



# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS INC.

International Organization Offering Friendship and Understanding to Bereaved Parents

## MIAMI COUNTY CHAPTER NO. 1870

August 2020 NEWSLETTER Vol. 32 No. 7

Facebook page "The Compassionate Friends of Miami County Ohio Chapter 1870".  
Chapter Leader: Kim Bundy, 1870 Westwood Rd, Troy, OH 45373/573-9877 kbundy@tcf@gmail.com  
Editor: Jackie Glawe, 2445 N. Mntgmy Co. Line Rd., Tipp City, OH 45371/478-3318 im4song@aol.com

National Office - THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS, INC. - P.O. Box 3696 - Oak Brook, IL 60522-3696 - Ph. (630) 990-0010 or toll free (877) 969-0010 [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org) - e-mail: [nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org](mailto:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org).

### **Butterflies Make Me Happy**

Sometimes in our grief we truly believe we are going crazy. We hurt so bad we don't think we can manage to go on living without our precious child here with us. Part of the grieving process is learning how to do just that. Some parents need the reassurance that their child is okay. I think the human mind can only take so much pain and jumps at the chance to see signs from their children, reassuring them that they are okay. The way I look at it, if you get comfort from a dream or a sign ... enjoy it. You've suffered enough, and believing in signs, butterflies, dreams or what ever else gives you comfort and hurts no one else, is your right as a bereaved person.

Are these signs real, or just in my imagination? Can I prove they are messages from my son? Does it even need to be proven? No, I can't scientifically prove it. But I know that dreams, butterflies, signs and enjoyment in nature makes me feel closer to Eric and therefore I will continue to enjoy them. It hurts no one, I'm not obsessive about it and anyone who chooses to think I'm nuts for believing in such things, can think I'm nuts. We've all heard how the butterfly is a symbol of rebirth. Whether it's our child moving from this world onto a higher plane, or a bereaved parent emerging from the cocoon of grief into a world without our child here. With us, butterflies are a comfort for many.

When I'm missing my son and see a butterfly fluttering from flower to flower, I smile and feel better. When I'm in a happy mood and see a butterfly, I enjoy the beauty of such a delicate creature. Taking the time to slow down and watch such a fragile creature going about its business is calming and I don't think anyone should discount the benefits from having a calming moment.

About four months after Eric died, I had a dream about him. I woke myself up from tears of joy running down my face, I knew he was okay ... what a relief that was. I still hurt terribly and missed him more than I thought I could endure, but I felt comforted by the dream. Some could say it was my subconscious trying to sort things out, but I choose to believe it was his way of trying to comfort me. Either way, it made me feel better. Maybe it's because bereaved parents walk around in such a fog and function on automatic pilot that we are moving slow enough to notice the signs that are around us.

### **August Meeting – Aug 27, 2020, 7:00pm**

**Meeting outside in the church parking lot.  
(weather permitting).  
Please bring your own chair.  
Bottled water will be available.**

**Topic:** Show & Tell/share a cherished item and/or story related to your child

August Refreshments  
*Jeff & Jackie Glawe (Jordan)*

Meetings are held  
at:  
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 to all who attended the annual picnic and butterfly release. It was a beautiful evening.  
Special thanks to the following who provided items in memory of their child(ren).  
Bob & Fran Karl – chicken  
Ron Ladd – chicken  
Randy & Debbie Turner – water  
Randy Lehman – tea & lemonade  
Cathy Duff – paper products  
Steve & Cindy Glaser – fans & tables  
Kim Bundy – ordering and care of butterflies  
Our chapter donations – purchase of butterflies

---

Maybe dreams are one way for us to accept messages we need to hear and take into our hearts without logical-ly trying to interpret them. Maybe faith is what we rely on when nothing else makes sense and we instinctively know we need something to hold on to. Whatever it is, just give me a second helping; I like feeling closer to my son! ~Lynn Vines

# A Parent's Grief

*You ask me how I'm feeling  
but do you really want to know?  
The moment I try telling you  
You say you have to go*

*How can I tell you,  
what it's been like for me  
I am haunted, I am broken  
By things that you don't see*

*You ask me how I'm holding up,  
but do you really care?  
The moment I start to speak my heart,  
You start squirming in your chair*

*Because I am so lonely,  
you see, friends no longer come around,  
I'll take the words I want to say,  
And quietly choke them down*

*Everyone avoids me now,  
I guess they don't know what to say  
They told me I'll be there for you,  
Then turned and walked away*

*Call me if you need me,  
That's what everybody said,  
But how can I call and scream into the phone,  
My God, my child is dead?*

*I am tired of pretending  
my heart hammers in my chest,  
I say things to make you comfortable,  
but my soul finds no rest*

*How can I tell you things  
that are too sad to be told,  
of a helplessness of holding a child  
who in your arms grows cold?*

*Maybe you can tell me,  
How should one behave,  
who's had to follow their child's casket  
watched it perched above a grave.*

*You cannot imagine  
what it was like for me that day  
to place a final kiss upon that box,  
and have to turn and walk away.*

*If you really love me,  
and I believe you do,  
if you really want to help me,  
here is what I need from you.*

*Sit down beside me,  
reach out and take my hand  
Say "My friend I've come to listen,  
I want to understand".*

*Just hold my hand and listen  
that's all you need to do,  
And if by chance I shed a tear,  
it's alright if you do too.*

*I swear that I'll remember  
til the day that I am old,  
the friend who sat and held my hand  
and let me bare my soul.*

*~Adaption of Kelly Cummings poem  
(Facebook/Footprints on our Hearts)*

## Different

Growing up I always felt like I was going to be “different”.

Not different in dress or hairstyle or appearance  
But different in life, that my life wouldn't turn out to be the norm.

After several happenings in my lifetime I thought, “is this the different?”

No I don't think so, this is just another norm that's happening to a lot of other people.  
Not so different.

Years passed and I experienced other life altering events but still many others around me had also experienced the same, so this must still not be the “different”.

Then in my forties, my daughter, my only child was lost to a car accident.

I became a bereaved parent.

THIS IS IT.

This is the “different”.

I didn't want the different but it came anyway.  
It came through the tragedy of losing my daughter  
Living in the world, but no longer a part of it.

Going to work, the store, my doctor, no longer the same,  
so “different”.

The world feels cold now, even though I'm sweating  
This bereaved parent “being” is unconnected,  
unattached.

Holidays no longer celebrated. Others celebrations not the same, bittersweet.

I didn't want the “different” and yet it still came.  
I never would have thought that “this”  
would be the “different” that I would be forced into.  
And yet it is. It's a horrible “different”.

~Jackie Glawe, in memory of daughter Jordan  
Miami County, Ohio, TCF

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Upcoming meetings:

**Aug** - *Show & Tell – share cherished item of your child*

**Sep** - *Topic cards*

### NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE?

*A listening ear is sometimes the best medicine.*

<i>Kim Bundy (suicide)</i>	<i>573-9877</i>
<i>Pam Fortener (cancer)</i>	<i>238-4075</i>
<i>Donnie Fortener (cancer)</i>	<i>760-2238</i>
<i>Pam Fortener (siblings)</i>	<i>238-4075</i>
<i>Cathy Duff (auto accident)</i>	<i>473-5533</i>
<i>Jackie Glawe (auto accident)</i>	<i>478-3318</i>

## Thank You for your love gifts!

- ★ Steve & Cindy Glaser for the Anniversary Love Gift in memory of their son, Andy Glaser 12/1975 – 06/2014.
- ★ Robert E. & Sharon Lavy for the Birthday Love Gift in memory of their son, Tony Robert Lavy.
- ★ Jodi Murphy in memory of Jerrod Younker.
- ★ Ron Ladd for the Anniversary Love Gift in memory of his son, Billy Ladd 08/1968 -- 06/2018.

*Love Gifts should be made out to: The Compassionate Friends and mailed to Barb Lawrence, 4031 Wolcott Place, Englewood, OH 45322. Please send your donation by the 15th of the month prior to the month you want your child remembered in the newsletter.*

### Waves of Hope on the Shores of Lake Erie TCF Ohio Regional Conference Maumee Bay State Park Lodge

**CANCELLED**

1

**Oregon, OH 43616**  
**Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

## Our Children Lovingly Remembered

### August Birthdays

Child—Parent, Grandparent, Sibling

Adam Douglas Cheadle - Gary & Elaine Meyers  
 Billy Ladd - Ronald Ladd  
 Brian Keith Willis - Keith & Linda Willis  
 Brian Patrick "Stew" Stewart - Joel & Connie Kempton  
 Cassandra "Cassie" Campbell - Dawn Duff  
 Chad Fisherback - Tammy Sackett  
 David Allsbrooks - Brenda Slifer  
 Emily Watson - Mary Watson  
 Jill Myers - Sandra Saurber  
 Leslie M. Turner - Randy & Debra Turner  
 Lydia Herrick - Patty Herrick  
 Matthew Shane Conover - Sandra Conover  
 Nicole Barker - Rod & Kathy Barker  
 Ryan S. Thuma - Scott & Renee Thuma  
 Shaun Bradley Duff - Michael & Catherine Duff  
 Tony Robert Lavy - Robert E. & Sharon Lavy



### August Angel-versaries

Child—Parent, Grandparent, Sibling

Brad M. Massie - Barbara Massie  
 Christine Taylor - Ann Anderson  
 Denise R. Brown - Darlene N. Brown  
 Emily Watson - Mary Watson  
 James Hatfield - Betty White  
 Jeffery L. Miller - Marilyn Miller  
 Jill Myers - Sandra Saurber  
 John A. Brower - Robert & Barbara Brower  
 Jordan Elizabeth Glawe - Jeff & Jackie Glawe  
 Samuel James Barga - Linda Barga  
 Sara Krum - Faith Krum  
 Stephanie Rain - Ed & Kathy Sams

*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*



Now for a book review....



### "Grief, What it is and what you can do"

By Joy and Dr. Marvin Johnson

Covers feelings, issues, other people, rituals, and caring for yourself. "It may seem as if you'll never be happy again. You may go to a bereavement support group and hear people laugh. You may wonder how anyone can laugh when you're hurting so badly, but somewhere, way back in your head, there's a little voice calling your name. It's saying, "You'll laugh again sometime, too."

This book is available for \$4.00 to purchase at [centering.org](http://centering.org) along with many other resources.

*Dear Sister in Heaven*

*I sit here and I ponder how very much  
I'd like to talk with you today  
There are so many things  
That we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you care for me  
And how much I care for you,  
And each time that I think of you  
I know you'll miss me too.  
An angel came and took you by the hand,  
and said  
Your place was ready in Heaven, far  
above...  
And you had to leave behind, all those  
you dear-ly loved  
You had so much to live for, you had so  
much to do...  
It still seems impossible that God was  
taking you.  
And though your life on earth is past, in  
Heav-en it starts anew  
You'll live for all eternity, just as God has  
prom-ised you.  
And though you've walked through  
Heaven's gate  
We are never far apart  
For every time I think of you,  
You're right here, deep within my heart.*

*~Unknown Author*



A poem by Ellie:

I know you walk beside me, In this journey we  
call life.  
I know you have long since passed  
But I feel your presence in my heart.  
I think of you so often, And always speak your  
name,  
For a sisters bond will never be broken,  
And you never heard these words spoken,  
But I miss you more with everyday  
And I know that memories of you are never far  
away.

Ellie's older sister Rebecca suddenly passed away on the 24th of April, 2008. She wrote this poem one night while thinking of her lost sister, and wanted to share it with the Brothers and Sisters readers.

Brothers & Sisters Magazine (August/September 2011)

*My Brother*

By Susie Galloway  
(Pahrump, NV)

**Who knew that morning,  
God was going to call your name  
He took you so quickly,  
we will never be the same**

**You are now without pain, no more tears  
no more days and no more years  
I miss you so much and wish you were here  
I've cried every single day for the last year**

**You watched out for me when I was young  
if ever I needed someone, you were the one  
It didn't matter, wrong or right  
You would stand up for your little sis and fight**

**It doesn't matter what they say,  
who cares what you did, 'back in the day'  
I'll always love you anyway**

**I guess what they say is really true, we  
were never promised tomorrow  
Our short time on earth is only borrowed**

**I'm trying so hard to understand, that  
we will all be together again**

**Until we meet on God's Golden Shore  
I'll just miss you more and more**

**Love you brother**



**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.