



The Compassionate Friends

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

VOL 8 QUARTERS 1 & 2
JANUARY - JUNE 2017
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: LINDA WALLACE

THANK YOU CHRISSY HUTCHISON



Chrissy has served as our loving, amazing, dedicated Chapter Co-Leader from January 2015 until her term just recently ended in December of 2017. Her husband Mark (who wouldn't take the title, but certainly did the job) worked tirelessly by her side. For many of us who came to The Compassionate Friends during these years, our grieving process was lovingly guided by Mark & Chrissy even though they were just grieving parents themselves. They can never be adequately thanked for the safety they provided the rest of us, meeting after meeting, month after month, with all the multitude of things they did and shared during this time. Just "some" of the things they organized and created are: Assembling the TCF Chapter book where we keep records of events, vendors, various guidelines from the National office etc. She entered each of our member information sheets into our new ACT Database 290 of them and these are in 3 binders.

Chrissy will be the first to admit she loves to "shop" online so she got busy getting us Brochures from National on all the different subjects of grief, beautiful business cards, Outreach postcards, Mourners Passes and our Remembrance Bracelets. After the materials arrived and through online observation of TCF support areas she assembled our Welcome Packets that we give to the bereaved who visit a chapter meeting or request one before attending. Fundraising was another passion of Chrissy's and they organized our annual Walk of Remembrance that we hold at the North Collier Park for the 3rd time in 2017. Painting with a Twist was another great fundraiser that not only raised \$ but allowed our members to do something socially where there was a lot of laughter and love. Speaking of social-Guys and Girls Nights Out every month are another of her passions. The vision for the Chapter having it's own Button Maker was hers and she fulfilled our Chapter getting a paving stone at the Golisano Children's Museum honoring our Chapters "kids". She and Mark also sponsored a stone for each of the previous Chapter Leaders who have served with their child's name included. Our 2016 Steering Committee has sponsored one in Chrissy's honor.

As Chapter members, we realize what a gift was given to us when they opened themselves up with all their pain in order that we might understand that we are not crazy or alone in the hell we were living, and it was their style of leadership that allowed us to feel safe to share our stories.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, from the very depths of our souls for making it so No One Walks Alone. We love you and are keeping you in our thoughts and hearts. Many hugs!

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/sibling 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

Frank Daniher 239-287-1559, son Mark died at 47 as the result of medical errors made after heart surgery

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS

2nd Monday of Each Month

YMCA Naples

5450 YMCA Rd, Naples, FL 34109

7:00-8:30 pm

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 also have two "Go Out to Eat Groups"

Girls Night Out 1st Tuesday of each month locations change check our Meetup or Facebook page 6 pm

Guys Night 2nd Thursday of the month at Ruby Tuesdays, 8777 Tamiami Trail N, Naples 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 10 Chptr Mtg, YMCA, 7pm**
- **July 22 Chptr Mtg, Unity, 9am**
- **July 28-30 National TCF Conference, Orlando, FL**
- **July 30 Virtual Walk to Remember 8:30 am**
- **Painting TBD**
- **Beach Dinner @ Bonita Bay TBA**
- **Dec 10 Candle Lighting Event**
- **Be sure to check our website for more information about upcoming events!**

OUR LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

SUNRISES

JANUARY

- 1st - **Kimberly Ann Nowak** daughter of Cynthia Meyer & David Roney
1st - **Ian Forrest Kirk** grandson of John & Wilba Wallace
1st - **Daniel Joseph Quinn** son of Mary Jo Landers
3rd - **John McVey** son of Judy McVey
4th - **Scarlett Sponseller** granddaughter of Deborah Elkins
7th - **Anthony Ray Baker** son of Mary Baker
7th - **Mark Evan Shepherd** son of Patrica Sala & Larry Aguilar
12th - **Ziven Dabrowski** son of Sharon Bruckman
12th - **Michele Dawn Kafka** daughter of Harriet & Bruce Cole
14th - **Brianna Dwyer** daughter of Karen Dwyer
15th - **David Seth Cohen** son of George & Trina Cohen
15th - **Christopher Daly** son of John & Naomi Daly
15th - **Matthew "Matt" Woods** son of John & Bitsy Woods
15th - **Eliza Nicole Pina** daughter of Vilma & Carlos Pina
18th - **Daniel Friedman Everham** son of Karyn & Win Everham
20th - **Michael Danos** son of Harry & Kitty Danos
21st - **Katie Raines** daughter of Lenora Raines
21st - **Lori Testa** daughter of Linda & Phil Sudia
22nd - **Darren Michael Saucier** son of Betsy O'Neil
23rd - **Xavier James Andersen** son of James Andersen & Janet Congero, grandson of Joe & June Congero, brother of Andrew (Drew) Andersen
23rd - **Scott Alan Nelson** son of Wayne & Annie Nelson
23rd - **Tyler A. Thompson** son of Robert & Jill Thompson
24th - **Carolyn Diann Gralewski** daughter of Richard & Phyllis Gralewski
24th - **Lily Herrera** daughter of Jorge Herrera, sister of AJ Herrera
24th - **Robert Neinas** son of Pam Arsenault-Craig & Jim Craig
29th - **Tatha Carli** son of Nanci Lochner
29th - **Bert Buede, Jr.** son of Josette & Bert Buede

FEBRUARY

- 2nd - **Nastassia Rawls** daughter of Gregory Rawls
2nd - **Martin Angel Creed** son of Kris Creed
4th - **Rachel Ann Helton** daughter of Jackie Starkloff
5th - **Paul David Gray** son of Karen Bothwell
5th - **Rylee Andersen** daughter of James Andersen & Janet Congero, granddaughter of Joe & June Congero, sister of Andrew (Drew) Andersen
8th - **Maureen Lynne Blackburn** daughter of Lois & Mike Blackburn
8th - **Griffin Daniel Shaw** son of Susan & Dennis Shaw
10th - **Ethan Herrera** son of Jorge Herrera, brother of AJ Herrera
11th - **Christian Vincent Castaldo** son of Lorraine & Gennaro Castaldo
14th - **Fred Thomas** son of Twyla Kundmann
15th - **Kris Sudia** daughter of Linda & Phil Sudia
21st - **Matthew Zeccardi** son of Gina Zeccardi
22nd - **Richard B. Burress** son of Richard & Anita Burress
24th - **Amber Dawn Phillips** daughter of Mary Phillips
24th - **Zoran Curic-Krulj** son of Silvana & Goran Krulj

February Cont'd

- 27th - **Brian C. McWilliams** son of Dianne & John McWilliams
28th - **Brendan Todd Hunt** son of Liz Cole & Henry Pruitt
28th - **Daniel L. Jacoby** son of Carol Jacoby

March

- 1st - **Ryan MacNeil Ulrich** son of Anne Ulrich Donahue & Jack Donahue
1st - **Nester Kratz** son of Valerie Kratz
2nd - **Jason Forbes** brother of Tommy Forbes, son of Dorothy Forbes
3rd - **Jose F. Cuevas** son of Ana Cuevas
5th - **Bethania Rossi** daughter of Barbara A. Schaffer
6th - **Michael Gerenstein** son of Marilyn & Barry Gerenstein
7th - **Michale Szwed** son of Doug & Barb Szwed
8th - **Ian Stanley McFarlane** son of Leslie Bruner
12th - **DawnMarie Gerenstein** daughter of Marilyn & Barry Gerenstein
12th - **Jason Forbes** son of Dorothy Forbes, brother of Tommy Forbes
13th - **Patrick Allan Hutchison** son of Mark & Chrissy Hutchison, brother of Bryttany Hutchison-Palmore
13th - **Sean Joseph Farley** son of Joanne & Tim Farley
15th - **Molly Moran** daughter of Patti Moran
16th - **Timothy Patrick Regan** son of Jerry & Patricia Regan
17th - **Christopher Allen Mobley** son of Bob & Alicia Mobley
17th - **Michael Duane Wallace** son of Linda & Ben Wallace, brother of Amanda & Annie Wallace
18th - **Victoria Marzano** daughter of Eleanor & Victor Marzano
21st - **Timothy Taylor** son of Richard & Cheryl Taylor
22nd - **Cody Brian Collins** son of Richard Collins
25th - **Kane Lee Mills** son of Mary Mills
25th - **Wendy Ann Murphy Burke** daughter of Bill & Nancy Murphy
25th - **Kylie S. Hawkins** daughter of Brenda Hawkins
26th - **Michael G Joyce III** son of Maureen & Mike Joyce
27th - **Matthew Christian Haller** son of Cindy & Tim Haller
27th - **John Lyle Jerovsek Jr** son of Madge Jerovsek
28th - **Brooke Ashley Miller** daughter of Tink Bechtol
28th - **Jose F. Cuevas** son of Ana Cuevas
29th - **James L. Duffany** son of Marcia & Joe Dehnick
29th - **Lisa Pallerino** daughter of Stephanie & Donald Pallerino

I'm Beginning

I'm beginning to know your children
From the things I heard you tell.
From the pictures that you've brought here
I think I know them well
Our hurt and sorrow are immense
I'm not sure where to start.
Compassion after all is
Your Pain in my heart.
My thanks to you for listening
To words wrung from my soul.
We are The Compassionate Friends

OUR LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

SUNSETS

JANUARY

- 3rd - **Jason Balcom** son of Pamela Balcom
3rd - **Matthew "Matt" Woods** son of John & Bitsy Woods
4th - **Keala Howard** daughter of Robert Howard
5th - **Brendan Todd Hunt** son of Liz Cole & Henry Pruitt
5th - **Daniel Friedman Everham** son of Karyn & Win Everham
9th - **Tyler Kelce** son of Scott & Suzy Nania Kelce
10th - **Rylee Andersen** daughter of James Andersen & Janet Congero, granddaughter of Joe & June Congero, brother of Andrew (Drew) Andersen
10th - **Marc Anthony Jacques** son of Alana & James Maloney
10th - **Gretchen Guenther** daughter of Janet & Michael Guenther
12th - **Paul David Gray** son of Karen Bothwell
12th - **Joseph "Joe" Mark McCann** son of Lynne McCann
15th - **Michael G. Craig** son of Denny M. Craig
15th - **Keith Andrew Wilkie** son of Bill & Lynn Wilkie
18th - **Debbie Couture** daughter of Julia & Jack Turesky
19th - **Richard B. Burress** son of Richard & Anita Burress
22nd - **Wendy Ann Murphy Burke** daughter of Bill & Nancy Murphy
24th - **Lily Herrera** daughter of Jorge Herrera, sister of AJ Herrera
24th - **Ethan Herrera** son of Jorge Herrera, brother of AJ Herrera
25th - **Mark Evan Shepherd** son of Patrica Sala & Larry Aguilar
26th - **Shelli Plotkin** daughter of Ron & Caren Plotkin
26th - **Michale Szwed** son of Doug & Barb Szwed

February

- 1st - **Danielle Chapman** daughter of Daniel Chapman
1st - **Andrew Morello** son of Andrea & Joe Morello
1st - **Kimberly Ann Nowak** daughter of Cynthia Meyer & David Roney
3rd - **Ziven Dabrowski** son of Sharon Bruckman
4th - **Benjamin Carl Wallace** son of Linda & Ben Wallace, brother of Amanda & Annie Wallace
4th - **John Lyle Jerovsek Jr.** son of Madge Jerovsek
5th - **Phil Antonio Santos** son of Ozzie & Marcia Santos
7th - **Kylie S. Hawkins** daughter of Brenda Hawkins
12th - **Jessica Leigh Skelnik** daughter of Lisa Shanks
14th - **Rebecca J. Moots** daughter of Patricia Trumps
18th - **Mark David Broman Goldstein** son of Donna & Richard Goldstein
18th - **Robert Neinas** son of Pam Arsenault-Craig & Jim Craig
20th - **Remmy Bumsted** son of Patti & Roy Bumsted
22nd - **Nastassia Rawls** daughter of Gregory Rawls
22nd - **Daniel Patrick Jacoby** son of Carol Jacoby
26th - **Charles David Kuntz** son of Charles & Marilyn Kuntz

March

- 1st - **Greg B. Williams** son of Lloyd & Judy Williams
1st - **Andrew G. Milne** brother of Tracy Milne
4th - **Ronnie Sauce, Jr.** son of Ron & Pat Sauce, brother of Shelly Olsen
5th - **Mike Cummings** son of Mary Cummings
5th - **Darren Michael Saucier** son of Betsy O'Neil
6th - **Deena Leanne Moore** daughter of Doreen & Bruce "Jake" Fogerty
6th - **Steven Thomas** son of Twyla Kundmann
7th - **Tanya Lake** daughter of Elizabeth Lake
7th - **Tyler McKay Longoria** son of Shelly Pedersen
8th - **Bert Buede, Jr.** son of Josette & Bert Buede
9th - **David Xavier Michael Nonamaker, Jr.** son of Anne Arbelaez
9th - **Molly Moran** daughter of Patti Moran
9th - **Michael Paul Potter** son of Art & Carolyn Potter
10th - **Christopher D'Agata** son of Tom & Benita Lauri
10th - **Blake Vincent Montague** son of Renay & Scott Montague
11th - **Zachary Tyler Wickell** son of Allen & Tammy Wickell
12th - **Nathaniel "Nate" Ketcham** son of Deborah Ketcham
13th - **Joshua Alan Smith** son of Mike & Shauna Smith-Laughlin
15th - **Christopher Wayne Mann** son of Marsha Mann
16th - **Bryan Steven Hettrick** son of Carolyn Gooden
16th - **Bethania Rossi** daughter of Barbara A. Schaffer
17th - **Michael Duane Wallace** son of Linda & Ben Wallace, brother of Amanda & Annie Wallace
19th - **Rachel Louise Brown** daughter of Susan & Michael Brown
20th - **Amanda Jane Bolten** daughter of Brenda Baker
20th - **Patrick Allan Hutchison** son of Mark & Chrissy Hutchison, brother of Brittany Hutchison-Palmore
20th - **Eliza Nicole Pina** daughter of Vilma & Carlos Pina
23rd - **Ernest Robert Ferraro** son of Beatrice & Ernie Ferraro
24th - **Frank Rahilly** brother of June Congero
25th - **Noah Abraham Warsaw** son of Ellen & Steve Warsaw
26th - **Charles David Kuntz** son of Charles & Marilyn Kuntz
27th - **Luke Joseph Burns** son of Ellen & David Burns
28th - **Kira Chandler** daughter of Mike & Jamie Chandler
28th - **Timothy Taylor** son of Richard & Cheryl Taylor
28th - **Jose F. Cuevas** son of Ana Cuevas
30th - **Collin Michael Creed** son of Terese Walker



OUR LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

SUNRISES

APRIL

- 2nd-**Marissa Marie Younk** daughter of Lisa & James Younk
3rd-**Perry Bracuti** son of Norman & Elaine Planer
4th-**Jesse James Watlington** son of Alda & Chuck Watlington
5th-**Sean Michael Stewart** son of Ron Stewart
5th-**Robert "Rob" Edward Kerrigan Jr.** son of Bob & Linda Kerrigan
6th-**John Anthony McMullin Jr.** son of John & Donna McMullin Sr
8th-**Bryan Hettrick** son of Carolyn Gooden
12th-**Ryan Jeffrey Sedberg** son of Kim Carollo
12th-**Rachel Lauren Danks** daughter of Shawn Danks
15th-**Stephanie Lorraine Billings-Williams** daughter of Sharon Billings
15th-**Charlie Michele Buford** daughter of Charles & Teresa Buford
15th-**Luke Joseph Burns** son of Ellen & David Burns
18th-**James C. Santos-Merced** son of Linda Merced
19th-**Mark Richard Daniher** son of Frank & Kit Daniher
19th-**Joseph "Joe" Mark McCann** son of Lynne McCann
19th-**Reggie Destin** son of Marcelle Raff
20th-**Samantha Nicole Kepsel** daughter of John & Cheryl Kepsel
23rd-**Carmen Suzanne Paszek** daughter of Denise Paszek
25th-**Robert Schultz** son of Joanne Holt
26th **Nathaniel "Nate" Ketchum** son of Deborah Ketchum
28th-**Richard Earl "Richie" Marquis** Grandson of Sue Benier, son of Linda Belyea-Spurlock
29th -**James Guffey** son of Rebecca Guffey

MAY

- 2nd-**Hugo Castro** son of Nile Castro Costa
2nd-**Nicole Lorraine Chapman** daughter of Ron & Janet Chapman
3rd-**Tracey Henault Kleinpell** daughter of George & Donna Henault
3rd -**Jeffrey John Romano** son of Terri & John Povich
4th-**Jennifer Leigh Pope** daughter of Donna Langer
5th-**Christian John DeMarco** son of Gus DeMarco
6th-**Gretchen Guenther** daughter of Janet & Michael Guenther
7th-**Tressa Danielle Gaines** daughter of Barb Gaines & John Douglas
9th-**Ivy Rose Scholtz** daughter of John & Mary Scholtz
10th-**Steven Thomas** son of Twyla Kundmann
11th -**Jane Peggy Waltzer** daughter of Roberta Tannenbaum
11th - **Amber Lise Zapatka** sister of Marissa Zapatka
20th -**Dennis James Mobley** brother of Bob Mobley
22nd-**Tanya Rane Mitchell** daughter of Teresa & Dennis Mitchell

May-Cont'd

- 24th-**Dell Merryman** son of JoAnn Brown
24th-**Brandon Garner** son of Rod & Barbara Garner
25th-**Nicole Rochelle Martinez Costa** daughter of Leilany Costa Haskett
27th-**John Duggan** son of Russ & Corinne Duggan
28th-**Stephen Robert Rummler** son of Bill & Judy Rummler
29th-**David Arturo Mercado** son of Michele Delgripo
31st-**Joshua Gavin Signs** son of Don & Bobbi Signs

JUNE

- 1st-**Troy Goode** son of Jimmy & Sally Jones
1st-**Wilson (Willie) Dethlefsen** son of John & Mary Scholtz
2nd-**Caitlyn Landers** daughter of Don & Sandy Landers
2nd - **Anne Marie White** Daughter of Joanne & Alan Prucell
3rd-**Mindy Marzano** daughter of Eleanor & Victor Marzano
3rd-**Adrienne Renee Hernandez** granddaughter of Mario & Caridad Perez, daughter of Marcy & Jeff Sagorac
4th-**Blake Vincent Montague** son of Scott & Renay Montague
6th-**Phillip Carulli** son of Annette Carulli
10th-**Betsy Moran Garthwaite** daughter of Patti Moran
10th-**Michael J. Clark** son of Sandy Clark
12th-**Cory Gotti** grandson of Is Cloak
12th - **Cash Phoenix Gettys** son of Christina Humphries
14th-**Scott Schultz** son of Carl & Dana Schultz
16th-**Zachary Tyler Wickell** son of Allen & Tammy Wickell
17th-**Gloria Marzano** daughter of Eleanor & Victor Marzano
18th -**Charles Mobley** brother of Bob Mobley
21st - **Jason Balcom** son of Pamela Balcom
22nd-**Shelli Plotkin** daughter of Ron & Caren Plotkin
23rd-**Ashlee Miller** granddaughter of Mark & Joyce Buch
24th-**Kyle D. Rand** son of Rosemarie & Glen Roberts
25th-**Daniel Rivera Carvajal** son of Roger & Beatriz Filipiak
25th-**Karen Duggan Syburg** daughter of Russ & Corinne Duggan
25th -**Brian Scott Alexander** Son of Pam & David Alexander
27th - **Michelle Lynn Smith** daughter of Carole & William Kerr
28th-**Andrew Morello** son of Andrea & Joe Morello



OUR LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

SUNSETS

APRIL

- 2nd-**Sarah Anne Kithcart** daughter of Anne & Herb Kithcart
4th-**Maximillian Raymond Krumm** son of Terry & Laura Krumm
4th-**Brooke Ashley Miller** daughter of Tink Bechtol
4th-**Karen Duggan Syburg** daughter of Russ & Corrine Duggan
6th-**Michael J. Clark** son of Sandy Clark
6th -**Brian C. McWilliams** son of Dianne & John McWilliams brother of Tara
8th-**Sean Terry** son of Wendy Terry
11th-**Michael McSorley** son of Marcie Spencer
12th-**Ashley Erin Kelly** daughter of Tom & Sherri Kelly
12th-**Matthew Christian Haller** son of Tim & Cindy Haller
13th-**Anthony Parrott** son of Bill & Renae Martin
13th -**Anne Marie White** daughter of Joanne & Alan Prucell
16th - **Anthony "Tony" Kelce** son of Scott Kelce & Suzy Nania
17th - **Dr. Erik Jon Stumpf** son of Dr. John & Donna Stumpf
20th-**John C. Eckhold, III** son of John & Peggy Eckhold
21st-**Christopher Allen Mobley** son of Bob & Alicia Mobley
21st-**Tom (Thomas) Stephen Lossia** son of Angela Lossia
21st-**Brian Scott Alexander** son of Pam & David Alexander
22nd-**Bill Bishop** son of Joann Bishop
23rd-**Chad Lund** son of Karen Lund
26th-**Phillip Scott Starling** son of Lynn Connor
27th-**Amber Dawn Phillips** daughter of Mary Phillips
27th-**Tanner Cullen Browning** son of Thad Browning
28th-**Christian DeBiasi** son of Diane DeBiasi
28th-**Carrie Belyea** daughter of Bill & Martha Marland
29th-**John Anthony McMullin, Jr** son of John & Donna McMullin Sr
29th-**Jason W. Rand** Son of Rosemarie & Glen Roberts
30th-**Dawn Corzatt** daughter of Jan Lascola

MAY

- 1st-**Greg Grappone** son of Bev & Bob Grappone
3rd -Jeffrey John Romane son of John & Terri Povich
7th-**Tracey Henault Kleinpell** daughter of George & Donna Henault
11th -**Steva Elizabeth Maram** daughter of Carol & Barry Maram
11th -**Dawn DePoalo** Daughter of Bill Cloak
13th-**Michael Lawrence Weinstein** son of Matthew & Christine Weinstein, brother of Katie & Timmy
16th-**Steve** son of Janice
17th-**Joshua Gavin Signs** son of Don & Bobbi Signs
20th-**Marcy** daughter of Ozzie & Marcia Santos
24th-**Daniel T. Giampa** son of Joel & Cathy Giampa
25th-**David Pease** son of Connie & David Addison
28th-**Fred Thomas** son of Twyla Kundmann
28th -**Eric David Brown** Son of Zaida Brown
29th-**Daileen Alfonso** daughter of Maharani DaCosta
30th-**Jonathan Richard Yurewitch** son of Margie & John

Yurewitch

JUNE

- 1st-**Katie Raines** daughter of Lenora Raines
6th -**Jonathan Guffey** son of Rebecca Guffey
8th -**Evan C. Weeks** Son of Robin & Jim Weeks
9th-**Rachel Lauren Danks** daughter of Shawn Danks
9th-**John McVey** son of Judy McVey
9th-**Prescilla Penteado** daughter of Joana Penteado
9th-**Ivy Rose Scholtz** daughter of John & Mary Scholtz
9th-**Wilson "Willie" Dethlefsen** son of John & Mary Scholtz
12th-**Kane Lee Mills** son of Mary Mills
14th-**Anthony Ray Baker** son of Mary Baker
14th-**James C. Santos-Merced** son of Linda Merced
15th-**Jane Frances Fodale** daughter of Patricia Yasbeck Pike
16th-**Ian Forrest Kirk** grandson of John & Wilba Wallace
16th-**Santos Cuevas Jr.** brother of Lucy Cuevas Maldonado
17th-**Nicholas Andrew Kelce** son of Scott & Suzy Nania Kelce
18th-**Daniel R. Michalik** son of Tony & Patti Michalik
19th-**Jennifer Leigh Pope** daughter of Donna Langer
19th-**Nicole Rochelle Martinez Costa** daughter of Leilany Costa Haskett
20th-**Jay Yedwofski** son of Sharon Gaozala
22nd-**Andrew Carr Howard** son of Mary Moran
23rd-**Bo Rogers** son of Kay Howerton
23rd-**Dean** son of Ozzie & Marcia Santos
25th-**Charlie Michele Buford** daughter of Charles & Teresa Buford
26th-**Ian Stanley McFarlane** son of Leslie Bruner
27th-**Marissa Marie Younk** daughter of Lisa & James Younk
28th-**Daniella Alexander Pantoja** sister of Jennifer Pantoja
29th-**Malissa Carter** daughter of Pamela Balcom
30th-**Kalin Marie King** daughter of Tom & Edie King



If we have made any errors in your child's 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 info@tcfswfl.org or visit our Website www.tcfswfl.org under "Resource" fill out updated member form so we can honor all of our children correctly. Thank you

Siblings

Sometimes referred to as the “Forgotten Mourners” our family just had first hand experience with this.

Our family was at a wedding of long time friends in April. People we’ve known since 1992. Our 6 children spent a lot of time together over the years.

My daughter, Annie and the mother of the groom were together reminiscing about times past when “all” of the kids were together and the wonderful times they had. Annie shared how good it felt to be with these people and how it made her feel like her big brother-Benjamin was “here” with us. She got teary and my friend made the all too often mistake of looking at her and saying “oh Annie **How is your mom doing?**” ARGH

What’s ironic is that it wasn’t my daughter who shared this story with me but my dear friend, in front of some others the next day while we were visiting. Because I had the energy and I love this woman so much I took this time to “educate” her. Explaining how to me that statement invalidated my daughters grief as Benjamin's sibling. I took it further and gave them all examples of better things to do or say: put her arm around my daughter and just hug her. Or say, I feel him here also, or those were wonderful times, he was such a great guy-no wonder you miss him so much. My friend wasn’t offended by what I shared with her. She and the other ladies actually thanked me as they hadn’t thought of it that way before. I went on to explain what many of us feel Siblings go through as being the Forgotten Grievers and the fact that not only have they lost their sibling but the parents they used to have are forever changed.

Sending all of our Siblings Hugs & Love, Linda Wallace

PARENTS

Cathy has come a long way...

On May 24, 2014 my world came crashing down. My husband Joel & I received a phone call that our youngest son Danny had collapsed and died of a pulmonary embolism.

This was the beginning of our lives changing forever. After the funeral when everyone leaves and goes back to their lives, there we were, not knowing how to go. Through a hospital chaplain we found The Compassionate Friends. After attending a couple of meetings we felt safe and could talk, cry and laugh and know that everyone there could relate to our feelings.

I really struggled with my emotions and at every meeting I cried sometimes uncontrollably but I always knew I wasn't being judged. A woman at one of the first meetings I attended said that the 2nd year was harder then the first for her. I remember thinking, how could this be. Well the 2nd year came and sure enough it was worse then the 1st year had been. Thank God I had my compassionate friends to help me through the pain.

2017 was approaching and I kept thinking what could I have for a New Year Resolution. After much soul searching I realized I could become more involved with The Compassionate Friends to keep Danny’s spirit alive and I could be there for newly bereaved parents who are just beginning this painful journey.

It has been almost 35 months since my precious son left, I can tell you the pain never goes away but it will get easier. Just listen to your body and emotions. Be gentle to yourself and remember you never need to walk alone, we are here for you.

Love & Hugs for all of us



Thank you Danny’s mom-Cathy Giampa for sharing this with us. We love you!

Grandparents

The National Conference in Orlando is for you ALSO.

There will be workshops specifically for you there and a Sharing Session for those with visitation issues. It will be a time when you can perhaps connect with other grandparents and share experiences or frustrations.

Your role is so complicated from my point of view. You are grieving that precious grandchild and you are watching your own child suffer and you can’t do anything about either of these situations. The heartache you feel, the eggshells you at times walk on and the grief that only another grieving grandparent can understand.



Please consider submitting something for our SIBLING, GRANDPARENTS OR PARENTS articles. A story, poem or thoughts that you may feel will help others would be very much appreciated.



Our Virtual Walk to Remember our kids, grandkids and siblings gone too soon. It's so easy to fundraise online and it allows our family, friends, co-workers, etc to do something in honor of our loved one. Our goal is to get 50 of our 298 families to join our TCF Southwest Florida Team online. Even if you just donate \$5 you can create your own page honoring your loved one and putting their photo on it.

The funds raised go 100% to our chapter. Why do we need funds? To hold our meetings where we are able to provide newly bereaved families a packet with support materials, and give one another the chance to share. We help members especially those in leadership attend conferences and put on other encouraging events so we are Not Alone on this journey.

Please go to www.tcfwalktoremember.org click on our Team Southwest Florida over on the Right of the screen under Top Teams, then click on the purple Join Team or on the Left side of the screen under Visitors click on Event Enrollment then click on Join a Team and it will bring up a bar that says "Please Select a Team" and scroll down to "TCF Southwest Florida" and it will walk you through how to set up your individual page honoring your loved one.

Because our chapter raised \$500 by July 7th we will have a sign displayed on the Walk route Sunday, July 30th in Orlando.

NATIONAL TCF CONFERENCE HERE IN ORLANDO FLORIDA

The 40th TCF National Conference on July 28-30, 2017. "Rays of Sunshine, Oceans of Hope" will be held at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek.

Our Chapter is responsible for the Hospitality Room at the Conference and many of us are volunteering in different capacities. We have 27 members from our chapter and the Ft. Meyers chapter attending the conference. The experience will not only benefit them but they will bring back thoughts and ideas to share with the rest of us. Those of us who have attended previous National Conferences have been touched so deeply and are thankful that they went.

We hope you can be a part of this heartwarming experience. Pre-Registration has closed but you may still attend and register at the hotel. Our Steering Committee decided we will pay for the Registration-which is \$95 and includes all Workshops, Sharing Sessions and special speakers, and \$25 for the Walk with T-shirt that is held on Sunday morning. Sadly the Saturday evening meal has sold out but you may still join in the Candle Lighting part of the evening that is so beautiful. This means \$120 total, we still have about 5 sponsorships left so don't delay!! Hotel Reservations are open and filling up and we have a few members who are looking for a roommate to share that cost. Members will be responsible for their travel to Orlando and their hotel room cost (discounted rooms at the Bonnet Creek Hilton will be about \$149 + fees per night) and meals other than Saturday evening.

This is a lot of information so please feel free to reach out to Linda via the Chapter email info@tcfswfl.org with questions



SIBLINGS at the National Conference

We have over 20 workshops being offered to Siblings this year with some of the best Sibling workshop presenters!! There is a broad range of topics, and ALL ages are covered. Our Sibling hospitality room will be open all weekend starting Friday morning. Here is where you can make some mementos in memory of your sibling(s) and share stories with others. Or use it as a place to relax and escape for a bit. There is an exciting Friday Night Sibling Only event called, "Denim & Diamonds". This evening will be full of food, entertainment, and raffle prizes!! This is a separate event, so you MUST purchase your ticket early, as no tickets are available at the door. At the closing ceremony on Sunday, also known as "Sibling Sunday", the SOUNDS OF THE SIBLINGS will perform.....this group is made up of Siblings that attend the conference that want to be a part in the closing ceremony. You do not need to know how to sing or perform to be a part of this group.....just be willing to stand up on stage with everyone!! Also...the guest speaker on Sunday is our own, Florida native Sibling, Jennifer Perez and the Sibling Award will be presented to Keith Singer. It's going to be a great conference!!! We hope you'll join us. If you register now, you'll receive a FREE Sibling T-shirt along with some other great gifts exclusively for Siblings.

Donations & Foundations

DONATIONS: The following were made for our Walk of Remembrance held on April 8th, 2017

Given in honor of: Brian McWilliams from Dianne & John McWilliams, Mark Daniher from Frank & Kit Daniher, Jonathan Yurewitch from Margie & Cory Yurewitch, Marc Jacques from Alana & James Maloney, Thomas Joseph Lane from Elizabeth, Kathleen, Emma, & Bill Lane, Ed Roche, William Bailey, Katie Bailey, Mark David Broman Goldstein from Richard & Donna Goldstein, Brian Alexander from David Alexander, Benjamin & Michael Wallace from Ben & Linda Wallace, Rebecca Moots from Patricia Trumps, Patrick Hutchison from Mark & Chrissy Hutchison & Carol Warren, Evan C. Weeks from Robin Weeks, Andrew G. Milne from Tracy & Acey Edgemon, Danny Giampa from Cathy & Joel Giampa, Maureen Lynne Blackburn from Lois & Mike Blackburn, Marc D. Magrone from Mike & Diane Magrone, Marc Krantz from Byron & Joan Krantz, Frank Rahilly from June Congero, Rylee & Xavier Andersen from Janet Congero & James Andersen, David Arturo Mercado from Michele Sanguinetti-Delgrippe, Robin Campos, Mary Walkowiak, Shelia Rosario, Sandra Pirtue & Sarah Cunningham,

The funds we raise help us to continue to ensure that “No One Walks Alone” Thank You cards were sent out by Christopher’s mom-Alicia that are your tax-deductible receipt. If you have not received one please email us.

If you have a foundation you have established in honor of your child, sibling or grandchild please share your foundations information with us at info@tcfswfl.org

Foundations we know of are: **In memory of: Steve Rummler** www.steverummlerhopefoundation.org, **Gene Doyle Adventure Scholarship:** www.genedoyle.org, **Jessie Watlington Memorial Foundation:** www.lightningfoundation.org, **Rylee & Xavier:** www.butterfliesofhope.com, **Daniella Alexandra Pantoja:** 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** <http://thehouseofhopecdc.org/remarkable-music-room/>

"Blessings From Andy" The book is available on Amazon, Createspace and from Mary Crook Moran.

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



OUTREACH We have been out in our community “No one knows today they will need TCF tomorrow.”

Bonita Springs Community Involvement Fair- Joel & Cathy Giampa were joined by Heike Mayle and Linda Merced representing The Compassionate Friends Chapters in our area. If you are aware of an event like this please let us know as this is a wonderful way to let the public know about us. We think Health Fairs may be a good venue.

Naples Rotary- Linda Wallace & Susan Shaw were invited to share about TCF and our chapter. We appreciate the Rotary wanting to be aware of what we do.

Moorings-Senior Living- Caren & Ron Plotkin along with Frank & Kit Daniher met with people continuing to build that outreach to our senior community

TCF Chapters Nearby We are thankful that people in our area have access to 4 meetings a month

Newly Chartered **TCF of Lee County #2497** This group meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Refuge Church, 1901 Brantley Rd, Ft. Myers, FL 33907, (239)565-7387, tcfofleecounty@gmail.com

Chapter Leaders: Vilma Pena and Lorraine Gutheim We wish them all the best as they help the bereaved

TCF of Fort Myers Group #2282, Meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7 pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, 2691 NE Pine Island Rd, Ft. Myers, FL 33909, (978)761-5386 tcffortmyersfl@gmail.com

They are now doing their own Newsletter and have created a closed Facebook page. The group is doing couples dinners that are well attended. They joined us at the Walk on April 8th and raised much needed funds for their Chapter and have created a “Go Fund Me Page”, they also joined with us at the Bonita Springs Community Involvement Fair where information about TCF chapters in our area were distributed. Many of their members will be joining us at the National Conference in Orlando, July 28-30, 2017

EVENTS - We are a BUSY Group

Mother's, Father's, Grandparent's Day was honored by getting together for a casual breakfast on June 3rd. These days are very difficult for many of us so we hope gathering on a neutral date we can all help each other. At the time we did this I was unaware of Siblings Day but it will be included in the future. Hugs to all!

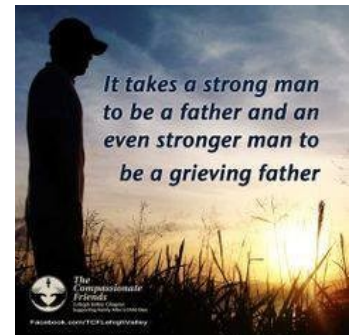


We are each unique on our grief journey,
and we will each mark this
Mother's Day in a different way.
Whatever your choice might be,
make it your day...your day to celebrate
the eternal bond between mother and child.
There is nothing more beautiful.

— Annette Mennen Baldwin, TCF/Katy, TX
in memory of her son, Todd Meunen



Small gathering but good conversation,
Kit took the photo.



3rd Annual Walk of Remembrance April 8, 2017

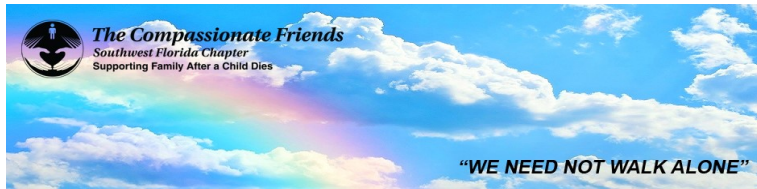
Thank you to all who joined us on this beautiful day. We walked carrying our loved ones names on our "Bibs" and in our hearts. 20 signs were displayed purchased by families honoring a loved one or sponsored by a business supporting our Walk.



Freedom Waters Boat Excursion March 4, 2017 on the Double Sunshine

The Freedom Waters Foundation through their volunteer Judy Schulte and Jonathan's mom-Margie reached out to our group offering a wonderful experience on the water for up to 35 people from our group. It was a windy cooler day but we had a great time as we toured Naples Bay and went out Gordons Pass. Dolphin swam along and brought smiles to us. We had lunch together at Pinchers after our boat ride.





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

Chapter Phone: 239-690-7801
Chapter E-mail: info@tcfswfl.org

Join us on MeetUp
www.meetup.com/compassionate-friends

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 helps others better assist the grieving family.

Note from the Editor: I have included the Sunrises/Sunsets for all the months up to this current month. Even though the newsletter didn't go out during that quarter please know that we honor those special days on our secret Facebook page and they are read at our monthly meetings. This is YOUR newsletter! If you have things to share or suggestions please send us an email to info@tcfswfl.org

ATTENTION SIBLINGS - GREAT, EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

Hello Sibs, (Tracy Milne Edgemon-Andrew's Sister here)

I wanted to let you all know that TCF is collaborating with **Outward Bound** in a backpacking expedition through the Appalachian Trail in Baltimore, MD for a full 7 days.

The details are as follows: Location: Baltimore Outward Bound (<https://outwardboundbaltimore.org/>), **Address:** 1900 Eagle Drive, Baltimore, MD 21207, **Cost:** \$200 (includes registration, materials, backpacking gear/supplies, and meals)

Additional Cost: You will be responsible for your transportation to Baltimore, MD. If you will be flying in, the school offers a shuttle service that can pick you up at the airport and take you back when you leave.

Dates: Saturday, October 28, through Friday, November 3rd, **Number of Participants:** 10 (including 2 Sibling Group Leaders)

Age Range: 18 - 24 years old (Please note, we are still exploring if TCF intends to stay within that age range or if there is room to modify. If you fall outside of this range, but are still interested in participating, let us know and we will get back to you as soon as possible!)

Sour Notes: The more interest we receive, the larger the possibility that TCF will collaborate with Outward Bound again in the future as well as provide different locations for the next expeditions. Although this year's trip comes with short notice, please do not let this discourage you from showing interest. Without your voice, we cannot advocate for future opportunities like these.

Contact Info: If you are interested in participating, have any questions or simply wish to get more information, please email both Jennifer Perez (jjperez117@gmail.com) and Stephen Stott (stephen.j.stott@gmail.com), the two volunteer TCF Sibling Leaders for this expedition. They can also be reached via cell phone: Jennifer Perez (786-419-3039) and Stephen Stott (603-966-5016).

Thank you!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9NG69Hi59M

NATIONAL OFFICE

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National Board of Directors, Sibling Representative 239-676-9140

tracymilne@yahoo.com

SIBLINGS: There are resources for you. TCF is committed to reaching out to Siblings so you do NOT feel like the forgotten grievers. The upcoming National Conference in Orlando is promising to have very special things for siblings. Start planning now to attend. Reach out to other siblings on the closed Facebook page "Sounds of Siblings" or other resources on the internet. We love you!!!