



Katy, Texas Chapter Newsletter August 2017

*The
Compassionate
Friends*
Katy Chapter
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

**Chapter Co-Leaders
Newsletter Editor
Treasurer**

**Jan Bigbee Weesner and Jo Wood
Annette Mennen Baldwin
Lisa Leonard**

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.

*****August Meeting *****

When: Tuesday, August 8, 2017 **6:30 PM – Doors Open at The John Burns Building
7:00 PM—Meeting Begins**



Where: **Kingsland Baptist Church** 20555 Kingsland Blvd,
Katy, TX 77450
John Burns Building, east side of Church complex

Program: Sibling Grief: Thoughts for siblings and parents

Directions:

From East of Fry Road (coming from Houston): Go west on I-10 to Fry Road. Turn left (south) on Fry Road. Turn right (west) on Kingsland Blvd and travel 0.5 miles to Kingsland Baptist Church.

From West of Mason Road (coming from San Antonio): Go east on I-10 to Westgreen Blvd. Turn right (south) on Westgreen Blvd and travel 0.6 miles to Kingsland Blvd. Turn left (east) on Kingsland Blvd and travel 0.5 miles to Kingsland Baptist Church.



Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to all who attended their first meeting in July.

Kathleen Blanchard whose son, Brandon Joseph Berzas, died in April 2017

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.

~ TCF Credo

The death of your child is probably the most traumatic, life-changing event that you will ever experience. The Compassionate Friends is an organization of parents who have also lost a child to death. Each of us has experienced the deep, searing pain that you are feeling now. Each of us has turned to other parents who were farther into their grief journey for guidance, support and understanding. This is done through our monthly meetings, our newsletter, our website, our phone-a-friend program, our library, our e-mail program and our referral program. Each month parents find our meeting to be a safe place where they can talk about their pain and problems with others who are uniquely qualified to understand; bereaved parents offer gentle suggestions or often simply listen. We invite you to bring a friend to your first few meetings until you feel a level of comfort with the group. Do not be surprised if we talk about the happy times with our children, the wonderful memories and the various methods we have created to keep our children close to us. It is here that many bereaved parents find hope as those who are more seasoned in their grief shine the light of experience to help illuminate each grief path. We have no dues. We are self-sustaining through donations and the generosity of so many in our community. You Need Not Walk Alone.

Our Children Remembered Birthdays

August 1	Patrick Ross Davidson, Jr., son of Leslie Barry Davidson
August 2	Ian Geoffrey Woodham, son of Geoffrey & Pam Woodham
August 2	Matthew C. Kerns, son of Debbie Kerns
August 4	Dustin Christopher Krause, son of Susan & Tony Krause
August 7	Luis E. Molina, son of Dahlia Salinas-Molina
August 7	Matthew Moore, son of Susan & Bill Archer
August 7	Angelica Rae "Angel" Cartwright, daughter of Stephanie & Michael Cartwright
August 12	Vincent Joseph Sansone, son of Tina & Sam Sansone
August 13	Jerad Matthew Whitten, son of Ethel McTigue
August 15	Eric Tunnell Anderson, son of Sue Anderson
August 17	Melvin "PaPa" Bell, Jr., son of Diana & Melvin Bell
August 18	Heather Michelle Menzie, daughter of Robert "Bob" & Janet Menzie
August 19	Jakob Heath, son of Dawn Levell
August 19	Alec Christopher Hilman, son of Laura Boyd
August 22	Harley Johannes Hammack, grandson of Susan Hammack
August 23	Brett Austin, son of Janis Austin
August 25	Christopher James Elder, son of Mike & Berni Elder
August 25	Chelsey Lee Jones, daughter of Dennis & Deanna Jones
August 27	Hannah Henson, daughter of Karen Henson
August 27	Brian Richard DeMoss, son of Brett & Lynette DeMoss
August 30	John Robert Ginter, son of Glen & Melinda Ginter

Anniversaries

August 2016	1 Year	Gonash Haghshenas, son of Ali & Rubob Haghshenas
August 2015	2 Years	Alisha Aleen Gonzalez, daughter of Veronica Gonzalez
August 2015	2 Years	Jason Boyle, son of JoAnne Moudik and sister of Julie Hudson
August 2015	2 Years	Matthew Evan Larabee, son of Cathy Larabee
August 2015	2 Years	Corey Demaro Renard Linwood, son of Clifton Linwood
August 2015	2 Years	Lydia Esperanza Perez daughter of Jose & Glenda Perez
August 2015	2 Years	Christopher Jason Pierce, son of Sherry & Jason Pierce
August 2015	2 Years	Bishaara Jamal Kennedy, son of Nadine Piper
August 2014	3 Years	Justin Ryan Swisher, son of Quinton & Stephanie Swisher
August 2013	4 Years	Matthias Leschly Bang, son of Rikke Bang
August 2013	4 Years	Clayton Brooks Prine, son of Mary & Bruce Prine
August 2012	5 Years	Misty Dawn Smith, daughter of Terri DeMontrond
August 2012	5 Years	Patrick Wayne McCracken, son of Wayne & Connie McCracken
August 2012	5 Years	Judah Lyon Sanjur, son of Tiffany & Emiliano Sanjur
August 2012	5 Years	Mackenzie Wiese, daughter of Sheryl & David Wiese
August 2012	5 Years	Lauren Wiese, daughter of Sheryl & David Wiese
August 2012	5 Years	Stephanie Christine Derefinko, daughter of Dan & Kimberly Derefinko
August 2012	5 Years	Robby Hyle, son of Pam Hyle
August 2012	5 Years	Daniel Luke Lazarus, son of Cheramie Moore
August 2011	6 Years	Brandon Michael Noland, son of Neshia Noland
August 2011	6 Years	Nicholas Roland Kaschik, son of Rosalind (Roz) Turner
August 2010	7 Years	Mario (Mijo) Escareno, Jr., son of Viola Escareno
August 2009	8 Years	Stephen Paul Rider, son of Sharon & Don Sackreiter
August 2009	8 Years	Wesley Wayne Bode, son of Joyce Bode
August 2008	9 Years	Solinda Ann Saladino, daughter of Barbara & Edward Moccabee-Saladino
August 2007	10 Years	Sean Patrick McEaney, son of Lynn Gilmore
August 2006	11 Years	Carlos Enrique Villarreal, son of Linda Hilliard
August 2006	11 Years	Robin Kumar Sen, son of Neela & Salil Sen
August 2005	12 Years	Brett Austin, son of Janis Austin
August 2004	13 Years	Stephanie Anne Favorite, daughter of Malena & Ray Lopez
August 1997	20 Years	Elizabeth Anne Chamberlain, daughter of David & Colleen Chamberlain
August 1993	24 Years	Stormy Sean Beck, son of Howard & Linda Beck
August 1989	28 Years	Toshe Danae Reese, daughter of Jason & Sherry Pierce

Katy TCF Volunteers

Cards of Remembrance—Robin Conner
Welcome Cards to new members—Brenda Schmitt
Newsletter—Annette Mennen Baldwin
E-mail to group—Annette Baldwin—tcfkaty.messages@gmail.com
Publicity & E-Mail correspondence—Annette Mennen Baldwin
Picture Buttons—Annette Mennen Baldwin
Holiday & Craft Projects—Neela Sen
Welcome Packages—Sherrie Schurman
Library—Jan Bigbee
Web Site—Lee Schurman
Treasurer 2017—Lisa Leanard—lisleanard@sbcglobal.net
Snacks—Laura Reding
Facilities Coordinator: Melinda Ginter
Memorial Bench Maintenance—Need a volunteer
Group Facilitators - Albert Tapia, Robin Conner, Lisa Leanard, Annette Mennen Baldwin, Jan Bigbee, Sherrie Schurman, Jo Wood, Viola Escanaro, Sherry Contreras & Brenda Schmitt

National TCF Contact Information



TCF National Office
 P.O. Box 3696
 Oak Brook, IL 60522

Toll Free: (877) 969-0010
www.compassionatefriends.org

Mark Rambis
 Regional Coordinators, Southern Texas

Join Our Chapter E-Mail List

To join, send an email to: tcfkaty.messages@gmail.com

Sibling Grief... August Meeting Topic

We thought it was fitting to bring forth some information at the August meeting from the 2017 Annual Compassionate Friends Conference held in Orlando, Florida, in July. Ghislaine Thomsen and her daughter, Stephanie Thomsen, will speak about the conference and about sibling grief and what parents can do to help their surviving children on their grief journey.

This is a wonderful meeting for parents with children of all ages because siblings do miss their brother or sister, whether they are 5 years old or 55 years old. Parents will learn something new, and siblings will be able to relate to the various seminars that Stephanie attended while at the 2017 TCF Conference.

If this is your first meeting, please arrive by 6:30 pm. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Bereaved Parents

Different ages
Different stages
Different issues

Same pain
Daily strain
Occasional tissues

Our children have died
Often is all we know
A fact we fear to hide



Despite our ever-present woe
We live with pride
Though broken-hearted
To love, remember, and grow

*Victor Montemurro
TC,F, Medford, NY*

August

The summer runs to harvest -
Do you ask:
How can a harvest be without my child?

Friend, some day soon
the harvest in your life
will bring you hope and wealth
from love remembered.

By Sascha Wagner from *The Poems of Sascha Wagner*

Loving Listeners.....Phone-A-Friend

TCF Katy has established a phone-a-friend list for parents who want to talk with someone who shares a similar loss. If you would like to volunteer to be a phone-a-friend, please contact Annette Baldwin.

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- Accidental Death of Child Living at Home* Jo (281) 795-3235
- Loss of an Adult Child*.....Annette (281) 578-9118
- Only Child*.....Annette (281) 578-9118
- Murdered Child*..... Robin (281) 851-5425
- Neonatal Loss*.....HAND (832) 752-1919
- Death of Teenage Child*..... Brenda (281) 804-7087
Jo (281) 795-3235
- Accidental Death of Adult Child*.....Annette (281) 578-9118
- Death from long term illness*.....Karen (832) 746-0279
- Death of a Disabled Child*.....Neela (281) 579-1262
- Suicide*.....Sherrie (281) 579-7741
- Support for Fathers*.....Albert (832) 885-4741

Special Small Group Meeting For Parents Whose Child Was Lost to Suicide

The Katy Chapter of TCF has a unique program for parents whose children died from suicide. All parents attend the opening of our meeting each month and then adjourn to their own private meeting for the remainder of the meeting. Death from suicide usually requires additional and unique group dynamics.

This program is offered only to parents who have lost children to suicide.

Tailored Small Group Meeting For Parents Whose Child Died From Addiction or Related Cause

By request we have established a group meeting for parents whose child died from addiction disorders, overdose or a cause of death related to the years of struggle with addiction.

You will still meet at the opening of our evening together with the entire group. Following opening remarks and special topical discussions, we will break into our small groups. If you would like to meet with this tailored group, you simply need to accompany the leader to the small group meeting room.

This is a unique group that was requested by our existing members. You are welcome to join this group and share your grief journey with others who have experienced a similar tragedy.

Parents of Younger Children Meet in Private Group

If your child was still a minor and living at home...whether your child was two years old or 17 years old, the experience of your child's death at this young age is unique. Many parents of younger children have requested their own group to discuss their loss and establishing a new normal without their younger child.

This group meets together after the opening group meeting. If you would like to participate with this group, you will be told by the leader which room is in use for this special meeting after the opening meeting.

Printed in Loving
Memory Of
Todd M. Mennen
1967-2002





Always In Our Hearts

We can't believe it's been 20 years since we lost our beautiful Beth. She came into this world on July 7, 1978 and went up to Heaven on August 23, 1997 at the age of 19. She was lovely and so smart and loved being with her horses and going to the barn to ride. Unfortunately, she lost her life after being thrown from her horse. I think she is riding horses up in heaven as well.

As our first born, she was a joy to our family and was a brilliant child. I didn't know it at the time, but after she died, I learned about children who lived a former life and I now believe Beth was one of those children. When she was just a little girl, she would say, "I remember when I was a little boy" and we would say, "oh, honey, you are a little girl, not a boy", but she believed that she had been a boy at some time. How would a child around 2 years old even think that? She grew up enjoying her friends, putting on performances with her sister for us, collecting bears and enjoying music. After high school, she got a full scholarship to the University of Houston and was majoring in Graphic Design. My dad went to UH and studied architecture and he and my mom, my husband David, and my other daughter, Katie are all very creative and artistic, so I guess that's where Beth got her artistic talent.



Her sophomore year, she decided that was not what she wanted to do and went to junior college and started running the barn that she had ridden at for several years. That only lasted a short time though, due to her horse riding accident in 1997. We think of her and miss her every day.

We had an interesting experience the day we moved into our current house in the Austin area. The movers were wrapping up and were outside and David and I were in our den at the back of our house and we saw something lying on the floor of the entry and checked it out. If you have lived in the Houston area for a while, then you remember Astroworld. Well, this was Beth's Astroworld card laying all by itself in the entry. We picked it up and couldn't believe what it was. Of all the items we had moved over here, to find this one item, was amazing. So, we believe that she was welcoming us to our new home and letting us know that she approved! How amazing was that!

I also have a beautiful picture hanging in my bedroom that was done by Salvador Dali. We had gotten it on our last cruise that we had taken just a couple of weeks before Beth passed away and it is a photo of Mother Mary (or another adult angel) and a young angel standing beside her. The picture was shipped to us several weeks after our cruise and after Beth was no longer with us. I couldn't even open it up for several days, but once I did, I loved it because it made me think that the young angel was Beth and someone was watching over her in heaven. That thought made me feel much better, that David and I couldn't be with Beth and take care of her, but either Mary or one of our family members who have died were always with her now.

Even though it's been 20 years, the time has flown by so quickly and we will always miss her very much and look forward to the day we see her again in heaven. Every morning and every night, I talk to her photo and blow kisses to her. As you all know, nothing can replace our beautiful children, but our other daughter, Katie, is giving birth to our first little granddaughter this August and her middle name is Elizabeth, named after her wonderful aunt who she'll never know, but we will definitely tell her about. I thought that was so very special for Katie to do. So, until I see my beautiful Beth again, she will always be remembered and forever in our hearts. We love you so much!!

Colleen Chamberlain
In Memory Of Elizabeth Anne (Beth) Chamberlain
July 7, 1978-August 23, 1997
TCF, Katy, TX



TCF E-Newsletter

An E-Newsletter is available through the National TCF Organization. To subscribe, go to TCF's National Web site home page (www.compassionatefriends.org) and click on "Register for E-Newsletter" link.

Resources Available to Our Members

Resources of all types are available to our members. We include these in the monthly newsletter and strongly recommend that, in addition to Compassionate Friends, newly bereaved parents avail themselves of one or more of the many retreats, programs, etc., that are available in the Houston area.

Are You Receiving Your Messages?

If you are not receiving your emails from our chapter email address, tcfkaty.messages@gmail.com, please send an email to this address and request to be added to the email list.

At this time we have about 20 email addresses that have not been deliverable. So, there are 20 of our members who are not receiving the notices and email messages with unique information about resources and the grief journey of bereaved parents.

Take a few minutes and add your name to this email list....send a request and be sure to add tcfkaty.messages@gmail.com to your list of contacts.

Steering Committee Now Acts As Support Team At Meetings

Our steering committee will act as a support team at each Compassionate Friends Meetings. Each member wears a name tag with the words "Support Team" on it. You need not walk alone.

Birthday Table

If your child's birthday is in July, please bring a picture or memento to our July meeting to share with the group. In April and December we ask that you bring your child's picture for the birthday table in the month preceding or following the actual event.



Articles & Poems For Our Newsletter

If you would like to submit a poem, a writing or a brief article (no more than 800-825 words) about your child or your grief journey for publication in our Katy Compassionate Friends newsletter, e-mail your work to Annette Mennen Baldwin at amennenbaldwin@hotmail.com. We encourage our members to share with us.



Remember Our Loving Listeners List

If your pain and anxiety overwhelm you, and you feel you need to talk with someone, please check our Phone-A-Friend list on page three of this newsletter.

You will find a member of our support team who will talk with you and help you discover things you can do to help you and your family.

Check Out Our Library

Our TCF library has many books, tapes, CDs and DVDs for our members. Each one has been carefully selected by a member of our TCF Chapter. The library is available for browsing before, during and after our monthly meeting. Check-out is a snap. We encourage our members to use this wonderful resource. There is much from which to choose; check it out at the next meeting. We have relocated our library table to the hall next to our snacks for your comfort.



Grief to Greatness Website

Several of our members read this website daily. The message is transition to hope after the death of a loved one: <http://griefftogreatness.com/index.html>

Webinar Archives—A Great Resource

The Compassionate Friends national website offers resources that are available whenever you need them. One such resource is the archives of the webinars that have been recorded over the past two years. Here is a list of what is available now. Simply go to compassionatefriends.org and click on the webinar archives under resources.

Bo's Place Is Open In Katy

The Katy Bo's Place program currently meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month near Highland Knolls and S. Fry. The group consists of families with children between the ages of 5 and 18 who have experienced the death of a child or parent. However, the Katy program is currently full. We have space available at the Houston location for immediate needs. We are building a waiting list of families interested in the Katy group and are looking into finding a larger space so that we can accommodate more families.

If you know of a family who is interested in joining the group, here is more information about the process. Call our main number (713-942-8339) and talk to a member of our program staff for a phone interview.



Saying Goodbye

There are a lot of times during our lives that we have to say goodbye to someone along the way. Saying goodbye to a child is most definitely the hardest goodbye of all.

I have said goodbye to two adult children and a husband of 25 years. This is not the way it is supposed to be, but it is apparently God's plan for some of us. July is one of the hardest months for me. My son Christopher was murdered on July 24th 2005. My daughter Dawn died in a car accident on July 19, 2008. She was 33 at the time and Chris was 28. Dawn's birthday is July 10, making this month a very difficult one for me.



With all that said, we moved two years ago from Katy to Glen Rose, TX. I have had to say a lot of goodbyes to people I really love and miss. My church family, who has been with me through all my losses, and The Compassionate Friends group in Katy, who have also been with me through my losses and supported me through all these terrible times. If it had not been for these two groups I don't know where I would be right now. However, TCF has been most instrumental in giving me ways to deal with my grief and to cope. It was not always easy to go to the meetings, as I am sure you all know what I am talking about. All the new faces each month, the terrible pain the newly bereaved have, it is all very difficult to watch each month.

Let me tell you one thing that was very important when it was told to me. I was at rock bottom after Chris died. I did not know what to do. I cried all the time, I couldn't eat, I just could not do anything but work to try and dull the pain. Make a commitment to come to three meetings in a row and then decide if this is the group for you. I was offered this challenge, and for the last ten years I have been an active member, trying to give hope to those who need it most. Although these last ten years have been hard at times, I find relief knowing that I stuck it out to help other people in the same situation.

Get involved in our group. Become a steering committee and help others in need. That is truly the best gift you can give yourself. By helping someone else in need, you are rewarded. I never had a lot of time to give, but I did want to give back and do something. I decided to take over the birthday and anniversary cards and every month I write something on those days. This has been my contribution over the years. I want to apologize to all who did not get their cards this month or got them late. With everything going on I just could not get it all done. I am hoping to get back to normal next month.

Another way I got involved was to begin the power point presentation pictures of our children to be displayed during our annual Candle Lighting Ceremony. I think that is such a great way to honor our children, and I hope all the new members will send in pictures of their children.

I encourage you all to return each month, and I promise it does get better the longer you come. Who knows, you might just make a difference in someone else's life!

God Bless you all, and I truly miss each of you.

*Written in Loving Memory of My children:
Christopher F. Wilson and Dawn Wilson-Shafer
TCF, Katy Chapter, Robin Conner*

Add A Page To Our Chapter's Memory Book

We encourage each of our members to add a page to Chapter Memory Book...a page devote to your child. If you would like to include your child in this album, the page size is 8 1/2 x 11. If you have questions, contact Annette Baldwin. You may create up to four pages for our Chapter Memory Book



Transition in Grief

It is good to speak of our children, to recall the wonderful memories of their lives. It is good to honor our children with ritual, ceremony, prayer and thanksgiving for the gift that will always be our child. It is good to celebrate the life of our children, to cherish our time with them.

It is also wise to acknowledge that by honoring our child in these ways, we are doing our grief work. This work also involves pushing, pulling and dragging ourselves through the purgatorial fog that transcends our every thought after our child dies. The grief is overwhelming; the process of grief work is demanding, punishing and often harsh.

Either we stay in one place, "stuck" in our grief, or we reach out and help ourselves. There are no other choices.

The loss of our child to death is the most traumatic event of our adult lives. We have lost the future, and we have lost an immense piece of ourselves when our child died. We must work to rebuild ourselves. Rebuild ourselves for a new life: a life without our child sharing this physical plane with us.

But as we share our child with others, speak of the life that no longer is, celebrate that life in ritual, ceremony and memories shared, we are doing our grief work. At first it is difficult. The throat swells, the breathing is shallow, and the words are so difficult to find. But we pursue, for we do not want the memory of our child to be erased.

We carry our child forward into the future; we see the world for two now. We cherish this new journey that we take for our child and ourselves. This effort is our child's legacy. Our child will live as long as we live....through our words, actions, thoughts, memories, and memorial efforts.

And as we do these things that are good, we find the burden lifts ever so slightly. Days, weeks, months, and then years pass. At some point we realize that we, too, have transitioned. Our subconscious mind has accepted the worst that life can give, and we have emerged as different people cherishing the goodness that is always our precious child.



*Annette Mennen Baldwin
In memory of my son, Todd Mennen
TCF, Katy, TX*

On Your 11th Anniversary

Dear Robin:

On August 10th 2017 it will be the anniversary of your departure from this earthly plane but we miss you as deeply as ever. It seems that the hands of time cannot erase the pain of your passing and the sorrow of that time has not diminished. We realize that you were in great agony and that death was the only release for you. However for us it was the beginning of our grief journey and we have now progressed very far with the assistance and comfort of The Compassionate Friends Katy Chapter. Our path to this stage of the grief journey has not been easy but we can now laugh again and not feel guilty about it.

Tonight I was listening to songs by Alan Pedersen and remembering your beautiful smile, your great jokes and your wonderful sense of humor. I talk to Jo Wood about you when I go to the TCF meetings and she remembers you from Taylor High School when you used to visit the Special Education children there. I know that lots of your fellow students loved you very much and it makes me glad to understand that. Last Sunday (July 9th 2017) we celebrated a special Puja at Durga Bari in honor of you and your grandparents, Prafula Kumar and Rashmini Sen) and my parents, Jyotish Chandra and Abha Sen. It was the first time we have done this and we invited most of our friends to attend.

Sharon Presta, our bank manager from Chase, came, too, and Jared Harville our private Client banker also attended. The Puja was followed by luncheon where Kedgiree and Prasad were served. Everyone knew you here and remembered you with fondness. This touched my heart.

The last eleven years have been filled with sadness mixed with joy because we still experience memories of all the joy and pride you brought through your brilliance. You were a source of great enjoyment and the epitome of a wonderful son. Your ashes are in a big urn on the windowsill in your room next to your dog Pippen's urn, and your photographs grace every room in the house. Some would say I should put them away but who are they to tell us how grieve for you? TCF says it is up to each of us to grieve in our own way and choose what works for us. All we know is that we will always love and miss you until we are reunited with you when we die. For the time being you are our angel and will always be.

*Neela Sen
In memory of my son, Robin Sen
TCF, Katy, TX*

The Child Who Is Not There

The child that's not there
Takes up every piece of me
The child that's not there
Consumes my every thought
The child that's not there
Makes me feel like I failed
The child that's not there
Took away a main reason for being
But

The children that are there
Still somehow bring me joy
The children that are there
Still need my love
The children that are there
Don't need any more grief
The children that are there
Force me to go on.

*Tricia Palmer
In memory of my son, Gabriel Boyer
TCF, Tidewater, VA*

Sibling Grief August Program:

**Meeting; Tuesday August 8, 2017
Doors Open at 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm**

Return Service Requested

13814 Wheatbridge
Houston, TX 77041



The Compassionate Friends