



The Compassionate Friends

Honolulu Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 1 JANUARY - MARCH 2026 (FIRST QUARTER)

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Newsletter Editor: Georgiana Best
Parent Coordinator: Clara Makaipo
Fundraising Coordinator: Karen Cho
Website:
www.compassionatefriendshawaii.org

Facilitator (Sibling): Jennifer Wall
Apprentice Helper: Ethan Won
Grandmother – Infant Loss: Pearl Stewart

HONOLULU CHAPTER

Morning Kisses

May we find COMFORT in the deepest place where comfort is,

May comfort grab the hand of CALM MOMENTS, may
calm tap the shoulder of

TENDERNESS and tenderness call up COURAGE,
may courage whisper in the ear of

SUPER NATURAL STRENGTH. May they lock arms and gently
come knocking at the door of our soul.

Each time we feel fragile, like the tears won't stop or
the tears come unannounced, and the missing is beyond what we can
handle--- may they guide us to a new place...His Strength. May we
find energy to take His hand or if needed, look up and ask just to be
carried into the new mercy moment that awaits us.

May COMFORT, CALM MOMENTS, TENDERNESS,
COURAGE, & SUPER NATURAL STRENGTH

knock at the door of our soul till they become regular visitors.
May what was once a tentative opening to these travelers
now become

expected, needed, anticipated, welcomed companions.

May we not only open the door of our soul but the windows of our
heart and the curtains of our spirit, so the SON can light the dark and
dusty places with

HIS HOPE, HIS LOVE, and HIS HEALING.
.*Pamela Hagens*
In Memory of Samuel Christopher Hagens



Two Monthly Meetings

Hybrid: In Person and ZOOM

Meeting time: First Saturday of every month
10:00 – 11:30 am

Meeting Place: Kaneohe Bay Plaza

Address: 45-955 Kamehameha Hwy, Room
401

City: Kaneohe, HI 96744

Parking: First entrance up ramp is public
parking

Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Meeting time: Third Tuesday of every month
6:30 – 8:00 pm

See the Announcements

Upcoming Events

TCF HI Regional Grief Conference

Date: March 19-20, 2026

Place: Ala Moana Hotel Honolulu

Register at:

<https://compassionatefriendshawaii.org/events>

See the Announcements

49th National Conference in Baltimore, MD

July 3 - 5, 2026

Regional Office

Regional Coordinator: David Kaniaupio

Phone Number: (808)222-6556

Email: hontcf@gmail.com

National Office

The Compassionate Friends

PO Box 46; Wheaton, IL 60187

(877) 969-0010

Email: nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org

Website: www.compassionatefriends.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Monthly Meetings Update ~ Our in-person meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month, 10:00-11:30am, at The Kaneohe Bay Plaza, Room 401, 45-955 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744. The Saturday meetings are Hybrid, meaning we are also conducting the meetings virtually via Zoom. Our Tuesday evening meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month virtually via Zoom only. You will need to download the Zoom APP (Zoom Client for Meetings). To download the Zoom APP, go to: <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the instructions to download the APP. The monthly meeting reminders will contain the link to join the meetings. Clicking on the link in the reminder email will allow you to join the meetings. If you have any questions, please call or email David Kaniaupio – (808)222-6556 or email – hontcf@gmail.com.



TCF Hawaii Regional Grief Conference 2026 ~ E Komo Mai, all are welcome, to find comfort and support in a caring community of families grieving the death of a child, grandchild, or sibling, presented by The Honolulu Chapter of the Compassionate Friends. Join our two-day conference, March 19th and 20th, 2026, featuring a lineup of prominent national grief and healing speakers at the Ala Moana Hotel Honolulu. To learn more and register: <https://compassionatefriendshawaii.org/events>

Donating to TCF ~ The Compassionate Friends Honolulu Chapter operates solely on donations: monetary gifts in any amount are deeply appreciated. Donations can be made to: The Compassionate Friends, c/o Tami Cox Martinez, 45-1013 Waialele Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744.

The Compassionate Friends Honolulu Chapter is a registered, approved, non-profit organization. We are listed with both the Aloha United Way (under “The Compassionate Friends” #72860) and Combined Federal Campaign of Hawaii-Pacific (under “Compassionate Friends Inc” #78470). If your employer participates in either of these Giving Campaigns, please consider The Compassionate Friends when completing your pledge – Mahalo!

Candle Lighting ~ Thank you to all who attended and volunteered with the annual Honolulu Chapter Candle Lighting Ceremony in December.

Voices ~ We invite parents in our chapter to include writings in our newsletter. If you would like to share your child through stories, poems, or artwork, please submit it to us.



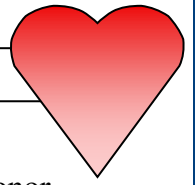
LOVING LISTENERS

DAVID KANIAUPIO (808)222-6556

TERRY KANIAUPIO (808)222-2729



	<p><i>Transform the pain of grief into the elixir of hope</i></p> <p>The Compassionate Friends</p> <p>Supporting Family After a Child Dies</p> <p><i>Please show your support by donating now.</i></p>
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Marci and Bob Ronka

Mahalo for being the main speakers for our Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your son Eric.

Karen Cho

Mahalo for obtaining the room at Windward Community College for the Candle Lighting Ceremony as well as ordering and picking up the bentos, and reading the Compassionate Friends Credo in Honor and Loving memory of your son Quintin Masao Cho.

Angeline Takeishi

Mahalo for your monetary gift in Honor and Loving memory of Danielle Reiko Cox.

Neal and Joanne Imada

Mahalo for your setup and preparation of gift bags for the Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your daughter Madisson Imada.

Feliza and Dewey Shields

Mahalo for your setup and preparation of gift bags for the Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your daughter Violet.

Holly Bostwick

Mahalo for reading poems for the Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your sister Lindy Bostwick.

Sandee Moon

Mahalo for reading poems for the Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your brother Bobby.

Give Aloha - Foodland

Mahalo to Foodland and to everyone who donated to The Compassionate Friends Honolulu Chapter through the Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gift Program.

Raul and Tami Cox Martinez

Mahalo for your monetary gift in Honor and Loving memory of your daughter Danielle Reiko Cox.

Mahalo for setting up and manning registration for the Candle Lighting Ceremony.

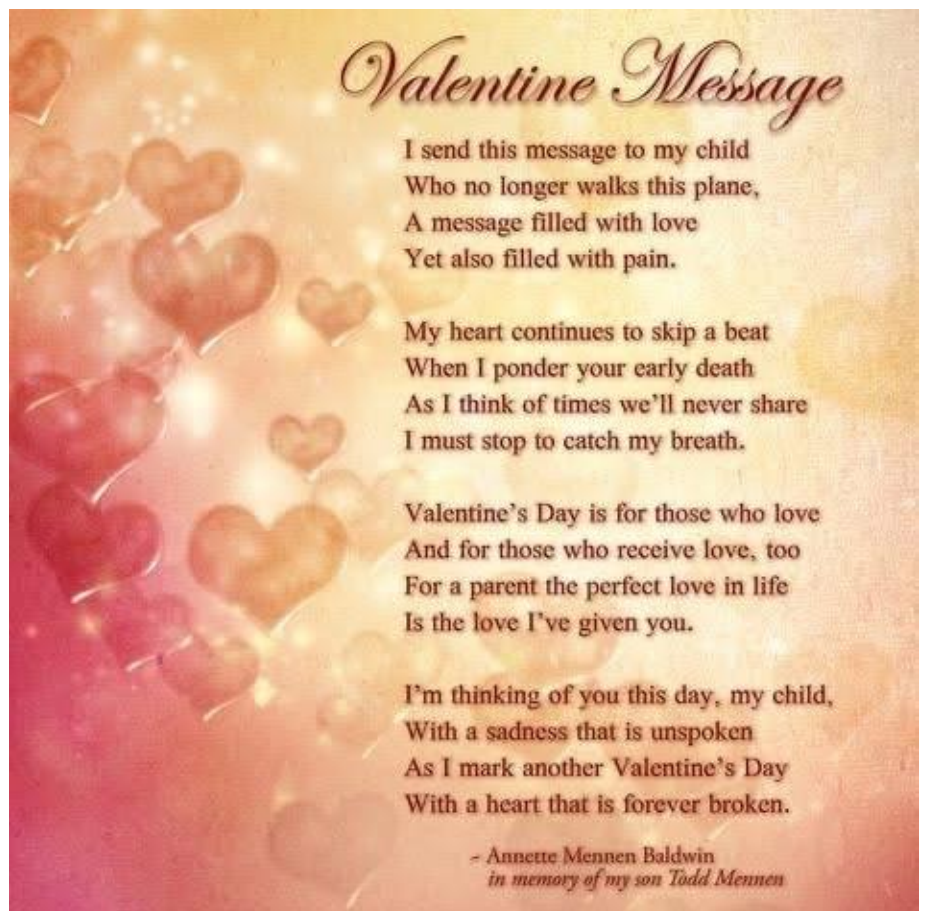
Terry and David Kaniaupio

Mahalo for Directing, Hosting, Emceeing, ZOOM connecting, Slideshows, Coordinating and Producing our Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memories of your son Darryl Kahoeikaika Kaniaupio and your sister Linda Yuk Gin Zane.

Mahalo Terry and David for your Leadership of The Compassionate Friends Honolulu Chapter. Because of you both, we walk together with love, understanding, and hope for our future.

Linda Yoneshige

Mahalo for making and donating the ornaments for our Candle Lighting Ceremony in Honor and Loving memory of your daughter Heather.



OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

FOREVER LOVED, MISSED, REMEMBERED

JANUARY

Our Children Born in January

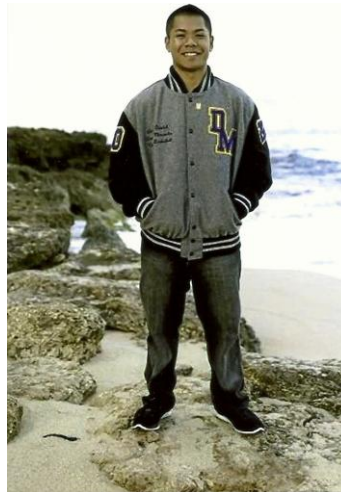
Anais Atherton, Jan 1980 - Jul 2016
Kellee Jones Briggs, Jan 1978 - Nov 2013
Kaelyn Cullender, Jan 2009 - May 2010
Carter Horlback, Jan 2012 - Oct 2016
Mina Piilani Hornor, Jan 2009 - Jul 2016
Michael Kalani Hulama Jr, Jan 1974 - Mar 2003
Jeremy Lapitan, Jan 1990 - Feb 2013
Gerald "Jerry" Alan Massie, Jan 1966 - Dec 2015
Murphy Foster McKeel, Jan 2012 - Feb 2012
Peter Nelson, Jan 1964 - Nov 2013
Troy Ozama, Jan 1965 - Feb 2006
Anders Pederson, Jan 1987 - Nov 2015
Mitchel Poissonnet, Jan 1963 - Dec 2014
Darius Ikaika Puni-Mau, Jan 1991 - Apr 2013
Adrenia Olena Cadiz Robinson, Jan 2012 - Dec 2013
Shane Paul Quirk Stowell, Jan 1982 - Mar 2016

Our Children Who Left Us in January

Lea Bussell, Nov 1992 - Jan 2014
Gregory Gareth Gaines, Dec 1984 - Jan 2002
Nainoa Kealiihokuhelelani Hoe, Aug 1977 - Jan 2005
Errol Lewis Hughes, Mar 1963 - Jan 2006
Abby Kubik, Mar 1995 - Jan 2013
Buddy Kaehukakahiaka Luke, Mar 1984 - Jan 2015
Laurie McNeil, Jul 1960 - Jan 1994
Heather Haunani Akiko Nahina, Dec 1977 - Jan 1992
Steven M. Oshiro, Jun 1963 - Jan 2000
Linden Jordan Radona Quintal, Apr 1996 - Jan 2015
Jerrod Richardson, Mar 1991 - Jan 2010
Grant Young, Feb 1983 - Jan 2002



Kellee Jones Briggs



Linden Jordan Radona Quintal



Nainoa Kealiihokuhelelani Hoe



Heather Haunani Akiko Nahina



Darius "Ikaika" Puni Mau



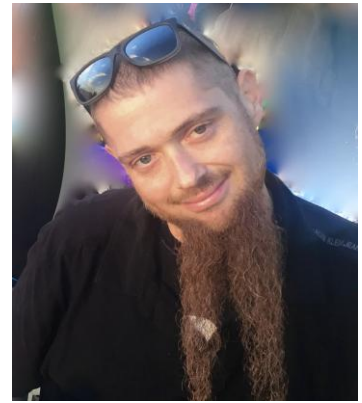
Mitchel Poissonnet



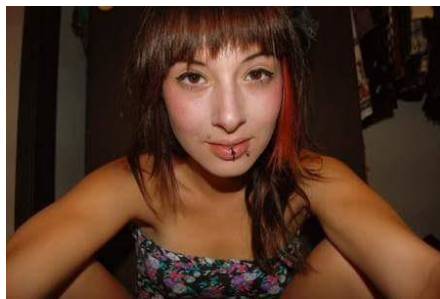
Gerald "Jerry" Alan Massie



Anders Pederson



Shane Paul Quirk Stowell



Lea Bussell



Anais Atherton



Adrenia Olena Cadiz Robinson



Gregory Gareth Gaines



Our Unborn Children



OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED

FOREVER LOVED, MISSED, REMEMBERED

FEBRUARY

Our Children Born in February

Walter J. Agno, Feb 1987 - Nov 2007
Inde Elgersma, Feb 2015 - Jul 2016
Keokalani Snyder Elizares, Feb 1976 - Aug 1998
Nikolas Taro Emerson, Feb 1992 - Aug 2021
Danielle Eiko Fletcher, Feb 1997 - Jun 2016
Mark Patrick Goldberg, Feb 1984 - Dec 2013
Franklin Waikilo Goldwire, Feb 2018 - May 2019
David Higginbotham, Feb 1992 - Jul 2000
Jennifer Jacobi, Feb 1972 - Oct 2005
Melanie Mimi Makaipo, Feb 1982 - Mar 2012
Ameliya Ridgeway, Feb 2015 - Jun 2015
Kaikupa'aokalani Seto, Feb 1985 - Aug 2004
Scott Yutake Shimizu, Feb 1963 - Feb 2007
Michelle Shusterich, Feb 1977 - Jul 1998
Benjamin Madigan Snavelly, Feb 1982 - Nov 2015
Aaron Carter Steffens, Feb 1974 - Jun 2010
Grant Young, Feb 1983 - Jan 2002
Al Zaharis, Feb 1964 - Oct 1991

Our Children Who Left Us in February

Andy Agnostinelli, Apr 1979 - Feb 1992
Elizabeth Cook Allen, Sep 1967 - Feb 2013
Angela Lace Apostadiro, Nov 1992 - Feb 2010
Patrina Sharmaine Best, Aug 1985 - Feb 2024
Jeffrey Kanaiaupuni Carvalho, Oct 1980 - Feb 2004
Hailee Jade Nicole Chaves, Mar 2015 - Feb 2016
Quintin Masao Cho, May 1994 - Feb 2016
Joshua Esubio DeGuzman, - Feb 1996
Jenny Naba Fagan, Mar 1980 - Feb 2014
Noel Christopher Lagat, Jun 1989 - Feb 2009
Jeremy Lapitan, Jan 1990 - Feb 2013
Ryan Joseph Martin, Oct 1980 - Feb 2014
Murphy Foster Mckeel, Jan 2012 - Feb 2012
Michael Anthony Moriarty, Dec 1992 - Feb 2010
Wiley Muir, Oct 2013 - Feb 2014
Kalen Nakasato, Sep 1975 - Feb 2003
Troy Ozama, Jan 1965 - Feb 2006
Ramona Shapiro, Nov 1985 - Feb 2008
Scott Yutaka Shimizu, Feb 1963 - Feb 2007
Jason Mathew Wegger, Jul 1972 - Feb 2006



Benjamin Madigan Snavelly



Franklin Waikilo Goldwire



Mark Patrick Goldberg



Aaron Carter Steffens



Ryan Joseph Martin



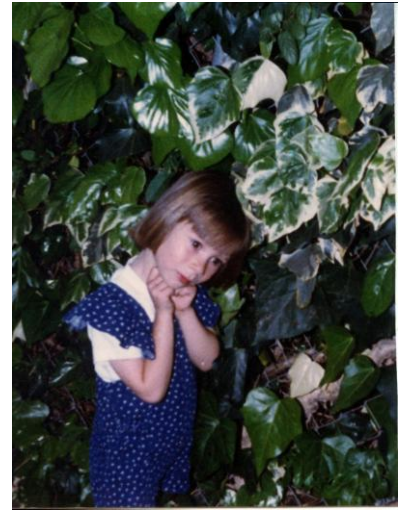
Jennifer Jacobi



Quintin Masao Cho



Nikolas Taro Emerson



Ramona Shapiro



Jenny Naba Fagan



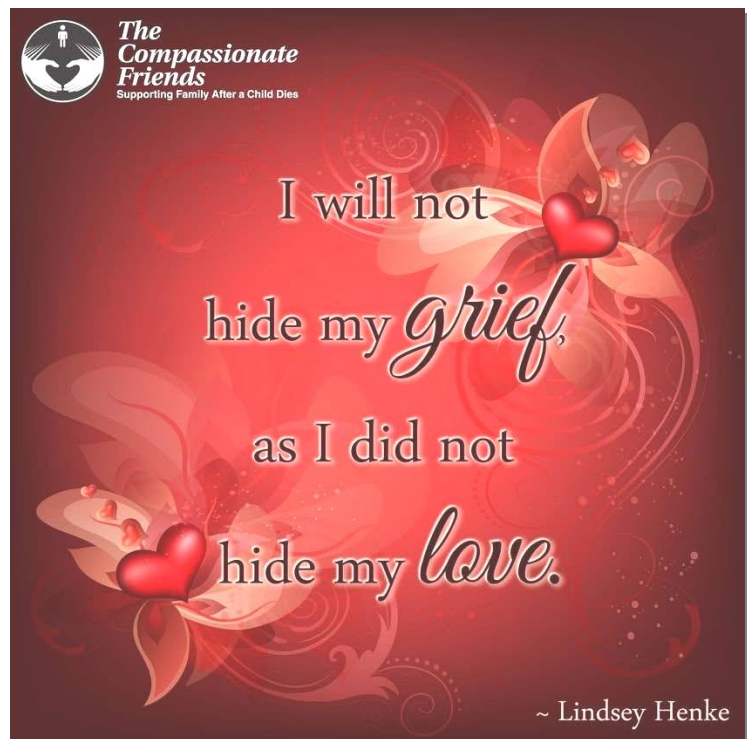
Danielle Eiko Fletcher



Our Unborn Children



Patrina Sharmaine Best



OUR CHILDREN REMEMBERED*FOREVER LOVED, MISSED, REMEMBERED***MARCH**Our Children Born in March

Royce Henry Baginski, Mar 1995 - Sep 2016
Michael Andrew Bignami, Mar 1988 - Jul 2013
Hailee Jade Nicole Chaves, Mar 2015 - Feb 2016
Cameron W. Deal, Mar 1969 - Jul 1996
Jenny Naba Fagan, Mar 1980 - Feb 2014
Mark Gatanis, Mar 1967 - Apr 2013
Jameelah Guanstein, Mar 1955 - Mar 2011
Nicole Keonemelani Hookeno Elliot, Mar 1980 - Apr 2009
Errol Lewis Hughes, Mar 1963 - Jan 2006
Hinaaiinameleonalani
Keahewelomakalehuaikauaokapo Johnson-Ahia,
 Mar 2012 - Oct 2014
Donovan Keliiaa, Mar 1981 - Dec 2014
Destiny King, Mar 2002 - May 2008
Abby Kubik, Mar 1995 - Jan 2013
Buddy Kaehukakahiaka Luke, Mar 1984 - Jan 2015
Alex Mambo, Mar 1970 - Jun 2011
Aaron Miller Moylan, Mar 1979 - Mar 1999
Jolene Morizono, Mar 1980 - Jul 2009
Kourtnee Otsuka, Mar 1990 - Jun 2016
Victoria Pojas, Mar 1987 - Jul 2005
Nina Ricci, Mar 1981 - Dec 2010
Jerrod Richardson, Mar 1991 - Jan 2010
Kapena Lou Kalanikaioaka'ie'ei Smith, Mar 1980 -
 Sep 2003
Peter Solieau, Mar 1959 - Sep 1993
Marc Joseph Spitzzeri, Mar 1967 - Mar 2008
Benjamin U.F. Stevens, Mar 1985 - Oct 2009

Our Children Who Left Us in March

Anthony "Tony" Almeida, Jun 1989 - Mar 2014
Amanda Raeanne Beaty, Sep 1994 - Mar 2016
Brody David Black, Apr 1998 - Mar 2002
Augusto Camara, Sep 1978 - Mar 2006
James Brennan Cohen, May 1966 - Mar 2009
Daniel John Collette, May 1976 - Mar 2005
Danielle Reiko Cox, May 1991 - Mar 2016
Shawn C. Carvalho, Oct 1979 - Mar 1996
Anthony James Edrada, Aug 1993 - Mar 2007
Jameelah Guanstein, Mar 1955 - Mar 2011
Michael Kalani Hulama Jr, Jan 1974 - Mar 2003
Emilia Hung, Sep 1988 - Mar 2013
Melanie Mimi Makaipo, Feb 1982 - Mar 2012
TeeJay Meier, Oct 1977 - Mar 1999
Peter Miller, Jun 1973 - Mar 2006
Aaron Miller Moylan, Mar 1979 - Mar 1999
Jon Keith Nobles, Oct 1973 - Mar 1998
Eric Bradford Rohlffing, May 1961 - Feb 1986
Jason Ang Shuster, May 1979 - Mar 2024
Shannon Shea Smith, Apr 1976 - Mar 1997
Marc Joseph Spitzzeri, Mar 1967 - Mar 2008
Shane Paul Quirk Stowell, Jan 1982 - Mar 2016
Kevin Wolfley, Aug 1964 - Mar 2008
Kecia M. U. Wong, Jul 1982 - Mar 2002



Peter Miller



Donovan Keliiaa



Danielle Reiko Cox



Kourtnee Otsuka



TeeJay Meier



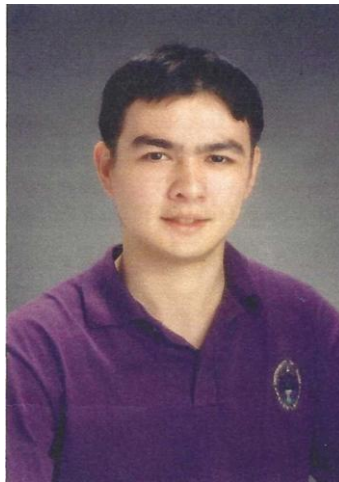
Jameelah Guanstein



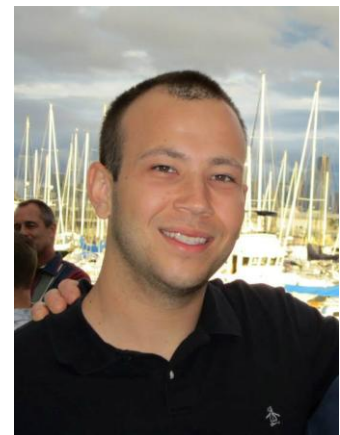
Mark Gatanis



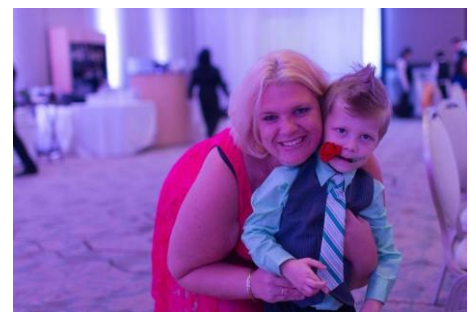
Alex Mambo



Jason Ang Shuster



Anthony "Tony" Almeida



Jenny Naba Fagan



Shane Paul Quirk Stowell



Hinaaiinameleonalani
Keahiwelomakalehuaikauaokapo
Johnson-Ahia



Amanda Raeanne Beaty

New Year a Time to Search for ‘Ray of Hope’

*Be my ray of hope, be my ray of laughter.
Be my song to sing that guides me on my way.
Be the arms that hold me.
Be the love that enfolds me, be my light,
Be my ray of hope today.
...Paul Alexander, songwriter*

Snowflakes drift silently to earth.

A new year has dawned. The revelry of the old year has quieted and the holiday hustle and bustle has ended

As bereaved parents, for many of us, this will be our first full year without our children. For others, the upcoming year will be another thread in the garment of life. A thread connecting the memories of our old life with the hope for “recovery” in our new life.

How often our thoughts wander back to another day and time when we were happy and full of the vitality that makes up life—a time when our child made our life complete and worth living.

Though three years have passed since becoming a bereaved parent, I still think about my children every day of my life. As I sat watching the ball atop Time Square descend, my thoughts jumped back to a time when my children lay safely in their beds as we brought a new year into existence.

Does *this* new year bring with it a time when we will hurt less—when there will be a new ray of hope? Or does it bring even more heartache because of the sadness and loneliness we find difficult to leave behind?

The answers lie deep within each of us. How we approach this new year will make the difference.

Can we be kind to ourselves? Just because others place demands on us to do whatever they feel will help us does not mean they are right. They have not walked in our shoes. We can say ‘NO!’

Can we enjoy life again? Though we cannot be physically with our children, they would want us to enjoy living . . . and yes, they would want us to love again!

Can we help parents who are more newly bereaved to clear the same hurdles that seemed so insurmountable to us such a short while ago? By reaching out to others and making their burdens a little lighter, we are helping our own open wounds to heal.

*Inside of me are all the answers.
Everything I need to know
Lives inside of me.
Come behold my miracle,
Come and hear my story.
Come and paint a memory with me.
... P. Alexander*

Wayne Loder

TCF Lakes Area, MI

“Ray of Hope” by Paul Alexander on the CD “The Best of Paul” at www.griefsong.com (Paul wrote *LIGHT A CANDLE* which has been used at many TCF candle lighting programs).

Permission to use excerpts from “Ray of Hope” granted by Paul Alexander.

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. 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. ©2016

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.

The TCF Mission Statement

The Mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive.

Please Consider Helping

I have found through my own experiences that helping others through their grief journey has strengthened my own journey. The memories of my son are positively reinforced as other bereaved parents share their stories and memories. We Need Not Walk Alone. That simple phrase resonates throughout my journey. There are other aspects to The Compassionate Friends that need help. If you have a talent – web design, writing, creativity, organizing, and greeting and would like to help others – please let us know.

