



**The
Compassionate
Friends**
of Brushy Creek
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Welcome
OCTOBER
be good!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7p.m.
Christ Lutheran Church
510 Luther Drive. Georgetown. TX. 78628
512-348-7885 TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com
(If you have problems finding us call: 512-966-1651)

Our next virtual meeting on –line will be Thursday, September 28 at 7pm
Email TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com for the link

May time
help the hurt
just as *Memories*
fill the
Heart

Welcome

We, of the Brushy Creek Chapter of The Compassionate Friends, offer you a warm welcome. Our in-person meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month & the virtual meeting is on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7pm. The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding and hope to bereaved families. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child at any time, of any age, from any cause is welcome. Our meetings give an opportunity to families to talk about their feelings as they go through the grieving process. The purpose of this support group is not the cause of death but rather to focus on being a bereaved parent, sibling or grandparent, along with the feelings and issues that evolve around the death experience of a child. There is no religious affiliation. There are no membership dues.



BIRTHDAY DATES

**Caden, Brian, Tiffany, Angela,
Kimberly, Joshua, Michael
Steve and Jill
Jill Bayles Long**

ANGEL DATES

**Michael, Elijah, Jason H., Jason T.,
Tiffany and Leonard**



Monthly Topic for Discussion

As we cover these subjects something might be said to help you cope a little bit better. We are open to suggestions for additional subjects you might like to see discussed.

October: Please share you memories of past family vacations or new vacations in memory of our lost loved ones.



**YOU NEED NOT WALK ALONE
WE ARE THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

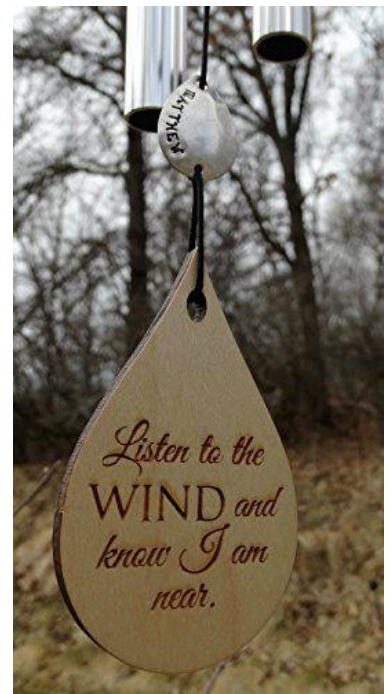
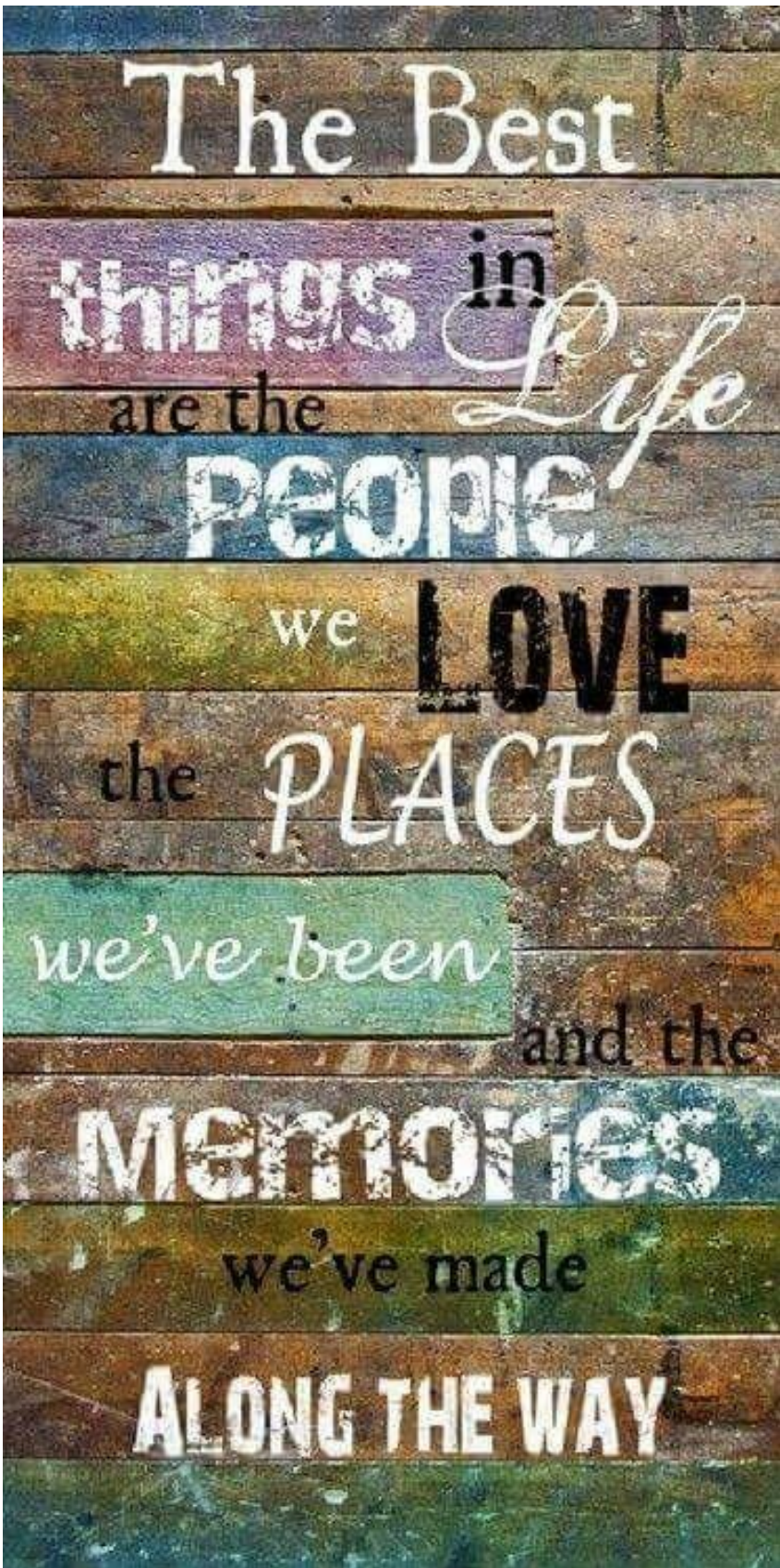
We recognize that it takes great courage to come to the first meeting, whether you are a bereaved parent, sibling or grandparent of one month or many years. Please don't be afraid to come to a meeting. You are welcome to bring a friend or relative for moral support if you wish. Nothing is asked of you. You will find that it is alright to cry and to laugh, to share how you feel or just listen. You do not have to talk at a meeting if you do not want to. We welcome your participation, but it is not a requirement. To be fair to yourself, please consider attending at least three meetings before you decide whether TCF is right for you.

TO OUR MEMBERS FURTHER DOWN THE "GRIEF ROAD"

Each meeting will have new parents, siblings and grandparents. **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." We welcome your presence and support!

INFORMATION REGARDING OUR MEETINGS

This is YOUR group and we are here to support each other. Everyone in the room has walked the path you are on now. We hope you will find our meetings and newsletters to be a comfort and a place where you find hope.



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.



YOU NEED NOT WALK ALONE
WE ARE THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

"Autumn Leaves"

Ed Sheeran Lyrics

Another day, another life
Passes by just like mine
It's not complicated

Another mind, another soul
Another body to grow old
It's not complicated

Do you ever wonder if the stars shine out for you?
Float down
Like autumn leaves
And hush now
Close your eyes before the sleep
And you're miles away
And yesterday you were here with me

Another tear, another cry
Another place for us to die
It's not complicated

Another love that's gone to waste
Another light lost from your face
It's complicated

Is it that it's over or do birds still sing for you?
Float down
Like autumn leaves
And hush now
Close your eyes before the sleep
And you're miles away
And yesterday you were here with me

Ooh how I miss you
My symphony played the song that carried you out
Ooh how I miss you
And I, I miss you and I wish you'd stay

Do you ever wonder if the stars shine out for you?
Float down
Like autumn leaves
And hush now
Close your eyes before the sleep
And you're miles away
And yesterday you were here with me

Ooh oh, ooh oh
Ooh oh, ooh oh

Touch down
Like a seven four seven
Stay out and we'll live forever now



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October



The Compassionate Friends Credo

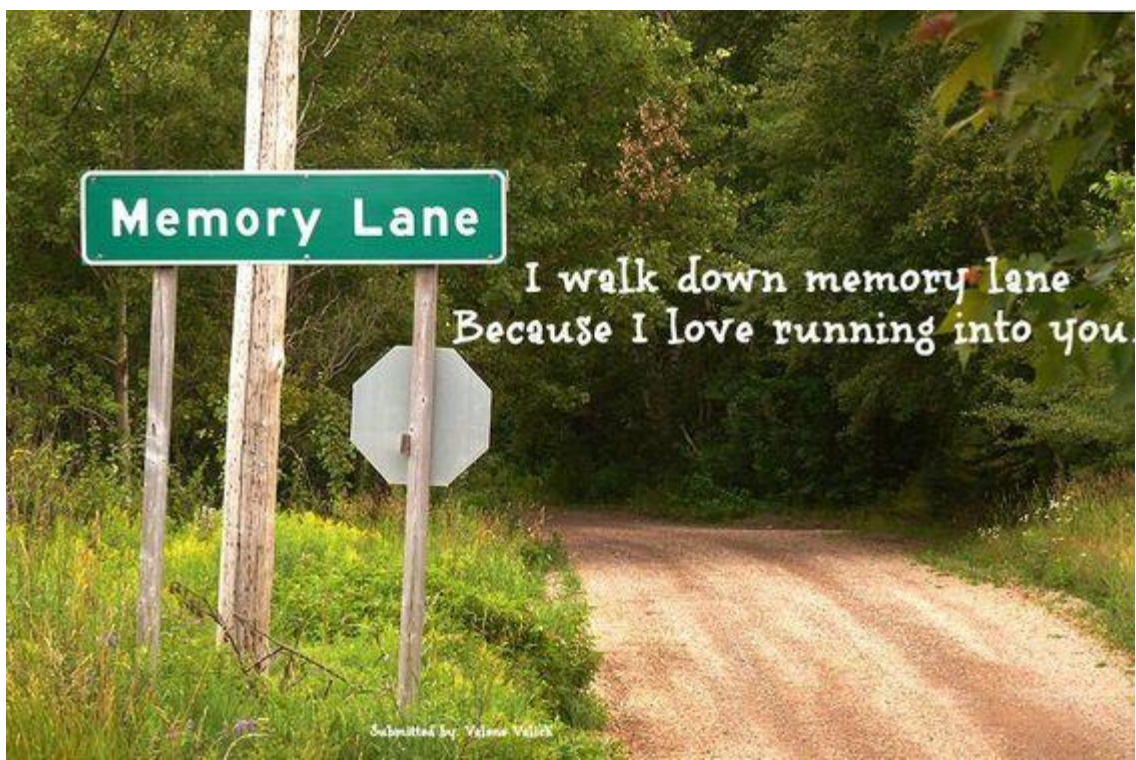
We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other with love, with understanding, and with hope.

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 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.



Contact Information

TCF Brushy Creek Chapter Leadership

Committee Members:

Robin Cassens
Mary Delaney
Penny Leone
Stephanie Thompson –Siblings Rep.
Rebecca Burgman-Advisory
Newsletter – WE NEED YOUR HELP
Gene Caligari – TCF Regional Rep.

Website:

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Email Address:

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Georgetown, TX 78628

TCF National Office Information:

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Wixom, MI 48393

Toll-Free (877) 969-0010

www.compassionatefriends.org



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The Compassionate Friends
of Brushy Creek



Things I've Learned Since the Loss of My Child

by Angela Miller

The empty chair/room/space never becomes less empty.

Empty chair, empty room, empty space in every family picture. Empty, vacant, forever gone for this lifetime. Empty spaces that should be full, everywhere we go. There is and will always be a missing space in our lives, our families, a forever-hole-in-our-hearts. Time does not make the space less empty. Neither do platitudes, clichés or well-wishes for us to “move on,” or “stop dwelling,” from well intentioned friends or family. Nothing does. No matter how you look at it, empty is still empty. Missing is still missing. Gone is still gone. The problem is nothing can fill it. Minute after minute, hour after hour, day after day, month after month, year after heartbreaking year the empty space remains.

The empty space of our missing child(ren) lasts a lifetime. And so we rightfully miss them forever. Help us by holding the space of that truth for us.

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