

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

A self-help organization offering friendship and understanding to bereaved families

Inside Valley Forge

Meetings are on the **First Saturday** of every month, at 1:45 PM (ending at 3:30 PM). We meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Founders Hall, Valley Forge Road and Henderson Rds., King of Prussia, PA.

For info call Rhonda (484) 919-0820

Meeting Schedule and other

Meetings -

August— 8/3/2024 @ 1:45

September— No Meeting

October - 10/5/2024 @ 1:45

November — 11/2/2024 @ 1:45

**December — 12/8/2024 -
Remembrance service, 2 pm**

**The reason there is no meeting,
the church has time reserved for
other activities.**



There are no dues or fees to belong to Compassionate Friends or to receive our newsletter. Your tax deductible donations (which we call love gifts) given in memory of your love ones enables us to defray the cost of the chapter expenses, particularly the newsletter, meeting and our outreach to newly bereaved. Please include any special tribute you wish printed in the newsletter along with your gift.

Please make all checks Payable to:
TCF VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER
Send to Rhonda Gomez

August 2024

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Glenmoore PA 19343
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www.compassionatefriends.org

Mission Statement

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.

NEW FRIENDS

We welcome our newly bereaved friends, sorry for the cause that brings you. We all have been in the depths of despair, and offer unconditional love and understanding to all of you, it sometimes takes several meetings to feel the full benefit of group sharing. We offer confidentiality, unconditional love and understanding to all of you.

Denise & Michael Garnek

REFRESHMENTS

Refreshments may be donated in memory of loved ones. Please call Rhonda (484) 919-0820 or you may sign the refreshment chart located on the refreshment table.

The Chapter

LOVE GIFTS

No Names This Month

AFTER THE STORM COMES THE RAINBOW

Happiness does not depend on what happens outside of you, but rather on what happens inside of you. It is measured by the spirit in which you meet the problems of life.

The master secret of happiness is to meet the challenge of each new day in remembering to look for the rainbows as assurance God is with us through the storms of life.

Author Unknown — TCF, Holmdel, NJ

OUR CHILDREN & SIBLINGS LOVED, SADLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED

Each month some of us must face those special, but difficult days of birthdays and anniversaries. This month we ask your thoughts and prayers for the parents, siblings, relatives of the following children.

We will no longer list the birth and death years of deceased persons in our newsletter. We have concerns this information could be misused, and result in an adversity for the families.

Anniversaries

Maryellen & Dick Abell - Brian Abell - son - 8/19
 Emily L. Alm - Bryan W. Alm - son - 8/23
 Lisa Bellopede - Johnny - son - 8/12
 Dorothy & Jack Bert - Matthias - son - 8/29
 Tom & Kathy Biggar - Ava Nobles - granddaughter - 8/28
 Bob & Marge Blasucci - Danny - son - 8/1
 Joe & Maryann Bucci - Dante - son - 8/13
 Carol & Ira Caplan - Julian - 8/6
 Gary Chavez - Christopher Dale Chavez - son - 8/4
 Mary Chelius - John J. Chelius, Jr. - son - 8/24
 Wendy Coleman - Gabrielle - daughter - 8/18
 Liz & Scott Conaghan - Jan - brother - 8/27
 Joane Cooper - Ben - son - 8/2
 Jean & Bill Cotter - Patrick Cotter - son - 8/11
 Carol Curtiss - Kurt - grandson - 8/20
 Dorothy Dailey - G. Robert Daily, Jr. - son - 8/10
 Carol Dawidziuk - Michel - son - 8/21
 Kimberly De Simone - Lacey - daughter - 8/13
 Antoinette & John DiDonato - John Jr - son - 8/17
 Scott & Charlene Fazekas - Eric Scott Fazekas - son -
 Richard & Martha Fenoglio - Judith Fenoglio Daw - daughter - 8/6
 Lisa Foos - Curtis - son - 8/12
 Denise & Edward Frazier - Akhir - son - 8/25
 Molly Gehring - Daniel - son - 8/26
 Angela Giannantonio - Anthony - son - 8/2
 Stephanie Grier - John JD Grier - son - 8/17
 Tim & Rosemarie Griffiths - Timothy Griffiths - son - 8/17
 Tracey Hawley - Christopher - son - 8/10
 Janet Higgins - Nicholas - son - 8/1
 Margaret Huss - Robert - husband - 8/9
 Joan Jagers - John Costello - son - 8/18
 Janet & Dave Keller - Joseph E. Keller - son - 8/21, Thomas A. Keller - brother - 8/10
 Greg & Anita Lewicki - Eric Stephen Lewicki - son - 8/20
 Frank & Laura Lincicome - Daniel - son - 8/29
 John & Nancy Logue - Heather Logue - daughter - 8/23
 Kathleen & Hugh Martin, Jr. - Colin John C.J. Martin - son - 8/16

Anniversaries - Cont'd

Jeff and Kathy McCarron - Sarah - daughter - 8/14
 Marjorie Meckley - Douglas Meckley - son - 8/16
 Kathleen Mitchel - Danielle - daughter - 8/21
 Jenn Nobles - Ava Ruth Marie - daughter - 8/28
 Carol & Dennis O'Connor - Michael O'Connor - son - 8/23
 Chet, Hema and Nita Patel - Neil - son - 8/1
 Patricia Peraino - Anthony - brother - 8/2 Bob Fixter - husband - 8/18
 Thomas & Jeri Bubbles - Reinert - Theresa Volpe - mother (Bubbles) - 8/23
 Tracey Robinson - Connor - son - 8/29
 Susan & John Rutland - Justin Rutland - son - 8/30
 Carol Sannella - David Sannella - son - 8/31
 Rosemarie Scott-Griffiths - Timothy F. Griffiths - stepson - 8/17
 Enjoli Segneri - Shane - boyfriend - 8/8
 Robert & Nell Shoemaker - Brynn Shoemaker - daughter - 8/9don Sed Wilson - son - 8/20
 Linda Sposato - Bernadette Funaro - daughter - 8/24
 Elaine & Joe Stillwell - Margaret Mary O'Connor - daughter - 8/2, Denis E. O'Connor, III - son - 8/6
 Judy Tomarelli - Daniel Robert Tomarelli - son - 8/10
 Jack, Bobbie and Ross Trotter - Megan - daughter/sister - 8/26
 Steven Tucker - Patrick Ryan - son - 8/18
 Tim and Mary Tuinstra - Sophia Tuinstra - granddaughter - 8/31
 Kevin Welde - John Welde - brother - 8/14
 Carolyn & Tom Yuhas - Eric Whitelock - son - 8/17

When love is strong and runs deep it pulsates with an energy that cannot be stopped, not even in death's grip. When two souls are connected and one departs from this world, the separation may seem final, but in truth the relationship transcends time. Love, like a river, flows eternal, and it embraces all those who swim in its streams.

Author Unknown

PROMISE

The colors of life changes as we go through grief. We begin black and white, then gray settles over us seeping into our pores, surrounding us, smothering us for a long period of time, then slowly the colors change, we may not even be aware of their changing till one day we see a rainbow and know it was meant for us.

Fay Harden TCF / Tuscaloosa, AL

In remembering our children, In sharing with each other, In supporting each other, We ease our pain,
 We share each step, We help smooth the road, And we serve as witnesses to the fact that we can
 make it beyond grief, As we support each other."

Roy Peterson

BIRTHDAYS

Marilynn Anton - cousin/godmother - Douglas Hofmockel - 8/27
 Denis Nicholson, Asselin & Judy - son - Nathaniel - 8/21
 Dorothy & Jack Bertson - Matthias - 8/16
 Jovanna & Joseph Bevilacqua - son - Donato Danny Bevilacqua - 8/20
 Richard & Jo Bewley - son - Kevin Bewley - 8/24
 Joane Cooper - son - Ben - 8/2, daughter - Katy - 8/2
 Allison Crowder - daughter - Amber - 8/8
 Dorothy & G. Robert Daily, Sr. - son - David - 8/26
 Jeffrey & Aymee Diaz - son - Phillip - 8/20
 Lisa & David Dibello - son - Joey - 8/14
 Karen Donaldson - daughter - Willow Ann - 8/5
 Laurie Downing - son - Trevor - 8/3
 Jim and Patty Duffy - son - Michael Duffy - 8/8
 Nancy & David Dykty - brother - Jim Sutton - 8/7
 Tom & Irene Edmunds - son - Kyle Derek Edmunds - 8/1
 Ron & Sue Gamza - daughter & Grandson - Rachel & Troy - 8/22
 Frank & Rhonda Gomez - brother - Donnie - 8/7
 Mary Lou Harrison - son - Lance 'Scott' Harrison - 8/4
 Jan & Dan Jackson - son - John Jackson - 8/18
 Michael & Betsy Jarrett - son - Michael Jarrett - 8/13
 Vern & Joyce Kaiser - son - Michael - 8/4
 Joan Kingslake - daughter - Ann Kingslake Woods - 8/3
 Sue Lawlor - son - Jim Sinha - 8/24
 Kathleen & John Leeper - son - Shaun Michael Leeper - 8/17
 Janet Leflar - son - Scott - 8/11
 John & Nancy Logue - daughter - Heather Logue - 8/16
 Timothy & Maxine Lurowist - daughter - Kristine - 8/24
 Mary MacFarland - son - Marc - 8/4
 Bonnie MacFarland - son - R, Scott Geddes - 8/30
 Anna E Marchese - son - Matthew Paul Marchese - 8/28
 Diane Mazzagatti - son - John Pirocchi, Jr. - 8/3
 Sue McMaster - cousin - Patty - 8/30
 Alfred J. & Joan Michini - son - Alfred J. Michini, II - 8/2
 Alexandra Milas - daughter - Nicole Penelope Wiseley - 8/23
 Andrew Miller - daughter - Perri - 8/21
 Kathleen Mitchel - daughter - Danielle - 8/21
 John B. & Lillian Neff - son - Patrick Neff - 8/30
 Sharon Ott - daughter - Amber - 8/12
 Joan Palumbo - son - Michael - 8/4
 Marie Poulsen - grandson - Jerry August Warfel - 8/12
 Chris Poulsen - nephew - Jerry - 8/12
 Sharyn & Joe Pozzuolo - son - Joey Brad Pozzuolo - 8/26
 Joe & Marti Purifico - son - Jeffrey - 8/3
 Marcella Rice - brother - Raymond Anthony Rice - 8/29
 Christine Rizol - son - Tyler - 8/24
 Bonnie Rosen - son - Troy - 8/30
 Becky Rotkowsk - brother - Brian - 8/17
 Beverly & Joe Rush - daughter - Kelsey - 8/27



Butterfly Release Program
Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 3 PM

Upper Merion Township Park (back of Police Station)
175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Diagonally across from our monthly meeting place at Good Shepherd Church.

This event will be held in back of the township building, left of the gazebo.

Cost \$6.50 per butterfly — August 19th last day to place order.

There is no admission or parking fee.

Water will be provided by chapter. Please bring folding chair or a
blanket to sit on.

A family may order one butterfly to share, or order one butterfly for each family member. You may order as many butterflies as you wish. All butterflies must be preordered. If you are unable to attend on this date, we can release the butterfly that you have purchased in your loved one's name. The names of all loved ones will be read during the program.

For questions, please call TCF Valley Forge at 484-919-0820.

Any further details will be posted at VF website. www.tcfvalleyforge.org

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Name of loved one

Your relationship to them

Name of loved one

Your relationship to them

Name of loved one

Your relationship to them

Total number of Butterflies ordered: _____ \$6.50 each

Total money (no credit cards) enclosed: _____

Please forward registration and check to: Rhonda Gomez, 12 Brook Circle, Glenmoore, PA 19343

Make out check payable TO; Compassionate Friends

BIRTHDAY - CONTINUED

Marie Schmeltzer - son - Sam Sonny Schmeltzer - 8/22
 Pamela Schneibolk - brother - Douglas Hofmockel - 8/27
 Harry & Carol Schultz - son - Brian Andrew Schultz - 8/23
 Susan Snyder - son - Brian David - 8/24
 Lorraine Spear - daughter - Kimberly Jean Spear - 8/15
 Susan & Ron Spencer - son - Rob - 8/21
 Elaine & Joe Stillwell - daughter - Margaret Mary O'Connor - 8/23
 Karen & Alan Stoner - daughter - Holly Patricia Stoner - 8/11
 Fred & Irene Sutton - son - Jim Sutton - 8/7
 Tracey Sutton-Vitabile - brother - Jim Sutton - 8/7
 Pety Suy & Matthew Kuchler - son - Ethan - 8/22
 Hellmut Theil - son - Hellmut Theil, Jr. - 8/2
 Akhil & Judy Tripathi - son - Sunil - 8/29
 Tina Ulshafer - son - Jimmy - 8/22
 Pat Villante - daughter - Patty - 8/30

A STAPLE IN MY HEART

My treasure, well some who look may say
 "What was he thinking when he made this that day?"
 Some may think it's ugly because it is so rare.
 Some may say it's stupid, but I don't really care.

It's unique, yet beautiful in it's own special way
 My uncle gave it to me, and I will never forget that day.
 It's simple, yet complicated in more ways than one.
 It reminds me of all the happy time we shared
 playing in the sun.

This simple staple necklace has left a huge imprint
 on my heart.
 It reminds me of my dear uncle who sadly had to depart.
 I miss him oh so dearly, but that's why I'm here to say,
 That what my uncle gave to me, means more than
 words can say.

Written for Scott Harrison TCF Valley Forge, PA—by Nevin Murkley



The
Compassionate
Friends Inc.

August 2024

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Valley Forge Chapter
of the Compassionate Friends
Rhonda Gomez
Chapter Leader
12 Brook Circle
Glenmoore PA 19343

*A bereavement organization
For parents, siblings and families
We offer friendship, love and understanding
We talk, we listen, we share, we care.*



The Compassionate Friends Credo

We need not walk alone. We are the Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other with love, with understanding, and with hope. The children we mourn have died at all ages and from many different causes but our love for them unites us. Your pain becomes my pain, just as your hope becomes my hope. We come together from all walks of life, from many different circumstances. We are a unique family because we represent many races, creeds and relationships. We are young and we are old, some of us are far along in our grief but others still feel a grief so fresh and so intensely painful that they feel helpless and see no hope. Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength. While some of us are struggling to find answers. Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or in deep depression; while others radiate an inner peace. But whatever pain we bring to this gathering of the Compassionate Friends, it is pain we will share, just as we share with each other our love for the children who have died. We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves, but we are committed to building a future together. We reach out to each other in love to share the pain as well as the joy, share the anger as well as the peace, share the faith as well as the doubts and help each other to grieve as well as to grow. We need not walk alone, we are the Compassionate Friends.