

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

PO Box 304, Brevard, NC 28712

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TCF – National Office – Toll Free (877) 969-0010 – www.compassionatefriends.org



Volume 3, Issue 1

January, 2008

Monthly Meeting

Always the *second Monday* of the month.

January 14, 2008

Topic:

“Open Discussion – Ask It”

The “ask it” is a good way to generate discussion and share some of the feelings after having just gone through the holiday season.

Meeting Time & Location:

7:00 PM

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
22 Fisher Road, Brevard, NC

**Compassionate Friends
A Safe Place to Talk**



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 were and still are 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.

We acknowledge the following Love Gift with sincere gratitude and deep appreciation:

**In Memory of Troy Keith Drye, Jr.
~ by Kathy & Lewis Curlee**

TCF OF BREVARD CHAPTER NEWS



First I would like to wish all of you a Peaceful and Blessed New year...hoping that all of you made it through the holidays okay. Not much more that we can ask for as bereaved parents, but to make it through one more holiday or special event without our wonderful children by our side. Wishing you all a much “softer” new year.

The Candle Light Ceremony was a wonderful and a beautiful success...we wished Caroline would have been there, but I know she was there in spirit and we continue to pray for her speedy recovery. Thank you to Caroline for the beautiful butterfly ornaments each parent received.

Thank you to Martha Clark for donating the Main Candle at our Candle Light Service presented to her by Father Simon, the founder of The Compassionate Friends. We will continue to use this candle during our annual Candle Light services. Martha has also donated some books to add to our library.

Thank you to all the parents who brought so many yummy goodies to snack on while we had our fellowship with each other after the Candle Light service. The evening was beautiful and memorable.

Also, I hate to inform you that one of our parents, Martha Clark has moved to Winston Salem, NC. We will certainly miss Martha, but I know she will come to visit us every once in a while. Her new address is:
956 Heatherstone Drive, Winston Salem, NC 27104 and her new phone # is 336-774-9975.



Wishes for Bereaved Parents for the New Year

To the newly bereaved...We wish you patience – patience with yourselves in the painful weeks, months, even years ahead.

To the bereaved siblings...We wish you and your parents a new understanding of each others needs and the beginning good communication.

To those of you who are single parents...We wish you the inner resources we know you will need to cope, often alone with your loss.

To those experiencing marital difficulties after the death of your child...We wish you a special willingness and ability to communicate with each other.

To those of you who have suffered the death of more than one child...We wish you the endurance you will need to fight your way back to a meaningful life once again.

To those of you who are plagued with guilt...We wish you the reassurance that you did the very best you could under the circumstances, and that your child knew that.

To those of you who are deeply depressed...We wish you the first steps out of the valley of shadow.

To all fathers and those unable to cry...We wish you healing tears and the ability to express your grief.

To those of you who are exhausted from grieving...We wish you the strength to face just one more hour, just one more day.

To all others with special needs that we have not mentioned...We wish you the understanding you need and assurance that you are loved.

Joe Rousseau
TCF President 1990

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The **January** Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of all our children...gone too soon...but never forgotten.

We Remember their **Birthday** and their **Angel** Dates.



Our Children Remembered:

Craig Lawrence VanAntwerp – 01/31/73 ~ 08/12/06

Kevin Atwell – 01/23/72 ~ 12/27/01

Troy Keith Drye, Jr. – 11/27/70 ~ 01/24/06

Will Atwell – 01/03/75 ~ 09/20/93

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. **Just let me know ahead of time.**

As Long As I Can

I will look at this world for both of us, As long as I can,
I will laugh with the bird.

I will sing with the flowers, I will pray to the stars, for
both of us.

As long as I can I will remember how many things on
this earth were your joy.

And I will live as well as you would want me to live As
long as I can.

By Sascha

Love Gifts are a tax-deductible donation of money, library books or equipment made to the chapter in memory of a child, or as a memorial gift on the death of a friend or relative. Love Gifts are a 'living memorial' on anniversaries of birth or death, holidays, special occasions or 'just because'. All contributions go directly into continuing the work of The Compassionate Friends. Thank you for your generous support!

In Memory of:

From:

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



If you would like to have an article, poem, etc printed in our newsletter, please mail to TCF-Brevard, PO Box 304, Brevard, NC 28712

OR e-mail to:

mgollnic@gte.net by the 25th of the month prior to the next newsletter's release.

(Please be sure to put "newsletter" or "TCF" in the subject line.)