10/22	LUKE LUEBKE, son of Bine Luebke, brother of Jonas		
10/5	ALAN MYL, son of Joanne Myl	10/23	CHARLOTTE KENLEY THOMPSON, daughter of Jeannie		
10/5	JULIANA ADORNO, daughter of Jerica Adorno		Dalton & Paul Thompson		
10/5	NATHANIEL LOUIS RAND, son of Jacob Rand	10/23	MARK COOKE, son of Maureen Cooke, brother of Jamie		
10/5	SCARLETT KAUFMAN, daughter of Eileen Kaufman	10/23	PATRIC KARN, brother of Lisa Kaye		
10/5	TIM CARPENTER, son of Donna Carpenter	10/23	PATRICK CESARIO, son of Sharon Cesario, brother of		
10/6	BEN LOCKHART, son of Kate Sanford		Frank Cesario		
10/6	BENJAMIN IMBROGNO, son of Naomi Imbrogno	10/24	CHRISTOPHER MALLIN, son of Robert Mallin		
10/6	JOSHUA CLARKE, son of Jodie Retalis & Anthony Clarke	10/24	WILL GARRIGAN, brother of Erin Garrigan		
10/7	GIRBUN LAO, brother of Ithreum Brown	10/25	JASON SCHECHTER, son of Leo Schechter		
10/7	PETER TRAKIS, son of Dolores & John Trakis	10/25	MICAH DAWKINS-WILLIAMS, son of Rhodina Williams		
10/7	RYAN KENT JACKSON, son of Toby Jackson	10/26	DEREK GOMEZ, son of Marta Freyre & Robert McManus,		
10/8	DAVID MCSWAIN, brother of Malissa McSwain		brother of Xiomara Gomez		
10/8	DONALD BROWN, son of Desiree Brown	10/26	KRISTOFFER SALAVANTE, son of Maria & Eliezer Salavante		
10/8	ZOIE BENNETT, daughter of Zachary Bennet	10/26	SUZANNE PAGE, daughter of Timmie Ross		
10/9	CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH BAUMANN, son of Maureen Mackey	10/27	AIDAN STEVENS, son of Lilly Stevens		
10/9	ELIZABETH HANAU, daughter of Marsha Hanau	10/27	EMILY MACKEY, sister of Lauren Minchen		
10/9	JOANNA ZWEIG, Ben's aunt, sister of Daniel Zweig	10/27	JUDAH BRYNDAL, son of Dusty & David Bryndal		
10/10	CHRIS SANTIAGO, son of Eve Ortega	10/28	APARNA ROPPEL, daughter of Mark Roppel		
10/10	CHRISTOPHER PALMER, son of Darlene and Douglas Palmer	10/28	MICHAEL BARNES, son of Jaqueline Warren		
10/10	LAURA NAMIE, sister of Matthew Namie	10/29	ADEDAYO ADEWALE, son of Modesta Baltazar, brother of		
10/11	KIERNAN BLAKER, brother of Darby Blaker		Phebe Ojomoses		
10/11	TIM MAGEE, son of Mary & Tim Magee	10/29	NATHANIEL HILL JR., son of Lynette & Nathaniel Hill,		
10/12	ARJUN VEER SHARMA, son of Vikas & Priyanka Sharma		brother of Lenise		
10/13	DANA FLAX, sister of Casey Flax	10/30	CHRISTOPHER KWIK, brother of Sharon Kwik		
10/13	DANDY PINNOCK, son of Kaydeen Green	10/30	MYLES CHANDLER, son of Marcia Chandler		
10/15	JONATHAN BUCAOTO, son of Ruth Sowell	10/30	ROBERT KISTENBERG, son of Marilyn & Elliot Kistenberg,		
10/15	SARAH & GRACE BADGER, twin daughters of Madonna Badger		brother of Marni Nossel		
10/16	BATHSHEBA KOHN, daughter of Yoel Kohn	10/31	KERRY STONE, brother of Catherine Kells		
10/18	CHRIS BALDWIN, brother of Brooke Baldwin	10/31	SAESHA KAYTAL, daughter of Supriya & Sid Kaytal		

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 to to to to to to to the total transfer and tell us what needs to change.



OUR CHILDREN—LOVED AND REMEMBERED

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



	OCTOBER ANNIVE	RSARIES	4) //
10/1	LEAH NICO, daughter of Linda Sacks, sister of Mara Bragg	10/16	JEM MAIR, daughter of Ilana Mair
10/1	PAX DESMORAIS, son of Lian & Tim DesMorais	10/16	LAURA LEVIS, daughter of Georgia & William Levis
10/1	TUSHAR ATRE, son of Shaku Atre	10/16	LUCAS SCOTT, brother of Erin Scott
10/1	VUKAN IVANOVIC, son of Vladimir Ivanovic	10/16	PARIS AVILA, brother of Makeda Wilson
10/2	CHRISTOPHER LUKE ELMER, son of Anne Elmer & Jeff Elmer	10/17	RYAN CHRISTIAN BALLON, brother of Dylan Ballon
10/2	ROBERT KISTENBERG, son of Marilyn & Elliot Kistenberg,	10/18	KATHLEEN YANCHIS, sister of Marybeth Bannon
	brother of Marni Nossel	10/19	DANILO RODRIGUEZ, sister of Enrique Rodriguez
10/3	TIONNIE MURRAY, daughter of Marie Caballero	10/20	CHRISTOPHER JAMES ROUCH, son of Kathy Rouch
10/4	BARA COLODNE, daughter of Mia and Eric Colodne	10/20	CONNOR LEE-KAWANISHI, son of Choony Lee
10/4	BRANDON SCHWARTZ, son of Joann & Mark Schwartz	10/20	MAX JACOBSON, son of Terry & Hugh Jacobson
10/4	CAROLINE MASON, daughter of Rachel Mason	10/22	ADRIAN PURICELLI, son of Denise Puricelli, brother of
10/4	HAMEEN JASPER, daughter of Yolanda Jasper		Vironika
10/4	RYAN KILLACKEY, son of Patricia Killackey	10/22	ELLIS ZIMMERMAN, son of Anna Ellis & Benjamin
10/4	SAMUEL TITUS, son of Sara Jenkins		Zimmerman
10/5	MATTHEW YUDELMAN, grandson of Anne Schuman &	10/23	AIDAN STEVENS, son of Lilly Stevens
	Ian Yudelman	10/23	MICHAEL BARNES, son of Jaqueline Warren
10/6	HANNAH POTIS, sister of Taylor Potis	10/24	MASON SIMMS, son of Shavon Simms
10/6	JAMES ROACH, brother of Omar Roach	10/25	DANDY PINNOCK, son of Kaydeen Green
10/6	KIMANI FOSTER, daughter of Katrina Thomas	10/25	EBONY N. JACKSON, daughter of Diana Jackson, cousin of
10/6	LIANNA GONZALEZ, daughter of Dahiana De La Cruz		Aaron Jackson-Kent
10/6	MEL'LISA ANDRE, daughter of Darchelle Hinson-Andre	10/25	MELQUAIN JATELLE ANDERSON, son of Michelle
10/6	SCARLETT KAUFMAN, daughter of Eileen Kaufman		Barnes-Anderson
10/7	BRYCE SHELDON, son of Bianca Villalona	10/25	RYAN KENT JACKSON, son of Toby Jackson
10/7	MICHAEL RAMIREZ, son of Michele Cennamo	10/26	LUKE LUEBKE , son of Bine Luebke, brother of Jonas
10/8	SAMMY COHEN ECKSTEIN, son of Amy Cohen & Gary Eckstein	10/26	TSAIGH GREENIDGE-JAMES, son of Sinaya Greenidge,
10/9	WILLIAM JOHN BERTRAND, son of MaryLee Bertrand		brother of Niasia Greenidge-James
10/10	JOSETTE GIBBS, daughter of Juanita Gibbs	10/26	URSULA PARSON, daughter of Bernetta (Penny) Parson
10/10	JULIANA ADORNO, daughter of Jerica Adorno	10/27	DANNY CRONIN, son of Mary Cronin
10/11	CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH BAUMANN, son of Maureen Mackey	10/27	ROSITA CUNNINGHAM, sister of Sedel Mapp
10/12	BEN LOCKHART, son of Kate Sanford	10/28	AHREN JUDE KARRAN SINGH, son of Rondha-Ann Lam
10/12	BENJAMIN RONALD OJEDA-FEINSTEIN, son of Talo Ojeda &	10/28	HOLLAND WILLIAMS, son of Asia & Jarell Williams
	Reva Feinstein	10/28	SARA CHANGHONG ADAMS, daughter of Muriel Adams
10/12	CHARLIE CAMPDERRICH, son of Jody Campderrich	10/28	THOMAS J. MANNO, son of Elizabeth M. Davey
10/12	CYRUS SINK, son of Susan Huggins	10/29	JESSE ARATOW, son of Susanna Hoffman
10/12	ETHAN HOLDER, son of Beverly Holder	10/30	BRADLEY FRIEDMAN, son of Jane Friedman
10/15	HAYLEE LABBAN, daughter of Penelope Coward	10/30	CHARLOTTE KENLEY THOMPSON, daughter of
10/16	CLARISSA JACKSON, sister of Jillian Jackson		Jeannie Dalton & Paul Thompson
10/16	CYBELE FISHER-KOPPEL, daughter of Phyllis & Jack Fisher,	10/30	MATTHEW FIDLER, son of Annette Fidler
	sister of Remy Fisher-Bauman	10/30	ROBERT ZIETEK, brother of Barbara Zietek
		10/31	NOAH GLARPHAM, son of David & Heather Kopp





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		
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	SEP 16 OCT 21 NOV 18 DEC 16	
FRI	General Bereavement	Pregnancy/Infant Loss	General Bereavement		
	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