



The Compassionate Friends

Southwest Florida Chapter Supporting Family After a Child, Sibling or Grandchild Dies

VOL 7, 4TH QUARTER
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: LINDA WALLACE

MONTHLY MEETINGS

2nd Monday of Each Month
Valerie's House Naples
819 Myrtle Terrace, Naples, FL 34103

6:30-8pm

Sunrises of our Chapter's children are read at this meeting.

4th Saturday of Each Month

Unity Church of Bonita Springs
28285 Imperial Pkwy,
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

9:00-10:30 am

Sunsets of our Chapter's children are read at this meeting.

We plan to start our Social Gatherings again in January.

If you have suggestions PLEASE reach out to us.

Sunset/Beach Gatherings

Eating Out

Freedom Waters Boat Ride

The Compassionate Friends
Worldwide Candle Lighting

Join us on December 11, 2022

"...that their light may always shine."



The Compassionate Friends
Southwest Florida Chapter
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Please join us
35th ANNUAL CANDLE LIGHTING
In Person or Virtually via Zoom Webinar

Sunday December 11, 2022

5:45 pm Lite Dinner & Dessert Sharing / 6:45 pm Candle Lighting

We come together in remembrance of our precious Children, Grandchildren and Siblings this time of year for the

****We will again be at****

St. John the Evangelist
625 111th Avenue N, Naples, FL 34108

The Virtual option gives you the opportunity to invite those in your life that would not normally be able to attend the event with you. It is also for those who have moved away or would rather not attend in person. We will need you to indicate this on the RSVP form and include the email so we may send you the link for the Webinar. We will do a "PRACTICE" Zoom Saturday, December 10 to ensure everyone is able to join the Webinar on the day of the event.

RSVP by November 30, 2022

"...because you need not walk alone..."

Chapter Leader

Linda Wallace

Loving Treasurer

Dianne McWilliams

Loving Listener

Kit Daniher

Loving Website Manager

Donna Langer

Loving Button Makers

Allen Wickell

Loving PO Box Checker

Pat Regan

Steering Committee

Members Janet Congero (Rylee & Xavier), Frank & Kit Daniher (Mark), Donna Langer (Jennifer), Dianne McWilliams (Brian), Pat Regan (Timothy), Linda Wallace (Benjamin & Michael), Allen & Tammy Wickell (Zachary)

You can still join but PLEASE reach out to us at info@tcfsfwl.org ASAP

EVENING DETAILS

*****APPETIZER & DESSERT SHARING*****

The Chapter will provide pizzas and wraps.

Please consider bringing something, perhaps a favorite food of your loved ones to share before the candle lighting ceremony. For clean-up convenience, please bring your items in a **disposable** container.

*****The Candle Lighting Program will begin at 6:45 pm*****

*****VERY IMPORTANT - PLEASE RSVP*****

Our candle lighting is a beautiful way to remember our children, grandchildren, and siblings. We want this to be a lovely experience for all. **PLEASE RSVP** if you are joining us in order to eliminate delays the night of the ceremony. We do not want one loved one to be missed and it is difficult to do last minute additions, so we ask for your cooperation in helping us to make this evening run as smoothly as possible.

Virtual Option—once you Register *either by emailing us at info@tcfsfwl.org or mailing in your RSVP form* you will be emailed a "Registration Link" to be an attendee. As an attendee you will be able to view, listen and send messages in the chat box. Unlike a Zoom meeting you will not be seen on the video or able to speak. A "Practice" Zoom will be done on Saturday, December 10 time TBD to ensure everyone is able to join.

*****SLIDE SHOW PICTURES*****

If you would like your loved one's picture displayed in the slide show while their name is being read, please email their picture to info@tcfsfwl.org. If you choose to mail your picture(s) with your RSVP, please ensure that your child's name is printed legibly on the picture and that it arrives by **November 30, 2022**, so that we have time to include it in the presentation. If you have sent pictures in a previous year, you do not need to send them again.

*****GIFT CARD GIVING*****

We will again be donating gift cards to Valerie's House. Valerie's House is an organization that works with children who are grieving, and they have given us a place in Naples to hold our monthly meetings. Suggestions for cards would be Visa or Master-Card, Target, Walmart, Starbucks, Panera, Chick-fil-a, Chipotle, etc. But whatever kind of card you care to give, we are asking for you to attach your loved one's name to it. It is purely discretionary, so please, participate only if you choose to. Any amount gift card is appreciated. The cards can be brought to the Candle Lighting or mailed directly to Valerie's House. Their mailing address is 819 Myrtle Terrace, Naples, FL 34103

*****GALLERY OF REMEMBRANCE*****

Each year we set up a table for our "Gallery of Remembrance".

We invite you to bring a picture of your loved one to display during the ceremony. Please remember to pick it up on your way home.



Phone a Compassionate Friend

Need someone to talk to? We are not counselors but we do understand in a way others do not. These people have volunteered to be available to you. We have listed the ages of their children and the circumstances they have experienced. You can call any of them as they are all Compassionate Friends

Mark Hutchison, 239-825-0230 son Patrick, 19 years old, died from shot gun

Linda Merced, 239 848-2601, lost 2 sons, Christian J., 26 years old brain blood hemorrhage & James C. 2 1/2 years old, heart

Caren Plotkin 239-273-6106 daughter Shelli 26 years old died from brain tumor

Donna Goldstein 239-676-1825, son Mark died at 28 from alcoholism

Marissa Zapatka 978-551-0684, sister Amber died at 27 from a motorcycle accident

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 11th - Candle Lighting, In Person @ St. Johns & Virtual
- Dec 12th - Chptr Mtg Valerie's House, 6:30pm
- Dec 26th - Chptr Mtg Untiy 9am
- Jan 19th - Social Gathering- Beach/Sunset TBD
- Jan 28th - Chptr Mtg Unity 9am
- Chapter Walk of Remembrance TBA
- July 7-9 National TCF Conference, Denver, Colorado
- Be sure to check our website for more information about upcoming events!

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OUR CHILDREN LOVED & REMEMBERED

SUNRISES

OCTOBER

- 1st - **Keala Howard** daughter of Robert Howard
- 2nd - **Michael Scott Jones** grandson of Dale & George Encinosa
son of Beth Fromm
- 2nd - **Kevin Patrick Phelps** son of Nancy (Doug) Kelly Andy
(Linda) Phelps
- 3rd - **Tanner Cullen Browning** son of Thad Browning
- 3rd - **William E. Buckley** son of Thomas & Sharon Buckley
- 4th - **Ashley Erin Kelly** daughter of Tom & Sherri Kelly
- 8th - **Glenn Boggio** brother of Larry Boggio
- 9th - **Heidi Schmidt** daughter of Dick & Elda Schmidt,
- 9th - **Frank Rahilly** brother of June Congero
- 10th - **Christopher Davis** son of Ron & Judy Davis
- 11th - **Eric Daniel Brown** son of Zaida Brown, brother of Rachel
- 13th - **Marc Charles Krantz** son of Byron & Joan Krantz
- 18th - **Remmy Bumsted** son of Patti & Roy Bumsted
- 18th - **Mike Cummings** son of Mary Cummings
- 19th - **Jeffrey David Metcalfe** son of David & Janet Metcalfe
- 21st - **Charles David Kuntz** son of Charles & Marilyn Kuntz
- 22nd - **Clint Beatty** son of Karen Lutgen Beatty
- 24th - **Melissa Carolyn Heinly** daughter of Sharon Matson
- 24th - **Dawn DePoalo** daughter of Bill Cloak
- 25th - **Kamyn Jodeci** son of Teresa Bright
- 25th - **Michael Edward Norris** son of Susan Stielow
- 25th - **Steva Elizabeth Maram** daughter of Carol & Barry Maram
- 29th - **Jonathan Guffey** son of Rebecca Guffey

NOVEMBER

- 1st - **Dean** son of Ozzie & Marcia Santos
- 1st - **Marc David Magrone** son of Michael & Dianne Magrone
- 3rd - **Joy Elizabeth Barley** daughter of Donna Barley
- 3rd - **Phil Santos** son of Ozzie & Marcia Santos
- 8th - **Siva R. Krishna** son of Rao & Devi Karkarala
- 8th - **Charlie Boggio** son of Larry & Lucy Boggio
- 9th - **Maximillian Raymond Krumm** son of Laura & Terry
Krumm
- 9th - **Michelle Lynn Smith** daughter of Carole & William Kerr
- 10th - **"Brud" Utman** brother of Is Cloak
- 11th - **Corey Lee Lattimore** son of Jodee Banter, grandson of
Marcia & Bill Martin
- 12th - **Evan Weeks** son of Robin & Jim Weeks
- 13th - **Barry Alan Belyea** son of Sue W. Bernier
- 13th - **Collin Michael Creed** son of Terese Walker
- 16th - **Michael Paul Potter** son of Art & Carolyn Potter
- 20th - **Kalin Marie King** daughter of Edie & Tom King
- 20th - **Jonathan Richard Yurewitch** son of Margie & John
Yurewitch
- 21st - **Robert Owen Davis** son of Renne & Charles Davis

NOVEMBER-Cont'd

- 23rd - **Steven Eric Kurtz** brother of Susie Kurtz, son of Marge
Kurtz
- 23rd - **Andrew Carr Howard** son of Mary Moran
- 23rd - **Thomas Joseph Lane** son of William & Elizabeth Lane
Brother of Emma, Christian, Kathleen, Billy, Chris, Devin
& Brooklyn
- 25th - **Robert Eugene "Gene" Doyle, Jr.** son of Robin & Kris
Doyle
- 27th - **Danny Costa** son of Nile Castro Costa
- 29th - **Nathan Eldon Baker** son of Bill & Jo Baker

DECEMBER

- 1st - **Michael Lawrence Weinstein** son of Christine &
Matthew Weinstein, brother of Katie & Timmy
- 3rd - **Dr. Erik Jon Stumpf** son of Dr. John & Donna Stumpf
- 5th - **Shea Juliet Maurer** daughter of DeAnna Testasecca
- 7th - **Spencer Roger Serban** son of Darvin & Theresa Owens-
Beach
- 9th - **Daniel T. Giampa** son of Joel & Cathy Giampa
- 10th - **Jennifer Mahar Jenkins** daughter of Sharon Mahar, sister
of Melissa Ringer
- 10th - **Jessica Leigh Skelnik** daughter of Lisa Anne Merkle
- 11th - **Daniella Alexander Pantoja** sister of Jennifer Pantoja
- 11th - **Joshua Alan Smith** son of Mike & Shauna Smith-Laughlin
- 12th - **Roy "Bo" Austin Rogers, Jr.** son of Kay Howerton
- 12th - **Rebecca J. Moots** daughter of Patricia McCurdy
- 14th - **Tara Heidi Simenauer Pond** daughter of Jackie Simenauer
- 14th - **Kristie Nicole Donlon** daughter of Jean Wilson
- 15th - **Linda Petrillo** daughter of Connie & John Petrillo
- 16th - **Noah Samuel Grindstaf Costa** son of Robin Hurdle
- 16th - **Doug Miller** son of Curt & Doreen Miller
- 17th - **Kyle Aaron Armantrout** son of Freddie & Tammy
Armantrout
- 18th - **Richard Waltermire** son of Harry & Jane Waltermire
- 19th - **Adrian "AJ" Ruiz** son of Holly Vingson & the late Carlos
Ruiz, grandson of Jonathan & Kelley Vingson
- 20th - **Christian & Joshua DeMello** sons of Paul DeMello
- 22nd - **Adam German** son of Nancy German Crosby & Donald
Crosby
- 22nd - **Marc Anthony Jacques** son of Alana & James Maloney
- 22nd - **Keith Sexton** son of Tim & Ginny Sexton
- 22nd - **Peter Santeusanio III** son of Gerry & George Curtin
- 24th - **Scott Labuziensi** son of Joe & Sue Labuziensi
- 24th - **Ronnie Sauce, Jr.** son of the late Ron & Pat Sauce, brother
of Shelly Olsen
- 27th - **Justin Stephen Baker** son of Nancy Mendell
- 31st - **Aaron Nelson Swerdloff** son of Jack Swerdloff,
brother of Jada

OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

SUNSETS

OCTOBER

- 2nd - **Theodore Albeurson Lutz** son of Jill Johnston
3rd- **Jesse James Watlington** son of Alda & Chuck Watlington
4th - **John Dressel** brother of Marcia Martin
5th - **Camilla Piedra** daughter of Marco & Ivonne Piedra
10th - **Daniel Rivera Carvajal** son of Roger & Beatriz Filipiak
12th - **Gloria Marzano** daughter of Victor & Eleanor Marzano
14th - **Sean Joseph Farley** son of Joanne & Tim Farley
15th - **Tanya Rane Mitchell** daughter of Teresa & Dennis Mitchell
17th - **Brandon Garner** son of Rod & Barbara Garner
17th - **James Guffey** son of Rebecca Guffey
17th - **Christian J. Santos-Merced** son of Linda Merced
18th - **Carrie Blessing** Keith daughter of Joan & the late Norbert Blessing
28th - **Jeffrey "Jeff" Paul Kaup** son of Deborah & Ed Kaup
30th - **James L. Duffany** son of Marcia & Joe Dehnick
30th - **Brianna N. Dwyer** daughter of Karen N. Dwyer, Phd.
30th - **Doug James Kozar** son of Kathy & Russell Kozar
31st - **Richard Earl "Richie" Marquis** grandson of Sue W. Bernier, son of Linda Belyea Spurlock

NOVEMBER

- 1st - **Mark Stephen Cooledge** son of Shirley & the late John Cooledge
1st - **Robert Richard Trimble**, brother of Kit Daniher
8th - **Troy Goode** son of Sally & Jimmy Jones
9th - **Maureen Lynne Blackburn** daughter of Lois & Mike Blackburn
9th - **Michelle Lynn Smith** daughter of Carole & William Kerr
10th - **William E. Buckley** son of Thomas & Sharon Buckley
10th - **Oliver Axer** son of Margarethe Neumann
12th - **Zoran Curic-Krulj** son of Silvana & Goran Krulj
13th - **Kyle D. Rand** son of Glen & Rosemarie Roberts
14th - **Scott Labuziensi** son of Joe & Sue Labuziensi
14th - **Jeffrey David Metcalfe** son of David & Janet Metcalfe
14th - **Adrian "AJ" Ruiz** son of Holly Vingson & the late Carlos Ruiz, grandson of Jonathan & Kelley Vingson
14th - **Perry Bracuti** son of Norman & Elayne Planer
14th - **Michael Edward Norris** son of Susan Stielow
16th - **Kent Daniel Durante** son of Betsy Durante
17th - **Robert Eugene "Gene" Doyle, Jr.** son of Robin & Kris Doyle
19th - **Jeffrey Charles Basso** son of Joseph & Catherine Madigan
23rd - **Noah Costa** son of Robin Hurdle
23rd - **Shea Juliet Maurer** daughter of DeAnna Testasecca
24th - **Carol Kennedy Lakes** sister of Margie Kennedy Yurewitch
24th - **Joy Elizabeth Barley** daughter of Donna Barley

NOVEMBER –Cont'd

- 24th - **Betsy Moran** daughter of Patti Moran
25th - **Doug Miller** son of Curt & Doreen Miller
25th - **Matthew Zeccardi** son of Gina Zeccardi
27th - **Matheus Flor** son of Marcia & Bill Flor
27th - **Scott David Kurland** son of Janis & Marty Wolfson
30th - **Courtney A. Leopold** daughter of Clayton Leopold

DECEMBER

- 3rd - **Mindy Marzano** daughter of Eleanor & Victor Marzano
7th - **Hugo Castro** son of Nile Castro Costa
8th - **David Valentine Schultz III** son of Pam Schultz
8th - **Glenn Boggio** brother of Larry Boggio
9th - **Christopher Davis** son of Ron & Judy Davis
10th - **Heidi Schmidt** daughter of Dick & Elda Schmidt
11th - **Corey Lee Lattimore** son of Jodee Banter, grandson of Marcia & the late Bill Martin
11th - **Cory Gotti** grandson of Is Cloak
12th - **Stephanie Lorraine Billings Williams** daughter of Sharon H. Billings
12th - **Adrienne Renee Hernandez** daughter of Marcy & Jeff Sagorac, Granddaughter of Caridad & Mario Perez
14th - **Cash Phoenix Gettys** son of Christina Humphries
14th - **Chelsea Mae Sewall** daughter of DeeDee & John Methot
16th - **Daniel Joseph Quinn** son of Mary Jo Landers
16th - **Kimberly Ann Kinkle** daughter of Al & Debbie Kinkle
17th - **Isaiah Laguerre** son of Shinotte & Andre Laguerre
18th - **Tatha Carli** son of Nanci Lochne
18th - **Barbara Lee Jones** daughter of Mary Young
20th - **Siva Rama Krishna** son of Rao & Devi Kakarla
21st - **Adam German** son of Nancy German Crosby & Donald J. Crosby
21st - **Jeffrey Edward Gonzalez** son of Roberta Gonzalez
22nd - **Robert Own Davis** son of Charles & Renee Davis
23rd - **Andrew "Drew" Chatham Eisiminger** son of Debra & Ken Rock
24th - **Phillip J. Carulli** son of Annette Carulli
24th - **Christopher Daly** son of John & Naomi Daly
25th - **Andy Edds** son of Jeannie & Vance Hart
26th - **Dell Merryman** son of JoAnn Brown
27th - **Steven Eric Kurtz** son of Marge Kurtz, brother of Susie Kurtz
28th - **Marc Charles Krantz** son of Byron & Joan Krantz
30th - **Nicole Lorraine Chapman** daughter of Janet & Ron Chapman
30th - **Jennifer Mahar Jenkins** daughter of Sharon Mahar, sister of Melissa Ringer

If we have "missed" your loved one or made any errors in information we sincerely apologize or if you would prefer not to have your loved one's name listed here please contact us at our email or visit our Website under "Resource" fill out updated member form so we can honor all of our children, grandchildren & siblings

PARENTS: *When the Couldas, Shouldas, and Wouldas Intrude on Grief*

by Shari Billington Busha



Brandon was the first to call me mom. His death was the rebirth of my new life. I never woulda thought losing a child would find its way into my life.

All 8lbs 10oz. of Brandon Michael laid in my arms. My heart was smitten with love for this boy instantaneously. In my mind's eye I could see my plans for him. A sweet baby, a good student, a hard worker, and a well adjusted adult... an adult that would outlive me. But an addict? Never was that in my plan. I had absolutely no experience with addiction. The dreaded wouldas appeared in the teenage years. I never woulda thought addiction would come to know my boy. Endless nights of not knowing where Brandon was, wondering if he was ok when phone rang at 2 a.m., pacing the living room at 3 a.m.: "Should I make some calls to see if he can be found?" I was sick with worry, guilt, and fear. What did I do wrong? And then that call came, it was a police officer: "Is this Shari? Remain at home, again remain at home, we are sending a state patrol car to you." My world was about to change in the worst way a parent could imagine. Tears. Sobs. That same heart that was smitten with love was instantaneously beating outside of my body. "Please God don't let my boy be gone, please!" February 17, 2001 was the last day Brandon had breath on this earth. Not only was he gone, he was also the drunk driver.

It took me years to be able to say that my son lost his life to his own drunk driving. In my intense pain of grieving, shame crept in. I love this boy. He'd made me a mom. I began to wonder what other people would think if they knew he died by his own drunk driving? Would they say, "Well, what did you expect? He was driving drunk, he deserved death!" Then I began asking myself: "What if I woulda been a better mom, what if I coulda saved my marriage with his dad? What if I woulda known more about addiction... maybe I coulda loved him more and better." My deepest fear was that some people would think Brandon wasn't worthy of my grieving. I knew I could not tolerate the thought that my boy was not worthy of my grief. His death was the beginning of my rebirth. The journey began and continues today.

Admitting my guilt was one step toward a new life. Along with admission of guilt and recognition of my old friends shouda, woulda, and coulda, paved the way to freedom. I learned to love more deeply, and to sympathize with the pain of others. Most of all I learned to be free to know my boy was worthy of my shattered heart regardless of the stigmas surrounding addiction. I learned addiction is a thief of life. Brandon was not defined by his addiction, he was kind, he was smart, he looked out for the underdog, and he was gentle. As parents, we are human. We love, we get angry, we say and do the wrong things and the right things, we make mistakes, and we love our babies no matter what. Life is messy, painful, and beautiful... all rolled into one.

Take a minute, say hello to your shouldas your couldas, and your wouldas. Now, tell them, "Thanks for stoppin in". It's time to tell them goodbye, as your heart begins to remember you loved your child with everything in you! You did the best you could with the tools you had and the time you were given.

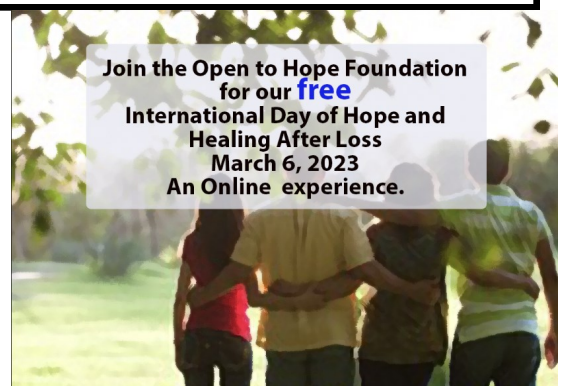
Dear ones please know your grief is love. You grieve because your heart also was smitten with love for that baby of yours, no matter how old they were when they left this life.

You need not walk alone.



This wonderful organization is a great resource with so many podcasts and other things. We encourage you to check them out.

Join the Open to Hope Foundation
for our **free**
International Day of Hope and
Healing After Loss
March 6, 2023
An Online experience.



Siblings

Siblings Walking Together

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 will need the support of our friends. At other times we need our families to be there. Sometimes we must walk alone, taking our memories with us, continuing 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 the responsibility to be strong even when we feel weak. Yet we can go on because we understand better than many others the value of family and the precious gift of life. Our goal is not to be the forgotten mourners that we sometimes are, but to walk together to face our tomorrows as surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends.

Grandparents

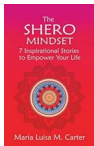
Grief and the Family

Because each person's grief journey is unique, many bereaved grandparents find they are grieving much differently than their spouse and other family members. Grief can affect the family dynamic, as everyone processes their grief at different speeds and in different ways. Each grandparent had their own relationship with their grandchild and will likely have their own way of grieving as well, which may create added stress within the family relationships. There is no right or wrong way to grieve and there are no time tables. Communication, understanding and patience with one another are critical while on the grief journey.

The Grief of Grandparents TCF Brochure

Foundations & Donations

Each quarter we will give the detailed information the first time we are made aware of a foundation, book or cause in honor of your child, grandchild or sibling and then add to our running list. Please send the information to: info@tcfswfl.org



Our Suzy, Nicholas, Tyler & Tony's mom, Madison's Mom in love has written a chapter in this powerful book that will be available on Amazon, January 17. She has graciously given the chapter a copy we will add to our library so let us know if you'd like to read it.

Others we know of are: www.stevermmlerhopefoundation.org www.safehealthychildren.org
www.genedoyle.org www.lightningfoundation.org www.butterfliesofhope.com
www.safehealthychildren.org/category/water-safty/life-jacket-loaner-program

The Jonathan Yurewitch Memorial Fund is set up at the Fifth Third Bank under that name

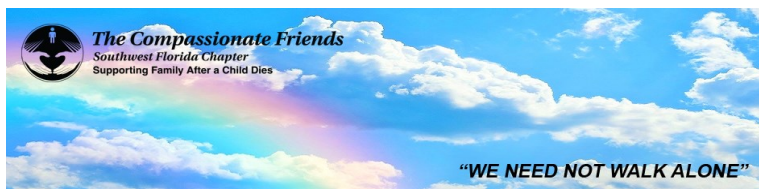
The House of Hope CDC remarkable Music Room infor@thehouseofhopecdc.org

On FACEBOOK search for Ethan and Lily Foundation, Butterflies of Hope, The Mighty Mikey Foundation, Brook's Legacy Animal Rescue, Just Against Drowning

Book-"Blessings From Andy" written by Andy's mom Mary Crook Moran, available on Amazon

THANK YOU ALL- To everyone who has supported the chapter through monetary donations. This makes it possible for us to continue to be available to grieving families so "WE NEED NOT WALK ALONE"

Thoughts for Surviving the Holidays-these are "suggestions", bear in mind what you need to do this year may change from year to year... *Call a family meeting and discuss your plans for the holiday season, understanding that it would be unusual for you not to feel emotionally, physically, and psychologically drained. Try not to set your expectations too high.*Well-intending friends and family may want to include you in their plans, believing it best for you to "get away" from grieving your loss. They do not understand that you cannot escape the grief that you feel. There is no obligation to say "yes". Only participate if you truly want to and have an "escape" plan. Perhaps drive separately incase you want to leave at any point. *Alan Pedersen often states in his workshops that if you invite him you are also inviting his daughter Ashley who died and his grief, all part of the package. *Take time to do the things you as a person want to do. You may want time alone to reflect or to write your thoughts. *It is ok to do "less" baking, decorating celebrating, etc, *Light a candle at family activities *Play music that is comforting to you, or Don't play music if it hurts you. *Ask others to share memories of your loved one *Be Kind to yourself. *It is okay to cry



The Compassionate Friends Southwest FL Chapter
P.O. Box 112524
Naples, FL 34108

Chapter Phone: 239-690-7801
Chapter E-mail: info@tcfswfl.org
We have a PRIVATE Facebook Page email us
for an invitation to join the group

WWW.TCFSWFL.ORG

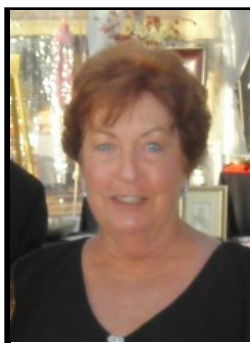
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Our Mission

The mission of The Compassionate Friends: When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and

Note from the Editor: This is YOUR newsletter! We want to make this more personal by sharing our stories, our pain, and our successes. If you have things to share or suggestions please send us an

TIME HAS PROVEN THAT IN CARING AND SHARING COMES HEALING: The words of TCF's Founder, Simon Stephens, resonate with those who have come to The Compassionate Friends hoping to find a purpose in a life that suddenly seems so empty. Whether your family has had a child die (at any age, from any cause) or you are trying to help those who have gone through this life altering experience, The Compassionate Friends exists to provide friendship, understanding, and hope to those going through the natural grieving process.



Our precious Kit Daniher Mark's mom, passed away on December 1, 2022. She will be so greatly missed. We will let you know about services when we know more. Thank you Kit for all you have done over these last 9 years. She was our phone person and for many the first contact after their loss. Her bright eyes, brilliant smile and loving hugs helped us all.

**SAVE THE DATE: 46TH NATIONAL
TCF CONFERENCE,
DENVER CO
JULY 7-9 2023**



TCF is pleased to announce that Denver, Colorado, will be the site of the 46th TCF National Conference on July 7-9, 2023. Everyone who has attended a previous Conference will tell you it is an amazing experience. We'll keep you updated with details on the national website as well as on our TCF/USA Facebook Page as they become available. Plan to come and be a part of this heart-

Our Neighbor Chapters: TCF Lee County, Meeting 1 & 3 Monday evening @ 6:30pm, Refuge Church, 1901 Brantley Rd, Fort Myers, 33907, (239)896-5383 tcfleecounty@gmail.com

TCF Fort Myers/Cape Coral, Meeting 3rd Monday evening monthly @ 7pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, 2691 NE Pine Island Rd, Cape Coral, 33900, 978-671-5386 tcffortmyersfl@gmail.com

The Compassionate Friends National Office, PO Box 3696, Oak Brook, IL 60522, (877) 969-0010 www.compassionatefriends.org
nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org

Sibling Representative National Board of Directors-Cindy Tart, Dennis's Sister flossiemay4771@gmail.com

SW Florida Regional Coordinator-Linda Wallace ljwallace16@yahoo.com