



Compassionate Friends Web Address: [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)  
Regional coordinator: Sally Migliaccio (561)747-2691

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"

TCF meets every first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted

**Upcoming Monday Meetings: June 4, 2007**

July 2, 2007, August 6, 2007, September 3, 2007

**Wednesday meetings will begin in October**

October 3rd and 17th / November 7th and 21st / December 5th and 19th

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

**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

**(in the PLC 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

**\*\*\*New start time!**

June 2007



The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. National Headquarters: P.O. Box 3696, Oak Brook, IL 60622  
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Siblings chat: Wednesdays, 9 p.m. EST: [www.compassionatefriends.org/Chat/chatentrance.html](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/Chat/chatentrance.html)



**Something I found- Father's Day . . .**

by Lisa Sculley

mother of Joey 7/16/92 to 10/7/92

Billy 10/14/87

Michael 7/7/89

I was getting another newsletter together, and came across something I wrote a couple years ago. I know that Father's Day is coming up, and a lot of times it is an "overlooked" special day... even for those of us who "know" how much losing a child hurts. I hope you don't mind me sharing. I guess I am getting ready in my own way to observe that day. I know my husband hurts too on this day.

Date: Thu, 27 May 1999

**Not Allowed To Grieve**

Dads are very special people. They have the ability to fix just about anything. They pull splinters out of fingers, and assemble all the Christmas toys. They bounce us on their knees as babies, and walk us down the aisle as brides. They give us sound advice on how to buy a car, or what type of nail is used to hang pictures. They always seem to know what to do. They never ever falter; they are strong and kind. For a long time, my Dad was Superman in my eyes. When I got married, I searched for those same qualities in my husband. In some areas, my husband never seemed to measure up. He is not talented at building, and please don't ask him to unstop the kitchen sink. But in the important areas, he is a lot like my Dad. He is strong, but gentle. He is a good father, and he works hard.

When I am down, he can help me through almost anything. I honestly thought that nothing could cause him to falter. Then our son died. Right after Joey died, Bill cried freely, and shared his grief with me. But as time went by, he stopped crying. He never talked about his pain. He hid it from everyone around him. I couldn't understand why he didn't hurt just as bad and cry just as much as I did. It made me angry. My Dad reacted in much the same way. He never cried in front of us. Instead, he would go out to the back yard and sit while he cried. He didn't like to talk about Joey, because he was afraid it would make me hurt more. I think it made him hurt too. He was a Rock, just like my husband was. He thought no one saw his pain. This is the fifth Father's Day since my son died, and the second since my father died. I now understand a little better. I know they hurt just as much as I did.

Bill lost his son too. Joey was not just my baby, he was Bill's little boy. My husband will never get to take him fishing, and he will never get to play ball with him. He has lost as much as I have. Dads do much more than pull splinters and fix toys. They give their children unconditional love. Why shouldn't we expect a father to hurt when their child dies? It is all right for a woman to cry and grieve. It is socially unacceptable for a man to grieve. And so, our fathers go on through life, not allowed to grieve.

As bereaved parents, we understand this. We know that men hurt too. We know that Father's Day can be a sad time for many Dads. If you feel sad this Father's Day, that is okay. But try to remember the good times you had too. Even if it only lasted a short while. You are STILL a father.



## Our Children, Loved and Remembered



<i>Birthdates</i>		<i>Anniversary Dates</i>	
Caitlyn Landers Daughter of Don & Sandy Landers	6/02/1998	Katie Raines Daughter of Lenora Raines	6/01/2001
Adrienne R Hernandez Granddaughter of Mario and Cary Perez	6/03/1998	Bo Rogers Son of Kay Howerton	6/23/1991
Phillip Carulli Son of Annette Carulli	6/06/1981		
Betsy Moran Daughter of Patti Moran	6/10/1963		
Justin Taylor Son of Donna Taylor	6/17/1983		
Andrew Morello Son of Andrea & Joe Morello	6/28/1975		

\*\*If we inadvertently missed your child's Birthday, Anniversary Date, or any errors, please accept our deepest apologies. Call us at 287-5968 or email [IAgree2b@comcast.net](mailto:IAgree2b@comcast.net) to make an immediate correction.

### 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 II 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.

### 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**

**Our Mission:** The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age, and to provide information to help others to be supportive.

The Compassionate Friends is a national nonprofit, self-help support organization that offers friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings. There is no religious affiliation and there are no membership dues or fees.

The secret of TCF's success is simple: As seasoned grievers reach out to the newly bereaved, energy that has been directed inward begins to flow outward and both are helped to heal. Please come, bring your hope and energy, and be a Compassionate Friend to another.

### *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.



### ***In Loving Memory of Charity Kepley by Diane Kepley***

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

We are pleased to have partnered with  
*Basket of Kindness* for fundraising.  
We receive 15% of your purchase!

### **A note from our Chapter's new "President" ... We are transitioning our meeting time to begin @ 7:30 PM and from the first Monday monthly to the first and third Wednesday.**

This decision was not an easy one for me to make. After much consideration and many discerning phone calls to and from Compassionate Friends International, I've accepted this awesome responsibility. Whenever anyone takes over a position of leadership members want to know what the new leader's plan is; what is their vision for the group?

**My vision and plan is very simple; to beg all of you for help! ☺**

My journey with this group is still in its infancy. I suffered the loss of my only child, David, on March 9, 2004, just three short years ago. It was all the caring people in our chapter of Compassionate Friends that gave me the tools, love, and unconditional support that eased my pain and illuminated my path ... one month at a time. In January 2006, this dedicated, committed, and awesome group sent out a plea, similar to this one, for help. At that time many of the leaders had been lending their support for many years and really just needed some help and support. Many members stepped up: I accepted the task of the newsletter editor; Patti agreed to be the president; Teresa agreed to remain as the treasurer; Sherri and Helen agreed to assist in mailing the newsletter; Annette, Teresa, and Anne K. agreed to be loving listeners; Kris agreed to attend the National Conference and remains on the Christmas Candle Lighting Committee.

Since then we've experienced many changes. Patti, Anne K., Helen, and now Sherri have all been called to tend to family obligations. This has left Annette to run the meetings and me to tend to the newsletter. Annette only agreed to help with the meetings on a temporary basis, hence my new position and the need to move the meeting time to begin at 7:30 PM and the day to Wednesday.

Please consider helping. We have so many opportunities to help each other. Maybe you could be on the hospitality committee and set up the meeting room with drinks and a goodie. Maybe you have a little time and could send out the newsletter ... or maybe you could write it!! It would be so wonderful to have a community liaison. We need more loving listeners. The Annual Christmas Candle Lighting Event is sneaking up on us and we really need some help with that.

We deserve to have a cohesive group available to lean on. The newly bereaved deserve and need to have a cohesive group to turn to. The bereaved that have dedicated so many years to keeping this group active. They deserve to have their efforts honored.

Your reward for helping is healing. It is healing for you to share with the newly bereaved. It was healing for me to learn that others forgot to shower, like me, in the beginning. It was healing to accept a cup of hot tea with silent understanding. It was healing to find a room in this world filled with compassion and insight. It's been healing for me to serve the bereaved with this newsletter and my presence at meetings. It's been healing to share my experience with the newly bereaved and it's healing when they share their most intimate feelings with me.

I look forward to serving you in this new capacity ... 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**