



The Compassionate Friends

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

VOL 5, 2ND QUARTER
APRIL—JUNE 2016
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: LINDA WALLACE

Chapter Co- Leaders

Chrissy & Mark
Hutchison

Linda Wallace

Loving Treasurer

Donna Langer

Loving Listener

Kit Daniher

Loving Writer

Alicia Mobley

Loving Outreach

Caren Plotkin

Loving Newsletter Assembler/Mailer

Donna & John Pfeiffer

Through the efforts of many our Chapter has been busy...

Had our **Walk to Remember** on February 28th, great attendance, beautiful weather, funds raised to keep our Chapter able to help others so No One Walks Alone.

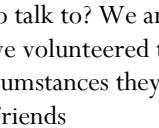
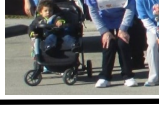
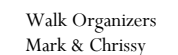
Painting With A Twist 11 people gathered and created "beautiful" paintings but more then that they laughed and had fun.

Guest Speaker Mitch Carmody came and shared with our group about Proactive Grieving and different styles of griever's relating to the Winnie the Pooh characters.

Scrapbooking moms gathered and made photo album pages of their precious children for our Chapter's photo album Thank you Marcia for providing the supplies.

We have also assembled **GREETING PACKETS** to be given to new families when they attend a meeting, **CALENDARS** that show all our meetings and scheduled events and **POSTCARDS** that we are handing out to our Doctors offices, Funeral Homes and churches so they are aware our Chapter is here and willing to help others dealing with the loss of a child, grandchild or sibling. Please help us spread the word by handing them out; you can get some at any of our meetings or by emailing us.

We are starting our **PHONE A COMPASSIONATE FRIEND** to give people another way to reach out to one another.



Scrapbooking



Painting with a Twist



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

Frank Daniher 239-287-1559, son Mark died at 47 as the result of complications from heart surgery

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

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

(Not in February-building unavailable)

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

We also have two

"Go Out to Eat Groups"

Girls Night Out is the 1st Tuesday of each month locations change check our Meetup or Facebook page @ 6:00 pm

Guys Night is the 2nd Thursday of the month at Ruby Tuesdays, 8777 Tamiami Trail N, Naples @ 6:15 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 8th Wishing all a Gentle Mothers Day
- May 9th Chapter Mtg YMCA, Naples
- May 21st in honor of Mothers, Fathers & Grandparents Day we are meeting for Breakfast @ The Original Pancake House 9:30 am
- May 28th Chapter Mtg Unity, Bonita
- June 1st Steering Committee Mtg, 6:30 pm, 56592 Strand Ct, Naples
- June 13th Chapter Mtg YMCA, Naples
- June 16th Painting with a Purpose Fundraiser see details on page 4
- June 19th Father's Day-Hugs to all our Dads
- June 25th Chapter Mtg Unity, Bonita
- July 8-10 National TCF Conference, Scottsdale AZ
- Be sure to check our website for more information about upcoming events!

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OUR CHILDREN LOVED & 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
- 10th-**Dewayne Peter Williams** son of Eunice Williams
- 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-**Tom Scott** son of Bob & Julie Scott
- 26th-**Nathaniel "Nate" Ketcham** son of Deborah Ketcham
- 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
- 2nd-**Joseph J. Ribaud** son of Fran & Lou Racioppo
- 3rd-**Tracey Henault Kleinpell** daughter of George & Donna Henault
- 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
- 22nd-**Tanya Rane Mitchell** daughter of Teresa & Dennis Mitchell
- 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 Scholtz** son of John & Mary Scholtz
- 2nd-**Caitlyn Landers** daughter of Don & Sandy Landers
- 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 King
- 12th-**Cory Gotti** grandson of Is Cloak
- 14th-**Scott Schultz** son of Carl & Dana Schultz
- 17th-**Gloria Marzano** daughter of Eleanor & Victor Marzano
- 18th-**Kyle Fernstrom** son of Fred & Shelby Church
- 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
- 28th-**Andrew Morello** son of Andrea & Joe Morello



OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

SUNSETS

APRIL

- 1st- **Rain Lee Schliska** son of Loni Pines
2nd-**Sarah Anne Kithcart** daughter of Anne & Herb Kithcart
3rd-**Wesley Longfellow** son of John & Sarah Longfellow
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
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
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
7th-**Tracey Henault Kleinpell** daughter of George & Donna Henault
13th-**Michael Lawrence Weinstein** son of Matthew & Christine Weinstein
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
29th-**Daileen Alfonso** daughter of Maharani DaCosta
30th-**Jonathan Richard Yurewitch** son of Margie & John Yurewitch

JUNE

- 1st-**Katie Raines** daughter of Lenora Raines
4th-**Jonathan Guffey** son of Rebecca Guffey
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 Scholtz** 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-**Michael DiSebastiano** son of Carmine & Vivian DiSebastian
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 Young** daughter of Lisa & James Young
28th-**Daniella Alexander Pantoja** sister of Jennifer Pantoja
29th-**Malissa Balcom** 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 swflcf@live.com or visit our Website <http://tcfsfwl.org> under "Resource" fill out updated member form so we can honor all of our children

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are so happy that many people are getting involved in the different areas. If many of us do something it makes the group run well. **These opportunities have been filled: Website maintenance-Anne Arbeleaz, Button Maker-Mauricio Arbeleaz, Newsletter Assembly/Mailer-Donna & John Pfeiffer, Loving Listener-Kit Daniher, Mailbox management-Margie Yurewitch, Treasurer will soon be Frank Daniher**

Here are some areas we would welcome help in:

- ♦ **Chapter Picture Board**—Responsible for adding new pictures to the board that we display at every meeting and event.
- ♦ **Chapter Event Board**—Gather pictures taken at events throughout the year and put together on a board to be displayed at our Candle Lighting in December
- ♦ **Name Tags & Lanyards**— Make name tags for new members
- ♦ **Newsletter Editor**— Would you like to be in charge of this quarterly publication? How about contributing to the “Parents Corner” or writing an article or a poem?
- ♦ **Greeting Packets**—Be responsible to assemble as needed.
- ♦ **Coordinator/Greeter for Girls Night Out**—The 1st Tuesday of each month at the location the “hostess” chooses. Involves making the reservation and being at the restaurant first to greet the ladies. We have July, August, October, November & December available.
- ♦ **Storage Area**— We need a space about 100 sq feet to keep our Chapters “things” (supplies for the Candle Lighting, Walk signs, awning, etc)

If any of the above interest you send us an email at swflcf@live.com

We need your help updating our mailing/email list of churches, places of worship so we can make them aware of our Candle Lighting and other events. Please send us the information at the Chapter email swflcf@live.com

To honor Mother's, Father's & Grandparent's Day we are meeting at The Original Pancake House, 7941 Airport Pulling Rd N, Naples, on Saturday, May 21 @ 9:30 am Check out our Meetup or Facebook sites for more details.

Interested in North Fort Myers Meeting?

Progress is being made! Charlie's dad-Larry Boggio has been working diligently to reactivate this chapter. Here is what he sent me.

The Compassionate Friends of Fort Myers (formerly TCF Gulf Coast) is being re-established and our first meeting is being targeted for June. We are looking at a meeting location in Cape Coral/North Ft. Myers off Pine Island Road. The Chapter's email is tcffortmyersfl@gmail.com The Chapter is now listed on the Chapter locator on the TCF website.

You may contact Larry by phone at
978-761-5386

We look forward to sharing our children's lives with each other. A huge thanks goes to TCF SW FL for their support in helping us.

PARENTS CORNER

We want to have this spot to address things that are on your minds. A place to perhaps share something you have found helpful on your journey, an encouragement for others, thank you Mark's mom-Donna Goldstein for sharing this with us.

Mark's parents, Donna & Richard Goldstein have joined The House of Hope CDC to honor their son. In the announcement that was made by the nonprofit group this is what they wrote:

Mark's life was all things musical and he shared the struggles, challenges, and joys of his life through music on the acoustic and bass guitars.

From East Greenwich, Rhode Island to Portland, Oregon, to San Francisco, California, Mark brought music, hope, and laughter to many venues including the darkest back alley ways to lighten burdens of the most vulnerable in our society.

Mark gave all he had to the homeless; his shirts, his shoes, his cigarettes, his money, his friendship, and his gift of music.

He believed that a life without music was a life not worth living and he believed that music was the great equalizer.



FUNDRAISER

Come join us in this open to the public painting party where 50% of the profits will be donated to our Chapter.

Thursday, June 16, 7:00-9:00pm

www.paintingwithatwist.com/naples/calendar Scroll down to June 16th & click on our event and it will give you the details of the evening and you may reserve your seats. RSVP'ing to our Meetup or Facebook event does NOT sign you up.



Walk to Remember



The Compassionate Friends
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

VIRTUAL WALK July 10, 2016

Anne Arbeleaz will be setting this up. This is such an easy way to raise funds for our Chapter. Watch for details coming soon.



TCF National Conference in Scottsdale, AZ
July 8-10, 2016. For more information go to
www.compassionatefriends.org

Foundations & Donations

We were made aware of another foundation and want to keep adding to the list. Each quarter we will give the detailed information the first time we are made aware of it and then keep a running list. If you have a foundation you have established in honor of your child, sibling or grandchild please share your foundations information with us at swflcf@live.com

The House of Hope CDC reMarkable Music Room at Harrington Hall will be dedicated in honor and memory of Mark Goldstein (July 2, 1986 - February 18, 2015) A loving, generous, compassionate, creative, beautiful free spirit.

Through Mark's spirit, remarkable things can occur in The Remarkable Music Room. Minds will be calmed. Hearts will be mended. Confidence will be gained. Pride will be instilled. Creativity will be unleashed. Joy will be found, and a sense of belonging to the community will grow.

Others we know of are: www.stevermmlerhopefoundation.org www.safehealthychildren.org

www.genedoyle.org www.lightningfoundation.org

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

On FACEBOOK search for Ethan and Lily Foundation, Butterflies of Hope, The Mighty Mikey Foundation

DONATIONS: Made at our Walk to Remember in February: Alembia, Inc, Tim & Cynthia Haller, William & Paula Wilkins, Nancy Crosby, Bob & Alicia Mobley, David Alexander & Brian Alexander, Melody Maybin & Patrick Hutchison, Ben & Linda Wallace, Annie Wallace, Melissa Schrader, Dora Pauling, Pat Carufe, Larry & Marjorie Peirce, Amy Harding, Ozzie & Marcia, Mike & Sue Krempa, Martha Kilbore, Dan & Cathee Maloney, Natasha Tindell, Steven Rolon, Kellee Ratliffe, Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Daniher, Angela Daniher, Jeffrey Daniher, Ryan Lynd, Jim Tesco, Joyce Swalley, Frank Varallo, Carol Warren, Jaqueline Onessimo, Linda Grady, Peter Giampa, Joel & Cathy Giampa

If we have missed anyone please accept our sincere apology. Please email us @ swflcf@live.com so we can list your Foundation or Donation in the next newsletter.

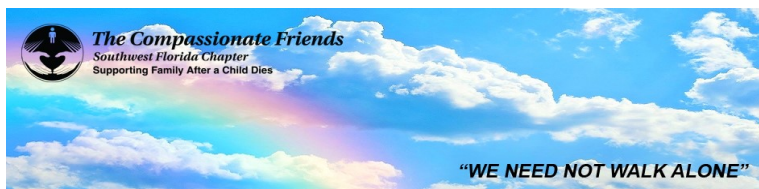
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

A Special Thank you to the past Chapter Leaders

Through the efforts of Chrissy & Mark Hutchison, pavers will be placed (hopefully near our Chapter's paver) at the C'mon Children's Museum in Naples. This is to honor our past leaders and their children, Anne Arbeleaz her son David, Teresa Mitchell her daughter Tanya, Bernadette Burks her son Matthew, Terese Walker her son Collin, Pam Arsenault her son Robert, Anne Kithcart her daughter Sarah, Elizabeth Lake her daughter Tanya and Mary Loughray her son John will join our Chapter's paver.

Chrissy sent them each a letter and here are the highlights:

"In this life we do not often know if what we are doing is making a difference, helpful or even just right. On behalf of my husband, myself, and our TCF of SWFL Chapter, we would like for you all to know that each one of you have made a remarkable difference in our lives. As each one of you stood up (with your unsuspecting family members) to keep this chapter going it has allowed so many the gift of hope and not walking this horrific journey alone. This group has saved me and I know many others and without people like each of you...well, where would we be? We are trying to continue the legacy each one of you has been involved with and only hope that we can make at least one person feel the love, hope and strength that we received when we started this journey."



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

Chapter Phone: 239-690-7801
Chapter E-mail: swflcf@live.com
Join us on MeetUp
www.meetup.com/compassionatefriends/

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: This is YOUR newsletter. We want to make this more personal. Share our stories, our pain, our successes. If you have things to share or suggestions please send us an email.

Hugs-Benjamin & Michael's mom-Linda

Grandparents Remembrance:

We are the grieving grandparents, the shepherds of our children and grandchildren's lives. Our grief is two-fold and at times we feel powerless to help. We seek to comfort our children in the depths of their grief and yet we need the time and space to face our own broken hearts. We have been robbed of the special tender touch a grandparent shares with a grandchild, and we have lost a symbol of our immortality. As we walk by our child's side, we both give and draw strength. We reach into their hearts to comfort them, and when they reach out to us in their distress, we begin the journey to heal together. We continue to be their guardians. We allow traditions to change to accommodate their loss. We support the new ones, which symbolize the small steps on their journey. It is in their healing that our hearts find comfort.

Susan Mackey TCF Rutland, VT

NATIONAL OFFICE

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The Loss of a Sibling from My Point of View

I am Chris' sister. My name is Sara. For many years growing up all my older brothers friends called me was Chris' sister. I didn't mind it then because being the little sister I was just happy to be noticed by them. Now if someone refers to me as Chris sister it warms my heart. It means they remember him and realize that even though he is gone I am, and always will be, his sister. Chris was my only sibling. It's really hard to be the only remaining child when your parents have experienced that kind of loss. I love my parents deeply and because of that I try so hard to bring some sunshine to the days I feel will be the hardest for them. I try to spend as much time as I can with them because I am so much more aware of what the loss feels like. I worry now about losing them because I always thought I would still have my brother and the thought that it will be just me and whether or not I will be able to handle it on my own is terrifying. I always imagined growing up and having barbecues with my family, my brothers family, and my parents. I thought there would be family vacations, holidays, graduations, celebrations, and just more time. My children never got to meet their uncle and that breaks my heart. I can tell them how hilarious he was but they will never really know. I want so badly to make them understand how important they are to each other and I try to tell them but I just can't put into the words the impact they will have on each other's lives. Because the loss of a sibling leaves a hole that's impossible to describe.

Thank you Sara for sharing this with our SW Florida Chapter

ON THE ROAD... Our Loving Outreach person, Caren Plotkin continues to explore setting up meetings at Assisted Living Centers in our area. The response has been wonderful and it is important that we give these people a chance to talk about their losses in a way they weren't able to before.

SIBLING REPRESENTATIVE Tracy Milne Edgemon-Andrew's Sister

National Board of Directors, Sibling Representative 239-676-9140 tracymilne@yahoo.com