

Join people from around the world in this World Wide
Candle Lighting by writing a message in the Remembrance
Book on the national website today:
www.compassionatefriends.org.

Monthly Support Group Meetings
Third Wednesday each month at 7:00 PM
Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church



*We are a family—
Broken by death; mended by love;
Let love be what you remember most.*

DARCIE SIMS

Candle Lighting Remembrance Ceremony

Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022

**The Compassionate Friends
Miami Valley Chapter
#1732**



Candle Lighting Remembrance Ceremony

Dec.11, 2022

Instrumental Prelude	Danny Voris
Introduction & Welcome	Richard Miller
World Wide Candle Lighting Candle lit by Tina Grimme	7:00 PM
Reading: “Four Candles” p. 4 Candles lit by Tina Grimme	Dolly Brunner Kathy Beaty
Grandparents Grief p.5	JoAnn Nielson
Sibling Reading “The Old Me” p. 6 written and read by Allysia Loomis	Allysia Loomis
Instrumental “Over the Rainbow”	Danny Voris
Reading: “Little Butterfly” p. 7 Joe & Rachel Niswonger	
Song: “Precious Child” (Lyrics on p.10) By Karen Taylor–Good	
Reading “Never Forgotten” p. 11	Yolanda Pegg

Candle Lighting Ceremony

As your child’s, grandchild’s or sibling’s name is read, we ask that you come forward with your votive and name card.

Make sure that your candle is switched on when you come forward. Please hand both the candle and name card to the attendant. They will place the candle and name card together on the table.

Pick up a flower and return to your seat using the side aisles.

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) is an international nonprofit, self-help support organization offering friendship, understanding, and hope to families grieving the death of a child, grandchild or sibling of any age, from any cause. There is no religious affiliation and no individual membership fees or dues are charged. All bereaved family members are welcome.

“The Compassionate Friends is about transforming the pain of grief into the elixir of hope. It takes people out of the isolation society imposes on the bereaved and lets them express their grief naturally. With the shedding of tears, healing comes. And the newly bereaved get to see people who have survived and are learning to live and love again.”

Rev. Dr. Simon Stephens
Founder of The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends #1732, Miami Valley Chapter
P.O. Box 292112, Kettering, OH 45429
(937) 640-2621

www.miamivalleytcf.com
Miamivalleytcf@gmail.com

We Need Not Walk Alone -
We Are The Compassionate Friends



The
Compassionate
Friends

Miami Valley Chapter
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

**This chapter is supported through donations only.
Thank you to those whose support keeps this chapter
viable so “those who need us will find us, and
those who find us will be helped”.
We are a 501 c (3) non-profit.**

Thank you

- Those who make love gifts to support this chapter. These donations are our only income...we appreciate your support.
- Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church for allowing us to use this meeting place,
- Those who made food and cash donations:
 - The Wandering Griffin
 - LaRosa’s Pizzeria (Cross Point)
 - Vinny’s Bar & Grill
 - Dorothy Lane Market
 - Furst Florist
- Those who participate on the Chapter Leadership Team.
- Those who attend the monthly support group meetings,
- You for attending this Candle Lighting Remembrance Service.

A special thanks to those who started this chapter in June, 1989.

And our greatest thanks to our children, siblings, and grand children who blessed us with their love!

Reading of Names Mary Miller & Deanna McGrath

Placing of Candles Dolly Brunner

Bell Ringer Jen Albrecht

Distribution of memorial flowers

Video Presentation

Reading “Until we meet again” p. 12 Karen Wireman

Reading: “The Compassionate Friends Credo” p. 13 Karen Wireman

MOMENTS OF REFLECTION

DURING THIS MOMENT OF REFLECTION ANYONE WISHING TO COME FORWARD TO TAKE PICTURES OF THE TABLE , MAY DO SO.

Closing Comments Richard Miller

Exit Music Danny Voris

Replay of Video

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE LOWER LEVEL FOR REFRESHMENTS

Four Candles

As we light these four candles in your honor, we light one for our sadness, one for our determination, one for our memories, and one for our love.

We light this first candle for our **sadness**. The pain of losing you is intense, and the grief we feel is often hard to handle. We want you to know that we miss you so much.

We light this second candle for our **determination**. Knowing you has brought us strength. We are changed because of you. Your life has made a difference in our lives. We want you to know that we will take the energy of your living to help us move forward in our own lives.

We light this third candle for our **memories**. There is so much we remember - your smile, your laugh - the good times and the bad ones, too - when we were angry and when we were happy - all those times that never could have been lived with anyone but you. We want you to know that we will always remember.

We light this last candle for our **love**. The specialness that we shared with you can never be replaced. During this holiday season, our love for you will shine as brightly as this candle. We will pass that love on to others, and as we do, our hearts will smile because of you. We want you to know that we will always love you.

And all of these candles together create the light of **hope**. Hope for healing of our hearts and hope for the years to come.

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.

Our children have died at all ages and from many different causes, but our love for our children 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 and creeds.

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 we feel helpless and see no hope.

Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength; some of us are struggling to find answers.

Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or in deep depression; 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 our children.

We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves, but we are committed to building a future together as we reach out to each other in love and 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.**

Until We Meet Again

By Robert Bruce Rowe

We think about you always,
We talk about you still,
You have never been forgotten,
And you never will.
We hold you close within our hearts
And there you will remain ,
To walk and guide us through our lives,
Until we meet again.

GRANDPARENTS GRIEF

by JoAnn Nielson, Corey's Grammy

Miami Valley TCF

Today I speak for Grandmothers and Grandfathers who have lost a precious grandchild, from the very tiniest of infants to the older "grown" child, all lives gone from us too soon.

This isn't the Circle of Life as we imagined it, as we planned it. What makes it so hard when young departs before old? We now are traveling "the path that shouldn't be". Our reality, based upon what we thought was our place in life, is changed.

I want you to know this: the grandparent-grandchild bond is VERY special! The children of our children are indescribably dear to us.

And when a grandchild dies, our grief is complicated: we grieve for our grandchild, but we also feel overwhelming helplessness at not being able to take this intense pain away from our grandchild's parents, one of whom is our child – and in many cases, certainly including ours, the other of whom is as dear as any child-in-law could possibly be.

Parents protect, solve problems, comfort sorrows, encourage and advise. But now, NOTHING can be said or done to ease this pain, to lessen this suffering. There's no band-aid for this wound, no spoonful of medicine for this hurt, no hug for this sadness. Our OK-ness on any day depends on how we perceive our children are doing: we look for any sign that today is reasonably OK for them. Then it is reasonably OK for us.

To support and portray some strength, we often hold back our own tears. Then, in solitude, we release them.

Grief is the price we all pay for loving! And the hopefulness we do find after a time comes because love remains – it never leaves. Very slowly, time does bring the start of healing, as we remember, as we tell stories that now bring smiles and not just tears, as we actually are able to find joy, as we realize that we are still here for some reason that just might include somehow helping others through this uninvited journey, and as all our grandchildren become even more precious to us.

The Old Me

by Allysia Loomis

In a memory I was igniteful
Roses hath not crumbled,
rivers constantly streamed,
doves swarmed vigorously,
and smiles never filed.
Home was happiness
Thou art thy home.
Everything was peaceful:
Smooth like silk,
as perfect as silver.
How might all things right, dissipate?
the empty home:
aching whilst shaking,
cracking.
Cracking, as memories flood me to the
ground.
The flooding of an image,
The old me.

NEVER FORGOTTEN

By Kelly Polley Giesler (2012)

You'll never be forgotten
That simply cannot be,
As long as I am living,
I'll carry you with me,
Safely tucked within my heart
Your light will always shine;
A glowing ember never stilled,
Throughout the end of time.
No matter what the future brings,
Or what may lie ahead,
I know that you will walk with me
Along the path I tread.
So rest my angel, be at peace
And let your soul fly free.
When its my time,
I'll join you there for all eternity.

Precious Child

by Karen Taylor-Good

In my dreams, you are alive and well,
Precious Child, Precious Child.

In my mind, I see you clear as a bell
Precious Child, Precious Child.

In my soul there is a hole
That can never be filled.

But in my heart, there is hope,
'Cause you are with me still.

In my heart you live on, always there, never gone
Precious Child you left too soon.

'Tho it may be true that we're apart
You will live forever in my heart.

In my plans, I was the first to leave
Precious Child, Precious Child.

But in this world, I was left here to grieve
Precious Child, my Precious Child.

In my soul there is a hole, that can never be filled
But in my heart, there is hope, and you are with me still.

In my heart you live on, always there, never gone
Precious Child, you left too soon.

Tho' it may be true that we're apart
You will live forever in my heart.

God knows I want to hold you, see you, touch you
And maybe there's a heaven and someday I will again.
Please know you're not forgotten until then.

In my heart, you live on, always there, never gone.
Precious Child, you left too soon.

'Tho it may be true that we're apart
You will live forever in my heart.

Little Butterfly

by Amy Farquhar

I lived my life inside you
Cocooned in all your love
So mama, papa please don't cry
I'm still with you, just up above.

I felt your every heartbeat
It's my sweetest melody
and for every heavenly bedtime
The Angels play it back to me.

I know how much I'm wanted
I feel so very blessed
Of all the mummy's in all the world
I got the very best.

You think of me in all your waking hours,
And on those sleepless nights
Just look out the window and you'll find me
The brightest star, the most dazzling light.

I'm that little breeze in the summer
And I'm that unexpected white feather
I plucked from my downy wings
So that you remember that we are always together.

I know how much it hurts your soul
When we had to say goodbye
But I'm not gone, I'm always here
I'm your sweet little butterfly

In memory of Alfie James Farquhar

Adam Sommerhause
Adele Schlamersdorf
Alex Myers
Alex Wilcox
Alex Wood
Amanda Brooke Worley
Amy Webeck
Andrew Haas
Ashley Matheson
Ashley M. Wormsby
Austin Siler
Austin Singletary
Bianca Tala Bepler
Brad Miller
Brett Hobbs
Robert Hughes
Bryan David Holl
Brittane Henderson
Brooklyn VanSkoyck
Cameron & Keaton Schneider
Caresse Amber Crotty
Carter Kelb
Chad Gibson
Chris Mason
Corey Andrew Richards
Nathan Daniel Davidson
Cortney Rogers
Courtney Trent-Daley
Dalton Fletcher
Garrett McCollough
Darlene Whitman Armitage
David Allbery
Danny Allbery

Kathy Sabia
David Knowles
David McKinniss
David Michael Jennings
David Vantrease
Donnie Grzywinski
Dylan Coffman
Matthew Pratt
Elizabeth Ann Fargey
Elizabeth Ann Lawrence
Erin M. Quigley
Doug Brunner
Evan Rey Henry-Singleton
Farley Minor
Frank Elliott Paxson
Graeson Riley Rutman
Gwendolyn Mooney
Heather Marie Daniels
Isaac Matthew Reeser
Jacob & Ryan Knapke
Jacob Derek Polete
Jaxxen Baker
Jeffrey Scott Bernard
Jessica Black
Mary Duckett
Jessica Bruchey
Jessica Laycox
Jimmy Blanton II
Jonathan Reiff
Joseph Fernandez
Joseph Francis
Joseph Walling
Scott Matthew Walling

Justin Lucas Niswonger
Justin McCurdy
Justin Ratliff
Linda Ratliff
Justin Whitt
Justus Posey
Kalman Kolotkin-Harlow
Karen Hendrickson
Ke'Andrae Thomas
Keith Richard Grimme
Kelli Withrow
Kevin Arnett
Andrew Zachary Arnett
Kyle Lister
Lana T. Knorr
Makayla Leilani Rhiner
Marcus Bowling
Mark Wenclewicz
Mary Taulbee
Matthew K. Schleich
Melodey Chandler
Michael David Kraus
Michael Jacob McGrath
Molly Beth Louis
Nathan Darr
Nathan Griffith
Rachael Jones
Rachel Abigail Ramsey
Rashad Lateef Burnley
Rob Kaminski
Ronnie Bowers
Ryan Beaty
Ryan Gilhooly

Sarah Renee' Rhoads
Scott Freiberger
Seth Vision
Shane English II
Shannon Keith Mason
Shelby McMahan
Sherena Richter
Stephanie Clark
Steve Carnegis
Susan Sharp Crago
Susan Holcomb Lerner
Tera Davis
Theodore Clark Nelson
Thomas Joseph Dingler
Christian Alfonso
Trent Weiss
Trishia White
Tristan Mitchell-Spruce
Zachary Schaeffer
*We also remember those babies
who died and were named only
in their parents' hearts. and those
at home lighting candles for their
loved ones.*