



# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS INC.

International Organization Offering Friendship and Understanding to Bereaved Parents

## MIAMI COUNTY CHAPTER NO. 1870

July 2018 NEWSLETTER Vol. 31 No. 6

Facebook page "The Compassionate Friends of Miami County Ohio Chapter 1870".  
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### Memories of Our Children are Like A Rose

When a child dies our memories are held tightly with lots of pain, just like the tightly folded petals of the rose bud with the many thorns to stick and prick causing pain.

As we talk about our child and share memories with others we begin to open ourselves to healing as the rose petals start to open ever so gradually.

Just as a rose becomes more beautiful as it blooms, so do the memories of our child.

Yes, the thorns are still there and will hurt when touched, but oh how beautiful the rose, and oh, how beautiful the memory of our children!

Share the memory of your child so that memory can start to bloom as beautiful as the rose.

--Julie Timmerman, TCF, Tulsa, OK



**No regular meeting in July—Butterfly Release & Memorial Picnic**  
July 26  
6pm  
Nashville UCC Park  
**\*See page 3 for more information**

**Next Meeting: Aug 23rd**  
7:00pm  
Nashville UCC

Nashville United Church of Christ  
4540 W. St. Rt. 571, West Milton, Ohio  
Meetings are held in the basement of the church. Please park in the lot on the west side of the building. Enter the building through the door facing the west parking lot.

**Thank you for June Refreshments**  
Susan Cole (Memory of Jerrid)



## I Lost My Child Today

I lost my child today.  
People came to weep and cry,  
As I just sat and stared, dry eyed.  
They struggled to find words to say  
To try and make the pain go away.  
I walked the floor in disbelief,  
I lost my child today.

I lost my child last month.  
Most of the people went away,  
Some still call and some still stay.  
I wait to wake up from this dream.  
This can't be real, I want to scream.  
Yet everything is locked inside,  
God help me, I want to die.  
I lost my child last month.

I lost my child last year.  
Now people who had come, have gone.  
I sit and struggle all day long  
To bear the pain so deep inside.  
And now my friends just question, Why?  
Why does this mother not move on?  
Just sits and sings the same old song.  
Good heavens, it has been so long.  
I lost my child last year.

Time has not moved on for me.  
The numbness it has disappeared.  
My eyes have now cried many tears.  
I see the look upon your face  
"You must move on and leave this place."  
Yet I am trapped right here in time,  
The songs the same, as is the rhyme.  
I lost my child.....TODAY.....

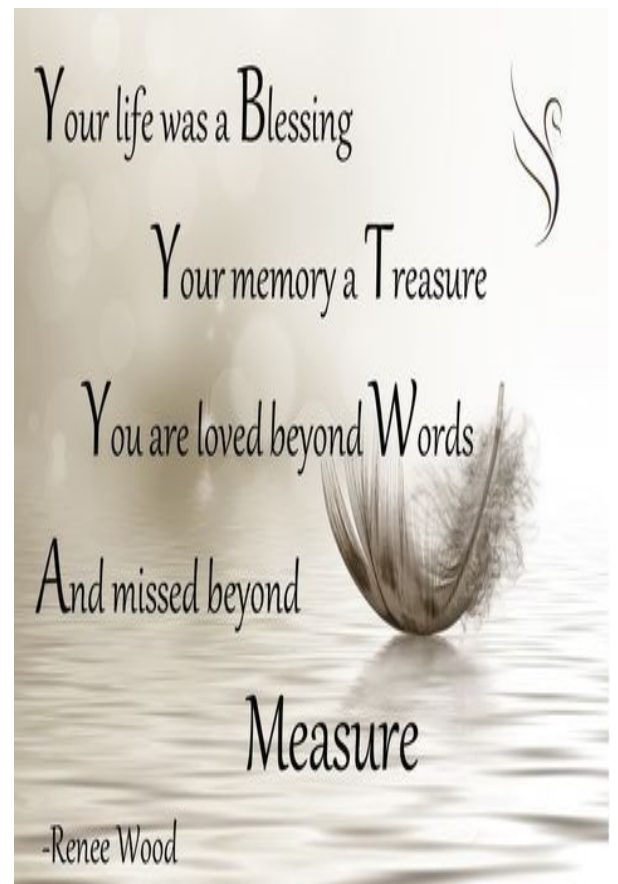
--Written by Netta Wilson  
In memory of her daughter, Caprice Dara Wilson

## Grief is An Emotion, Not a Disease

Excerpted from "A Conversation with Rabbi Grollman"  
by Judy Kaplan, TCF National Newsletter Editor

Grief is an emotion, not a disease. There is no timetable for recovery, but there is also no getting around the pain.

Each of us has to experience the pain in order to recover from it ... Our hopes and dreams may no longer be possible. We may feel hopeless and want to run away. It takes time and effort to regain the ability to function. We must express our pain and be patient with ourselves. The Compassionate Friends plays an important role in this process ... Grief is a process. Recovery is a decision. Readjustment does not come overnight, but-each of us can resolve to survive – One moment at a time.





Mark Your Calendars & Reserve a Butterfly for  
Your Child!

### Butterfly Release & Annual Picnic

July 26, 2018

6:00pm

Nashville UCC Picnic Grounds

Come join us for a peaceful evening picnic and butterfly release. Everyone is welcome including family and friends. Look for the balloons marking the gravel drive that will take you back to the picnic area located a short distance west of the church, on the north side of St. Rt. 571. We'll be using the covered shelter which has plenty of picnic tables and benches. For comfort, you may want to bring along folding chairs so you can sit under the trees where it might be cooler.

We provide plates, napkins, dinnerware, condiments, cups, drinks, ice and a variety of meat selections. Please bring a salad, vegetable, fruit dish, or a dessert to share with the group and include a serving utensil.-- Don't forget to bring your child's picture for the photo table.

**The order for the butterflies need to be submitted by July 7th. Please RSVP to Barb Lawrence (937) 836-5939 or email barb.lawrence1961@gmail.com**  
(Please provide your child's name, your name, phone number, and the number attending for this child.)

For those that would like to continue with our traditional balloon release, you are most welcome to bring your own balloon and send it up to heaven with your messages after the butterflies are released.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Upcoming Topics:

**Jul** - Memorial picnic & Butterfly release July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

**Aug** - Supporting Surviving Siblings – ideas for helping surviving siblings deal with their grief while you are grieving.

Thank You  
for your love gifts!



Jo Hendrix for the Anniversary Love Gift in memory of her daughter, Nan Marie Hendrix 12/1967 – 06/2009.

### 41<sup>st</sup> TCF National Conference "Gateway to Hope and Healing"

The Compassionate Friends is pleased to announce that St. Louis, Missouri, will be the site of the 41<sup>st</sup> TCF National Conference on July 27-29, 2018. "Gateway to Hope and Healing" is the theme of this year's event.

The 2018 Conference will be held at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel. Plan to come and be a part of this heartwarming experience.  
Adult Registration: \$115  
Child Registration (9-17) \$55  
Full-time College Student Registration \$55  
Active Military Registration \$55

To Register:

<https://www.compassionatefriends.org/national-conference-registration>

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

TCF's discounted rate with the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel is \$140 per night plus tax.

Reservations can now be made online or by calling the Marriott Reservation line at 800-397-1282. Please note that each attendee will only be able to reserve two rooms. If your group needs to reserve a larger block of rooms, please contact the National Office to make arrangements for your reservations.

# Our Children Lovingly Remembered

## July Birthdays

Child—Parent, Grandparent, Sibling

Cody S. Pressler - Joe Miller & Tamra Pressler

Harley Ludwig - Warren & April Hawkins

Liam Seamus Gillespie - David & Julie Gillespie

Mary Herman - Mike Herman

Shannon Dyer - Denny Dyer

## July Angel-versaries

Child—Parent, Grandparent, Sibling

Brandon Fox - Theresa Fox

Josh Eversole - Steve & Valerie Thorn

Mary Herman - Mike Herman

## A Love Song

The mention of my child's name

May bring tears to my eyes.

But it never fails to bring

Music to my ears.

If you are really my friend,

Let me hear the

Beautiful music of his name,

It soothes my broken heart

And sings to my soul.

--Nancy Williams, TCF New Jersey



Every effort is made to publish accurate information regarding the birth and remembrance dates. Please let me know if there is an error in the listing, in order to correct our records. If you receive this newsletter and you have not given us the name and dates for your child, but want them listed here, please contact me. - Editor

*I walk down memory lane because I love running into you.*

--Hoda's  of the day.

## NOW for book review....



### **"Inspiration FROM ABOVE"** "My Son Guides Me From The Afterlife"

By Jacqueline Davieau

*Some lights shine forever...*

Mario's love for his mother continues from the other side bringing, hope, inspiration, and faith to them in beautiful scenes of a colorful and musical heaven. Mario tragically lost his life, but his spirit lives on, and he comforts his mother and shows his presence plus gives her gifts of "sky art" showing her the way to peace and assuring her that he lives on.

My sister-n-law recently loaned me this book as the author (Mario's mom) was a previous student of hers. This book really encouraged me in confirming that my daughter is around me many times and sends many signs to let me know she is still with me. I have purchased and donated a copy of this book to our chapters library in memory of our daughter Jordan. --Jackie Glawe (Jordan's mom)

## Permission to Backslide

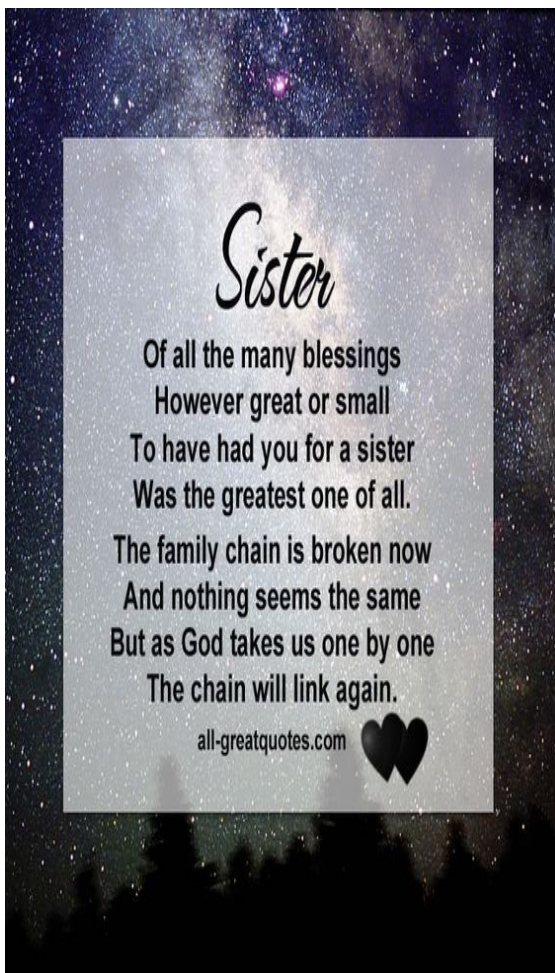
From "How to go on Living" by Peppers and Knapp

Sometimes after a period of feeling good, we find ourselves back in the old feelings of extreme sadness, despair, or anger. This is often the nature of grief, up and down, and it may happen over and over for a time. It happens because we are humans, we cannot take in all of the pain and meaning of death at once. So we let it in a little at a time.

"In grief we stand on the edge of darkness, at times afraid to take that next step,,,"having faith is knowing that we shall find something firm to stand on to, or we will be taught how to fly"... We live in one sphere of existence, our loved ones who have died in another but with our faith, the desire and undying love we can connect at the seam where our worlds meet. Dreams may die, but their spirit does not, nor does their memory.

"We substantiate our loved ones life, by how we live ours."

-- Mitch Carmody



### FACEBOOK GROUPS FOR SIBLING LOSS

- TCF – Sibling Loss to Substance Related Causes
- Loss of a sibling
- Loss of a sibling, healing journey
- Gateway to Healing for loss of a Child, Grandchild, or Sibling

Other Resources:

- **“Sibling Loss; A Sister's Journey”**  
This is a first-person account of one of the most devastating and least talked about subjects: a child or young person’s loss of a sibling. Laura Prince shares her decades-long process of healing that brings hope as she offers you her story and many insights into the web of grief that surrounds such a loss. Recovering from the sudden death of her beloved brother, she openly and candidly examines the pitfalls and surprising triumphs of grieving so she could celebrate his life instead of only grieving over losing him. To order this book go to [www.lauraprincebooks.com](http://www.lauraprincebooks.com)
- SURVIVING THE DEATH OF A SIBLING: LIVING THROUGH GRIEF WHEN AN ADULT BROTHER OR SISTER DIES by T.J.Wray (this book can be borrowed from our chapter library.



**The  
Compassionate  
Friends**

*Miami County Chapter*  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

2445 N Montgomery County Line Rd  
Tipp City OH 45371

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*The Compassionate Friends is a self-help organization which offers support to families who have experienced the death of a child. Only a person who has experienced the trauma of losing a child can fully understand the pain and suffering involved.*

*We gather to listen) to share) and to support each other in the resolution of our grief. We need not walk alone. we are *The Compassionate Friends.**

**MISSION STATEMENT** ... 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 be supportive.

***If you are receiving our newsletter for the 1st time,*** it is because someone told us that you might find it helpful. To find out more about The Compassionate Friends, please call our Chapter Leader, Kim Bundy (937) 573-9877. We cordially invite you to our monthly meetings held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Nothing is ever expected of you. You don't have to speak a single word. Parents who do attend, find comfort, support, friendship and understanding from others who have also lost a child. You do not have to come alone - bring a family member or friend with you.

**You need not walk alone!**



IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, AND WISH TO HAVE YOUR NAME REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST, PLEASE CALL (937) 478-3318 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. Thank you.