



**STEERING COMMITTEE**

***CHAPTER LEADER - Acting***

**Stewart Levett**  
Son, Aaron Paul Levett

***MAILINGS & DATABASE***

**Jane & Steve Gabriel**  
Son, Jonathan Steven Gabriel

***TREASURER***

**Ruby Doyle**  
Son, Patrick Michael Doyle

***NEWSLETTER EDITOR & EMAILINGS***

**Stewart Levett**  
Son, Aaron Paul Levett

***SC MEMBER/WELCOME PACKETS***

**Leta Levett**  
Son, Aaron Paul Levett

***SC MEMBER/FACILITATOR***

**Ron Agee**  
Daughter, Melody Victoria Agee

***SC MEMBER***

**Jen Sutton**  
Son, Austin L. Sutton

**TELEPHONE FRIENDS**

Any of these members may be contacted to talk about your loss:

**CHAPTER HELP** - 719-344-3216

- Jen Sutton \*** 719-354-0057 - Normal Business Hours
- Jane Gabriel \*** 719-282-1924 - Leave Message
- Ron Agee \*** 719-308-7473 - Between 8 and 5
- Ruby Doyle \*** 970-560-9434 - Daytime Hours
- Stew Levett \*** 719-534-0350 - 9 to 3pm, 9pm to 11pm
- Leta Levett \*** 719-531-5488 - 9 to 3pm except Thursday
- Raye Wilson** 303-814-9478 - Daytime Hours

\*Steering Committee

*Welcome*

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 Telephone Friend program, our library and our e-mail 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.

We understand your pain; won't you let us help you through your grief?





**LOVE GIFT DONATION**

**Costs are rising. We need your *Love Gift* to support our chapter & newsletter! If you can, please help.**

I would like to make a donation:  in Memory of  a Chapter Gift

**In loving memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Love Gift Donation:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please make check payable to: The Compassionate Friends

Cut and mail this form with your Love Gift to: Ruby Doyle – 6552 Lange Dr. – Colorado Springs, CO 80918

**Contributor Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship:**  Son  Daughter  Grandson  Granddaughter  Friend  Other

**Photo Enclosed:**  Yes  No **Photo To Be Returned:**  Yes  No

***Love Gift Donations***

*A "Love Gift" is a wonderful way to remember your child, while also helping our TCF chapter "reach out" to bereaved families. There is no charge to attend meetings, use the library, or receive the newsletter. We depend solely upon these gifts, monetary or gifts-in-kind, to support our chapter. You may choose to donate a tax deductible "Love Gift" at any time. Let us be here for the families who do not know today that they will need us tomorrow.*

*Our chapter exists entirely through your donations which are tax deductible. A Love Gift is money donated to the chapter in memory of your child who has died. If you feel a Love Gift is an appropriate way to honor the memory of your child, please consider a donation, large or small. Please fill out the form located in this newsletter and mail it to the address listed. All pictures submitted will be electronically scanned and added to our electronic Child Remembered "Picture Frame" displayed at monthly meetings and then returned to you.*

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

**\$50 or more** - Newsletter Sponsor. May include a full page for printing. Please remember to send your page "Copy Ready" as you would like to see it printed in the newsletter.

**\$25 up to \$50** - A picture, if available, and dedication to be listed in the newsletter.

**\$0 up to \$25** - A Love Gift acknowledgement. All Love Gift donations should be sent directly to our treasurer, Ruby Doyle whose address is listed on the Love Gift Donation Form. Wouldn't you like to make a dedication to your child and help our chapter?

⇒ **Send Love Gifts to Ruby Doyle, 6552 Lange Drive Colorado Springs, Co 80918** ⇐

**Thank you for contributing and supporting the work of our local chapter!**



Michaela Christianson  
in memory of Damon Vincent Christianson

Ruby Doyle  
In Memory of Patrick Doyle

Chaplain Eugene Steinkirchner  
Love Gift Donation - CSPD

**ORGANIZATIONAL CONTACTS**

**TCF National Office**

**P.O. Box 3656**

**Oak Brook, IL 60522**

**630-990-0010 or toll free 877-969-0010**

**Email:** [nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org](mailto:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org)

**WEBSITES:**

**Pikes Peak** - [www.TCFPikesPeakChapter.org](http://www.TCFPikesPeakChapter.org)

**Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/TCFPikesPeak>

[TCFPikesPeak](http://TCFPikesPeak)

**National** - [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)



## CHAPTER NEWS

The Pikes Peak Chapter is hosting two monthly meetings for our members. The first meeting will be a virtual Zoom meeting held the second Wednesday of the month. These meetings have not been as popular as we initially thought with attendance being comprised primarily of our board members. This month we will take stock of any online attendance and determine whether we will continue with our Zoom meetings in July. We will send out an email link and password prior to the meetings. Our next Zoom meeting will be on June 9th at 7:00 p.m.

We will continue to have our in person meetings at the Kempo Karate school located at 410 South 8th Street directly behind the Taco Express. Each month we will have a different facilitator hosting the group with a wide range of topics to engage our members. These in person meetings will be held the 3rd Friday of each month starting at 7:00 p.m. Each visitor will be asked to have their temperature taken. Masks will be optional if you have been fully vaccinated and mandatory for those who have not. Refreshments can be brought/served but we ask that they be consumed on the carpeted area only. Our next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on May 18th.

We have been in contact with the First Baptist Church about hosting our meetings there again and the response from the church was that there have been discussions about opening back up to the public but, no word yet when we might be able to resume our meetings there,

Meetings are available to all members each month. Should you feel a need to log in to the virtual meeting as well as attend our in person meeting, we understand your need and welcome you to attend both.



### **Welcome New Friends.**

At nearly every meeting we welcome new members to our group, always with mixed emotions. We are glad you found us, but we are so sorry for the circumstances that bring us together. We understand your pain; we hope our unconditional friendship and understanding will help you through your grief. Attending a meeting for the first two or three times takes courage, but for many it is the first real step toward healing. It may seem overwhelming, so we encourage you to come to several meetings to give yourself a chance to become comfortable.





# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

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## REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN ON THEIR BIRTHDAY

Name	Birthday	Compassionate Friend
Jacob Foreman	Jun 1	Jan Foreman
Paul Kovacevic	Jun 3	Mary Kovacevic
Benjamin Stewart Easton	Jun 3	Susan Stewart
Madalynn Ann Bergevin	Jun 3	Mollie Bergevin
Jake Matthew	Jun 5	Malcolm Matthew
Renee Lee Seiberlich	Jun 6	Joe & Leda Seiberlich
John Doles	Jun 6	James & Susan Appleman
Tyler Schmidt	Jun 6	Valerie & Jeff Schmidt
Douglas Chadwick, Jr.	Jun 6	Deborah Chadwick
Sandra Steckiel	Jun 10	Beth Steckiel
Mindy Baker	Jun 10	Terri Baker
Anthony Glusko	Jun 12	Jeaneatte Glusko
Clinton Boland	Jun 13	Velda Fields
Yancy Hufford	Jun 13	Patty Hufford
Matthew Flint	Jun 14	Cathy Flint
Andrea Mischel	Jun 14	Gary & Jerri Zimmerman
Daniel Prickett	Jun 14	Jim & Elaine Prickett
Carl Simco	Jun 14	Loretta Chancellor
Jessica Robison	Jun 14	Terri Robison
Nathan Gentry	Jun 16	Susan Gentry
Gryphen Barber	Jun 16	Sean & Cherie Barledge
Forrest Kelly	Jun 16	Cindy Bronner
Giorgiana Elizabeth Gordillo	Jun 16	Jennifer Gordillo
Jason Bradford Pfeif	Jun 17	Chris and Brad Pfeif
Chris Barns	Jun 17	Bonnie Barns
Laura Dean	Jun 17	Barbara Dean
Michael Jeffery Micke	Jun 18	Alice Micke
Jay William Sheridan	Jun 18	Mary & Tim Sheridan
Jim Eley	Jun 19	Judith Eley
Jeanne Burroughs Widmar	Jun 20	Arlene & Charles Burroughs
Richard McShan	Jun 20	Paul & Angelika McShan
Dennis Lynn Gerringer	Jun 21	Kim Gerringer
Kirsten Evelyn Cornell	Jun 26	Will & Marion Cornell
Noah R. Wilkerson	Jun 26	Sarah Wilkerson
Kyleigh Peltzer	Jun 26	Ashleigh Peltzer
Cyan Pratt	Jun 26	Stanley Pratt
Charles MacDuff	Jun 27	Cheryl & Melissa MacDuff
Amy Feight	Jun 27	Patty & Bill Feight
Jimmy Schmidt	Jun 28	Jim & Laurie Schmidt
James Bishara	Jun 28	Phebe Bishara
Ian Izzeh	Jun 28	Tammy Haynes
Jason Nathaniel Lurch	Jun 28	Kathleen & John Lurch
Mike Petersen	Jun 30	Doug & Shelli Petersen
Landon Spangler	Jun 30	Emma Spangler





REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN ON THEIR ANNIVERSARY

Name	Age		Anniversary	Compassionate Friend
Evan Carara	18	years	Jun 2	Cindy & J.D. Carara
Madalynn Ann Bergevin	0	years	Jun 3	Mollie Bergevin
Billy E. Hendrickson	19	years	Jun 3	Grace & Delbert Hendrickson
Colin Robert Spangenberg	31	years	Jun 3	Lois Spangenberg
Aaron Steffens	36	years	Jun 5	Lynn Nickel
Sean O'Connor	20	years	Jun 5	Dennis & Tracy O'Connor
Anton "Andy" George	13	years	Jun 6	Emma Horn-Adams
Mindy Baker	41	years	Jun 7	Terri Baker
Robert (Robby) George, Jr.	48	years	Jun 7	Robert & Margaret George
Ashley Meston	14	years	Jun 7	Jerry Meston
Sarah Ness	24	years	Jun 8	Mary Ness
Jon Van Pelt	21	years	Jun 8	Claudette Van Pelt
Nicole Johnson	34	years	Jun 10	Sherry Turner
Sandra Steckiel	0	years	Jun 13	Beth Steckiel
Arthur Lipphardt Jr	24	years	Jun 15	Art & Chris Lipphardt
Austin Sutton	22	years	Jun 15	Jenny Sutton
Gryphen Barber	0	years	Jun 16	Sean & Cherie Barledge
Erica Lynn Groat	26	years	Jun 16	Linda Groat
Ryan Sayers	20	years	Jun 16	Tom & Kate Sayers
Bruce White	16	years	Jun 16	Gordon White
Scott White	12	years	Jun 16	Gordon White
Megan White	15	years	Jun 16	Gordon White
Vinnie Franz	18	years	Jun 17	Barb Franz
Michael Jeffery Micke	0	years	Jun 18	Alice Micke
Giorgiana Elizabeth	0	years	Jun 19	Jennifer Gordillo
Sara Hernandez	21	years	Jun 19	Kathy Hernandez
Kyle Lyon	31	years	Jun 19	Tami Lyon
Kyle Joe Manning	11	years	Jun 19	Carol & Don Manning
Abbi Rose Starzynski	2	years	Jun 20	Sherry Starzynski
Tucker Ray Graef	14	years	Jun 21	Kathy Graef
Nicholle Guy	14	years	Jun 22	Lezlee Guy
Daniel Prickett	32	years	Jun 22	Jim & Elaine Prickett
Karen Sue Crawford	16	years	Jun 23	Joy Andrews
Anthony Paul Gratton	35	years	Jun 24	Luci Abrahamson
James Michael Burroughs	43	years	Jun 24	Arlene & Charles Burroughs
Andrea Mischel	30	years	Jun 25	Gary & Jerri Zimmerman
Jay Simco	58	years	Jun 26	Loretta Chancellor
Nickolas Robert Vingren	3	years	Jun 26	Dale Vingren
Daniel J. Whisler	38	years	Jun 27	JoAnn Mowdy
Tyler Joseph Budfuloski	2	years	Jun 28	Rob & Alice Budfuloski
Anthony James "Tony"	25	years	Jun 28	Cynthia Pisor-Zapel
Stephen Lucas Tyler	19	years	Jun 28	Catherine Tyler
Kade Riefenberg	19	years	Jun 29	Andy Gibson
Liam N. McDougal Lasher	11	years	Jun 29	Ashley Snyder
Kimberly Ann Hayes	22	years	Jun 30	Patty and Patrick Hayes
Nick Naples	17	years	Jun 30	Laurie Naples
Colby McCarley	17	years	Jun 30	Tami Sisneros
Noah R. Wilkerson	0	years	Jun 30	Sarah Wilkerson



**Damon Vincent Christianson**  
5/30/77 - 7/3/2010

**As Long As I Can**

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

As long as I can, I will laugh with the bird, I will sing with flowers, I will play 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.

Sascha Wagner

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**Patrick Doyle**  
May 24, 1988 - January 27, 2010

In loving memory of his 33rd birthday

Love,  
Mom



# THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

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## FATHER'S DAY

Years have come and gone and time has surely drifted by.  
I've searched for any answer, yet I'm left to wonder why.  
The only thing I know for sure, through the happy and the sad.  
No matter what the circumstance, I will always be your dad.  
Not a day goes by that I don't hold you in my heart.  
My love reaches far beyond this space we are apart.  
These empty arms remember all the good times that we had.  
I may be standing here alone, but I will always be your dad.  
Some won't understand, so I don't bother to explain.  
They look into my eyes, but they can only see the pain.  
Afraid to look too deep as they are blinded by the fear,  
If only they could know, a father's love won't disappear.  
So when this road gets lonely and the journey seems too hard,  
And I get to feeling sorry that I didn't get a card.  
If I close my eyes I can almost hear you say.  
"I love you and I miss you, daddy....Happy Fathers Day."

Alan Pederson - TCF

## The Solitude of Grief

There are wounds one can't assuage  
For the cut is deep and bleeding  
Some wounds show no outward trace  
For it's the heart that's sore and needing  
How does one cope with a broken heart  
A heart that's cold and lonely  
From where the strength to carry on  
From a grief that's shared . . . but yours only  
Still in dreams we see them yet  
So young, so fair, so alive  
I don't know how we cope with death  
But somehow—somehow we do survive  
Always a part of this heart of mine  
Now tossed like a windblown leaf  
And I imprisoned in a world not mine  
In the solitude of grief  
—Harvey Hockstein - TCF Morris Area, NJ

## Father's Day Revisited

Now I can look back upon that first Father's Day, the first after the death of our son, Jeff. I was a mess- a man without hope, with little or no reason to continue living, deep in my own depressive grief. I could not share any joy with others. I look back wondering how I could have treated my wife and children as I did while they were trying to celebrate in my honor. Inside, I was crying out, "What are these useless gifts? Don't you know that the only gift I want is to have my son back?" But it is the love, caring, understanding and nurturing of those loved ones which has brought me solace since that first Father's Day. Now I can enjoy the joy of others. I can laugh once again, and once again, there is a life worth living. For all those fathers for whom this is the first Father's Day, have the best day that you can.

P.O.K, TCF Louisville, Kentucky

June, 2021

The Compassionate Friends  
Pikes Peak Chapter  
PO Box 51345  
Colorado Springs, CO 80949-1345



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## A BEAR HUG FOR FATHER'S DAY

As Father's Day approaches, we are reminded of the significant contributions and unique love of fathers and stepfathers. Their defined role, after the death of their children, is to support their wives and surviving children. But their pain is deep.

Men, by their nature and in response to our society's expectations, do not usually grieve as openly as women. They do not talk as candidly about their loss. They generally do not reach out to others for comfort. They are, after all, the rock, the solid center of the family. Their wife's pain supersedes their pain because women are fragile. Or so we are told.

Yet, as I look into the eyes of so many bereaved fathers, I see a deep, gripping pain. The tears left unshed, the words that are never spoken, the anger, guilt and agony....all remain in the eyes of the bereaved father.

What can a father do? Talk with other bereaved fathers. Read books written by bereaved fathers. Talk with spouses, private counselors and close friends who are not as structured in their "male" societal roles. Try to attend three meetings of Compassionate Friends. You don't have to talk. But you might decide to express a single thought or idea, logically presented, to the small group. You might find peace in this place, and then again, you might not. But, as my own dad often said, "Step up to the plate and see what happens." He was a pretty wise man.....a child of the depression, a football player, Greatest Generation, WW II Marine, a fighter, a provider, a protector.....a man's man. He endured much in his 78 years, and I only saw him cry a few times.

But when his friend lost a child, my tough dad was the first one to reach out with a bear hug that wouldn't let go until the tears began to flow. They both cried. They both knew that the agony of losing a child was far worse than the horrors of war. Together, they cried.

Happy Father's Day....May your bear hugs be many and your memories become sweeter with each passing year. May your child live forever in your heart so that peace embraces you always.

~Annette Mennen Baldwin, TCF Katy, TX