

August - October  
2008



## *The Compassionate Friends*

Offering friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. National Headquarters: P.O. Box 3696, Oak Brook, IL 60622  
Phone (877) 969-0010 Fax: (630)990-0246. Email: [nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org](mailto:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org)  
Web site: [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

### ***SAY David*** (Insert your child's name) ***TO ME***

**The time of concern is over. No longer am I asked how I'm doing. Never is the name of our son mentioned to me. A curtain descends. The moment has passed. A life slips from frequent recall. There are exceptions from close and compassionate friends, sensitive and loving family. For most, the drama is over. The spotlight is off. Applause is silent. But for me the play will never end, the effects on me are timeless. *SAY David* to me. On the stage of my life he has been both lead and supporting actor. Do not tiptoe around one of the greatest events of my life. Love does not die. His name is written on my life. The sound of his voice replays within my mind. You feel he is dead. I feel he is of the dead and still lives. His ghost walks my soul beckoning in future welcome. You say he was my son I say he is. *SAY David* to me and *SAY David* again. It hurts to bury his memory in silence. What he was in flesh is no longer with us. What he is in spirit stirs within me always. He was of my past but is part of my now. He is my hope for the future. You say not to remind me. How little you understand I can not forget. I would not if I could, I understand you but feel pain in being forced to do so. I forgive you, because you can not know. And I would forgive you anyway. I accept how you see me, but understand you see me not at all. I strive not to judge you, for yesterday I was like you. I love you, will make no exceptions toward you. But I wish you could understand that I dwell in both flesh and in spirit. The mystery is that you do too, but know it not. I do not ask you to walk this road. The ascent is steep and the burden is heavy. I walk it not by choice. I would rather walk with him in flesh, looking not to the spirit roads beyond, I am what I have to be what I have lost you can not feel. What I have gained you cannot see, and I would not have you. *SAY David* to me for he is alive in me, he and I will meet again, though in many ways we have never parted. He and his life play light songs on my mind, sunrises and sunsets in my dreams, he is real and shadow, was and is. *SAY David* to me and *SAY David* again, he is my son and I love him as I always did.**

**SAY DAVID**



## Our Children, Loved and Remembered



<b>August Sunrises</b>		<b>August Sunsets</b>	
Jeffrey Basso Son of Kate & Joe Madigan	8/1/1965	Barry Belyea Son of Sue Bernier	8/3/2000
Michael McSorley Son of Marcie Spencer	8/5/1955	James Michael Perkowski Son of Anita Opp	8/4/2003
Veronica Babineau Daughter of Rita Babineau	8/7/1936	Jean Marie Sullivan Daughter of Margaret Sullivan	8/4/1974
Sarah Anne Kithcart Daughter of Anne & Herb Kithcart	8/17/1987	Michele Daidone Daughter of Harriet & Bruce Cole	8/10/2002
Christopher Dale Jones Son of Mary Young	8/22/1986	Chad Collier Son of Cindy Jones	8/17/2002
David Paul Plamondon Son of Janet & Tim Plamondon	8/25/1982	Linda Petrillo Daughter of Connie and John Petrillo	8/18/2004
Edward John Barone Son of Viv Barone	8/30/1969	Zackary Robert Finch Son of Keith Finch	8/30/2002
Graham Edward Woody Son of Sid & Barbara Finkelstein	8/30/1969	Charlie Lykins Son of Mary and Charlie	8/27/2006
Jack Leben Son of Jeff & Pam Leben	8/30/1999		
Chad Collier	8/31/1982		

### **Why Butterflies?**

Since early times, the butterfly has symbolized renewed life. The caterpillar signifies life here on earth; the cocoon, death; and the butterfly, the emergence of the dead into a new, beautiful and freer existence. Frequently, the butterfly is seen with the word "Nika" which means victory. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross movingly tells of seeing butterflies drawn all over the walls of the children's dormitories in the World War 11 concentration camps. Since Elisabeth believes in the innate intuitiveness of children, she concludes that these children knew their fate and were leaving us a message. Many members of The Compassionate Friends embrace the butterfly, a symbol—a sign of hope to them, that their children are living in another dimension with greater beauty and freedom—a comforting thought to many.



## Our Children, Loved and Remembered



September Sunrises		September Sunsets	
Kenneth Priem Son of Merle Holoubek	9/5/1957	Michael "Skip" Mauri Son of Grace Mauri	9/2/1990
Jean Marie Sullivan Daughter of Margaret Sullivan	9/6/1958	David Anthony Anderson Son of David Anderson	9/3/2003
Charlie Lykins Son of Mary and Charlie	9/6/1959	Jean Marie Sullivan Daughter of Margaret Sullivan	9/6/1958
Casey Addison Connie Addison and David Pease	9/9/1977	Shannon Renee' Alldaffer Daughter of Shelly Dollar	9/06/2005
Joshua Widick Son of Janice Widick	9/10/1974	Casey Addison Connie Addison and David Pease	9/10/2001
Davie Addison Son of Connie Addison and David Pease	9/17/1973	Megan Thompson Daughter of Robyn Baldwin	9/12/2007
Jennifer Lynn Taylor Daughter of Helen Taylor	9/19/1962	Connie Ann Hablutzel Daughter of Mary Alice Mainini	9/14/2002
Stephanie Lynn Barnett Daughter of Chris & Bill Barnett	9/22/1974	Betsy Perry Daughter of Ruth H. Sanders	9/14/1996
David X. Nonamaker Son of Anne Nonamaker	9/22/1980	Kirk Reed Son of Marilyn Reed	9/15/1990
Ryan H. G. Chieffi Son of Mary & Tim Smith	9/23/1982	Eddie Nelson Son of Marie Nelson	9/21/2006
Melanie Babineau Daughter of Rita Babineau	9/29/1955	Matthew Burks Son of Bernadette & Ken Burks	9/22/199
		Lee Roberts Son of Leah Stirrat	9/22/1989
		Stephanie Lynn Barnett Daughter of Chris & Bill Barnett	9/25/1994
		Mitchell McSorley Son of Marcie Spencer	9/26/1964
		Larry Priem Son of Merle Holoubek	9/27/1995
		Christopher Dale Jones Son of Mary Young	9/30/2006



**...that their  
light may  
always shine.**

Light a candle for all children who have died.

**Sunday, December 14, 2008**

**7 PM Around the Globe**

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING ®



## Our Children, Loved and Remembered



October Sunrises		October Sunsets	
Keala Howard Daughter of Robert Howard	10/1/1992	Tyler A. Thompson Son of Robert & Jill Thompson	10/3/1998
Ashley Erin Kelly Daughter of Sherri & Tom Kelly	10/4/1985	Tanya Ranee Mitchell Daughter of Teresa & Dennis Mitchell	10/15/1991
Kevin Edward Branning Son of MaryAnn Branning-Johnson	10/6/1959	Brandon Garner Son of Barbara Garner	10/17/2006
Heidi Schmidt Daughter of Dick & Elda Schmidt	10/9/1968	Joseph Francis Sullivan Son of Margaret Fran Sullivan	10/18/2005
Erika Rose Addison Daughter of Deborah C. Addison	10/18/1982	Jacob Aaron Steel Son of Dan & Janet Martin and Gregory Steel, Brother to Jonathan Martin and brother to Joy Steel	10/23/2007
Remmy Bumsted Son of Patti and Roy Bumsted	10/18/1984	Justin Taylor Son of Donna Taylor	10/27/1999
Clint Beatty Son of Karen Lutgen-Beatty	10/22/1979	Jennifer Lynn Taylor Daughter of Helen Taylor	10/27/2001
Melissa Heinly Daughter of Sharon Matson	10/24/1990	Caitlyn Landers Daughter of Don & Sandy Landers	10/25/1998
Zackary Robert Finch Son of Keith Finch	10/31/1977	Brianna N. Dwyer Daughter of Karen Dwyer	10/30/1999
Damian A. Holliday Son of Arlene Holliday	10/31/1973	Richard Earl Marquis (Richie) Son of Linda Belyea Spurlock Grandson of Sue Bernier	10/31/2006

### Loving Listeners:

For those times when you need to speak to someone who will listen with understanding and who can offer hope and support from their own process of healing in grief please call us:

**Annette Carruli 250-4071**

**Teresa Walker 353-3215**

**Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker 287-5968**

## Thank you for your Gifts of Love

All donations are gratefully accepted and assist the chapter in its mission to help bereaved families following the loss of a child.

Please mail to: Teresa Mitchell 11081 Longshore Way West, Naples, FL 34119

**Thank you** to for all the donations sent into the fundraising website. We raised a total of **\$478.00** that will be used to offset the cost of my trip to the national conference that totaled approximately \$1,000.00.

## Recap of my experience at the 31st Compassionate Friends National Conference . . . .

By: Naples Chapter Leader, Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker

Over 1,400 people gathered together in Nashville hosted by three hotels and the entire event was volunteer driven! It was orchestrated with something you cannot pay professionals to use: compassion. **Volunteer bereaved parents**, that's the only logical explanation I can come up with. I've been to many seminars and conferences but none have been so beautifully put together as this one. I thought of all of you often .. wishing you were with me...dreaming of all the wonderful things we could do at next years conference . . . together! Please take a few minutes to look at next years event and consider coming. While this event will go down in my book as an extraordinary experience I know it could be so much richer if shared with some of my local compassionate friends.

To sum it up, I came home feeling comfortable being who I am. I found myself thankful for being there with so many wonderful compassionate people rich in love and memories. These people were not strangers to me, just friends I had not met yet willing to share their story and able to hear mine. We did not need to be introduced, we all knew who each other were.

I learned a lot about what other chapters are doing and truly feel that there were at least a few things we could easily incorporate into our meetings. Mostly I came away knowing that we are doing a fairly good job in Naples when we take into consideration our "snow bird" membership. Many of the more active chapters are in areas that have a rich heritage and the members live full time in their local area. So, we have a special challenge here, and with that in mind I'm very pleased with our chapter and the commitment some of our "seasoned" grievers have for our local newly bereaved and especially the Candle lighting ceremony.

The first tradition I found touching and so impactful is how many of the presenters introduced themselves. They say, ". . . Hi, I'm David's mother or father. . ." Since then I've done that too and it feels so fulfilling to say that again. It took me several times before I could do it without breaking down into tears. It's just overwhelming ... joyful ... the memories just flood my mind ... in a good way ... try it. We starting incorporating this into our 1st August meeting and it just changes the flow of the meeting completely. We are there to celebrate our children and our parenthood. This introduction, right off the bat, helps each of us to remember that we are not alone.

I have so much more to share and hope to continue to tell all of you a little more at each meeting. The biggest epiphany I had was in the journey of the siblings. Since David was my only child I did not have the very sensitive issue of helping a sibling to learn how to live without their beloved brother or sister. I now realize the importance of our chapter incorporating a way for us to bring the siblings together so they can help each other to know they are not alone. If anyone has a heart for this please let me know.

Love in abundance, Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker

For those of you who would like to share your ideas, growth, insight, stories or poems, please submit your material for the newsletter by the 20th of the month. You may email it or, if you prefer, mail it to my address: 168 Lake Point Lane, Naples, FL 34112. Sincerely, Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker: 239-287-5968



The Compassionate Friends Newsletter  
c/o Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker  
76 Emerald Woods Drive L-12  
Naples, Florida 34108

Compassionate Friends Web Address: [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)  
Regional coordinators: Alice Watts (352) 475-3152 and Jo Thompson (352) 475-1878

Dear Friends: To receive this newsletter by email, which will help us save on the cost of printing and postage, please send an email to me at: [IAgree2b@comcast.net](mailto:IAgree2b@comcast.net). On the subject line insert "TCF Email" Also, the newsletter is posted on our local website, please join: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NaplesCompassionateFriends>

Naples Compassionate Friends meets every first & third Wednesday monthly unless otherwise noted

**MEETING DATES**

**Meeting Topics**

**Book Club**

August	6th	National Conference recap	<b><u>First You Die</u></b> by Marie Levine
	20th	Guilt and Regret	August: Chapters 1-3
September	3rd	Candle Lighting Preparation	September: Chapter 4, 6. and 7
	17th	Anger	
October	1st	Candle Lighting Progress	October: Chapters 5. 9, and 10
	17th	Surviving the holidays	

**Welcome and Sharing Begins @ 7:30 PM**

**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

**(in the youth room #16, Claussen building, behind the church)**

**625 111th Ave. North, North Naples, FL 34108**

At the Immokalee and 41 intersection turn on 111th Ave. (travel toward the beach)

TRAVEL ABOUT 1 MILE AND THE CHURCH IS ON THE RIGHT

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.  
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.