



The Compassionate Friends Brevard Chapter

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

TCF Brevard Chapter Web Site

www.tcfobrevardnc.org/tcf/home.htm

TCF Brevard Newsletter

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April showers bring May flowers. Our tears are like showers. Do you ever wonder what they will bring? The Psalmist

said God has a bottle that He keeps our tears in. For some, we think He will need a jug to hold our tears of sorrow.

Yet, each one of us has something that quickens us to allow something beautiful and wholesome into our heart. It may be the smell of a newborn baby in the family, a successful fund raiser in honor of our child, a large portrait of our child displayed where thousands will see. It may be as simple as a mourning dove calling her young. If you think long enough, you will find something that quickens your spirit to receive a moment of pleasure. When you feel the weight of your sorrow crashing down on you, think about that small pleasure, if just for a moment in time, let it serve you.



**Sharon Bach donated the book
A Child Died, a Father Cried...
and God Answered
By Mark Canfora**

The story is about a heartbroken father that tells his story with honesty and vulnerability, sharing his journey from grief stricken thoughts of his own suicide to God-fueled courage and ministry that now offers comfort and hope to thousands. Feel free to check this book out of the library and any of the other wonderful books available.

Monthly Meeting

Always the 2nd Monday
of the month
April 11, 2010
7:00 PM at the

**The Lutheran Church of
the Good Shepherd**
22 Fisher Rd. Brevard

**This Month's Topic
Open Discussion**

**Poem
And
Tribute
Pages
2 & 3**

**Memorials
Page 4 & 5**

**Our chapter received a
donation from**

Calvin Corley

In honor of his son

**Heath Lawrence
Corley**

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THE PERSONNA OF GRIEF

Please be gentle with this new person
That I was forced to become.
I need understanding and patience
So please administer some.

I often feel myself floundering
In my daily activities now,
And some of the things that I used to do
Are harder to do somehow.

There are certain songs I can't bear to hear
And places where I cannot dwell,
And just folding laundry can make me cry;
(Shopping for groceries, as well.)

If the smell of a grilled cheese sandwich
Has me suddenly weeping tears;
Please understand that he loved those for lunch
And I made them for him for years.

And don't be afraid to mention his name.
I need that more than you know.
You're not the reason I'm hurting so much--
The death of my son made that so.

Just offer your shoulder if I need to cry
And listen if I need to talk.
This road that I'm on is SO difficult--
The hardest I ever will walk.

Maybe someday I'll show you his pictures
And not fall apart at the seams.
Just tell me you know that I'm hurting so--
I can't tell you how much that means.

I know that the pain will get softer
So be patient with me till it does;
I never will be the same person again,
For I'm not the ME that I Was.

Beverly F. Walker
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**Compassionate friends
A safe place to talk**



"The object of good grief is to remember, not relive."
author unknown.

There is a need to talk, without trying to give reasons. No reason is going to be acceptable when you hurt so much. A hug, the touch of a hand, expressions of concern, a willing listener was and still is the things that helped the most. The people who were the greatest help were not judgmental. It's most helpful when people understand that what is needed is to talk about it and that this is part of the grief process.

To Our New Members
Coming to the first meeting is the hardest, but you have nothing to lose and everything to gain! Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not The Compassionate Friends will work for you. At the next meeting you may

find just the right person or just the right words said that will help you in your grief work.

To Our Members Who Are Further Down The "Grief Road"

We need your encouragement and your support. Each meeting we have new parents. THINK BACK – what would it have been like for you at your first meeting if there had not been any TCF "veterans" to welcome you, share your grief, encourage you and tell you, "your pain will not always be this bad, it really does get better!"



Forever IN THE Father's Hands



*You're my Fathers son, I can place you in His hand
His plan for you is greater than I'll ever understand
Though the journey that's unfolded has brought pain,
beloved one, I won't fear tomorrow because I know...
you're my Fathers son.*

Duane and Cindy Mullett lost their son Austin on October 31, 2010. Austin was 16 years old with a long history of chronic illness.

His parents wrote:

Big Mountain...Bigger God

The book is scheduled for release on April 15, 2011.

Austin's Journey of Faith

Austin is a 16 yr old who was in the hospital from Nov 11, '09 to March 1st '10 with heart failure & received a 2nd heart transplant. Austin received his 1st heart transplant at 8 months old. During Austin's 6th and 7th year he survived two different kinds of cancers. On Oct 31,2010 after a brief bacterial infection God took Austin home. **We are convinced that God had a specific eternal purpose to accomplish through Austin's brief 16 yrs of life.**

Taken from the Mullet Family Website, Caring Bridge.org



OUR CHILDREN

Sunrise and Sunset Dates

March

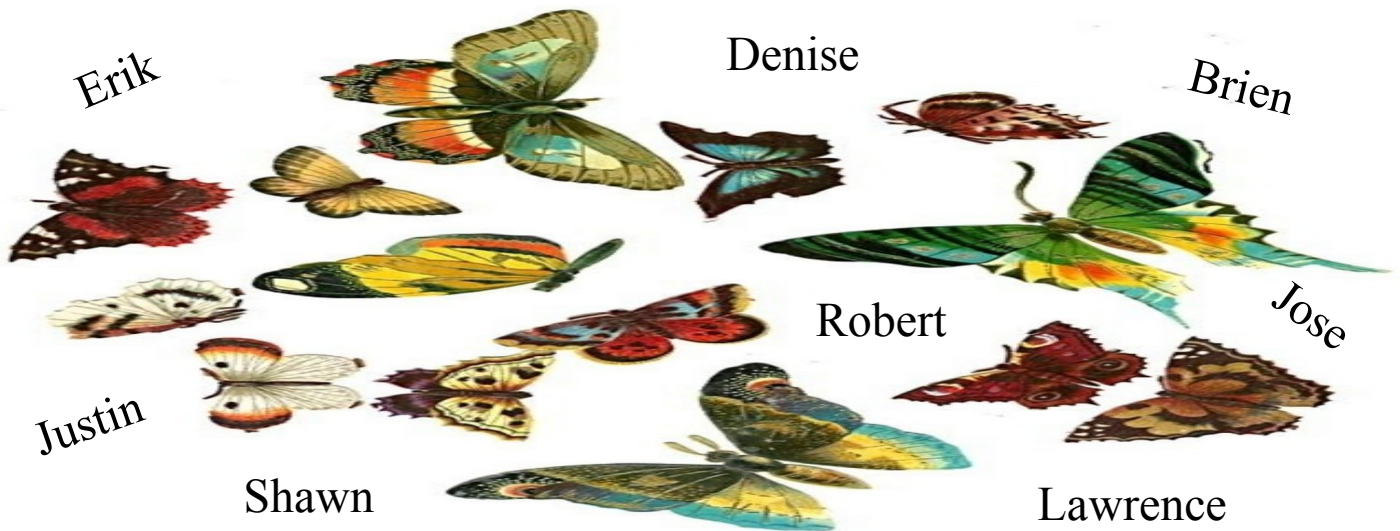


*Love that can not be quenched
Our beautiful children forever remembered*

Children	Sunrise	Sunset
Brien Patrick McCall	April 24	
Denise L. Skogen	April 24	
Erik Gollnick		April 25
Jose Luis Santos		April 14
Justin Blake Case "Frog"		April 8
Lawrence Daniel Gabcik		April 30
Robert Jason Morgan	April 28	
Shawn Anthony Fisher	April 10	

Memorials

In loving memory of our wonderful children



Birthday Table

Every month at our chapter meeting, we provide a Birthday Table. In the month of your child's birthday, if you are ready to do so, please bring pictures and small mementos of your child to place on the table. You may also bring a favorite cake, cookies, or other snacks, flowers, candles or balloons for the table in memory of your child. We do this to celebrate our children's lives and to share their special day with others who understand.

If you would like your child's picture to appear on this remembrance page or if you have a memorial you want printed, please send me an email at emp2001@yahoo.com with their picture as an attachment in a jpeg or bmp. format.

Jose Luis Santos ~ Forever In My Heart

05/15/1972 ~ 04/14/2002



*Remember Me In Your Heart
~ Unknown*

*To the living, I am gone,
To the sorrowful, I will never return,
To the angry, I was cheated,
But to the happy, I am at peace,
And to the faithful, I have never left.*

*I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at
a beautiful sea
As you look upon a flower and admire
its simplicity
Remember me.*

*Remember me in your heart:
Your thoughts, and your memories,
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For if you always think of me,
I will never have gone.*

To the Most Wonderful Son a Mother Could Have:

It's so hard to believe that I haven't seen you in 9 years. I miss you so much, I miss your voice, I miss your hugs, I miss your laugh, and I miss everything about you. Your birth grandmother joined you in heaven on October 26, 2010 You are in great company with God our Father and two grandmothers, and someday we will all be together. It is the hope we hang on to that keeps us going from day to day, which is a step closer to our reunion. In the meantime I will continue to honor you in all that I do and in all that I am. Keep sending me those signs.

*Love you and miss you, and one fine day we will see you again,
Mom and Bill*

Love Gifts – A Way to Remember

There are no dues to belong to the Compassionate Friends, because we have already paid the ultimate price; the loss of our loved ones. A **Love Gift** is a gift of money given in Honor of a child who has died from their family members or as a Memorial from friends. Your gifts are tax deductible and are used to reach out to other bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings. Your gifts support this newsletter, our TCF Library, Brochures and other Chapter Expenses.

In Memory of:

From:

**TCF of Brevard
PO Box 304
Brevard, NC 28712**



*You are not forgotten my child.
I see you in the creases of my mind and I
feel you in the chambers of my heart.*

VVA



The Compassionate Friends of Brevard
PO Box 304
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

April 2011 Newsletter



Our 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.

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