



# The Compassionate Friends Pikes Peak Chapter

December 2008

TCF Pikes Peak Chapter

## Upcoming Meetings and Topics

Support group meetings are at **First Baptist Church, 317 E. Kiowa**, on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:00 p.m.

### Upcoming meetings:

Sunday, December 14, 7:00 p.m.: **Candlelight Remembrance**

Thursday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.: **general meeting**

Thursday, January 15, 7:00 p.m.: **general meeting**

If you are receiving our newsletter for the first time, it is because someone has told us that you might find it helpful. We cordially invite you to attend any of our meetings. Nothing is required of you! There are no dues or fees. You need not speak one word. Attending your first meeting does require courage, but our parents who attend find a comforting network of support, friendship, and understanding that only people who have "been there" can give.

## Telephone Friends

Chapter Co-Leader.....	Laraine Anderson.....	351-7653
Chapter Co-Leader.....	Stew & Leta Levett.....	531-5488
Infant Loss.....	Colleen & Art Mannon.....	535-9868
Toddler/Young Child Loss.....	Bob & Yvette Thompson.....	573-2743
Leukemia.....	Jane & Steve Gabriel.....	282-1924
Teen/Young Adult Loss.....	Barb Reynolds.....	599-0772
Suicide.....	LaRita Archibald.....	596-2575
Skateboard/Auto Accident.....	Raye Wilson.....	303-814-9478
Single Parent Grief.....	Florence Wyatt.....	328-1687

## Candlelighting Memorial

**Sunday, December 14**

**7:00 p.m.**

**First Baptist Church**

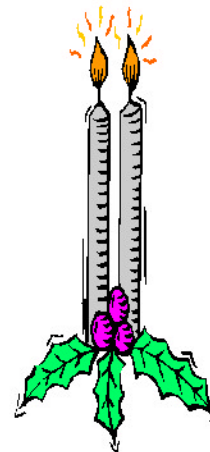
**317 E. Kiowa St.**

Now is the time to be thinking about our yearly Candlelight Remembrance to be held at The First Baptist Church on Sunday, December 14th. Besides our candlelight tribute and slideshow, there will be readings, music and refreshments for those in attendance. This is a beautiful service and is a wonderful way to honor the memory of your loved one.

Please submit your photos for inclusion in our slideshow no later than December 5th.

We are sorry but photos submitted after the deadline will not allow us time to include your photo in this year's slideshow. We will however honor them by speaking their name at the Remembrance.

**Refreshments:** Please bring your child's favorite holiday treat to share and a new unwrapped gift for donation.



Thank you to First Baptist Church of Colorado Springs for continuing to provide the printing of our newsletters, and for their ongoing support of our group by providing our meeting space each month.



The Pikes Peak Chapter portion of the Colorado TCF website has been redesigned. This new design has chapter meeting information as well as the phone numbers and email capabilities for easy access.

The website now has a link whereby our monthly newsletter will be a click away. Download speed will depend on your internet connection and you must have Adobe Reader to view the newsletter (Usually a free download). The online newsletter is in beautiful color.

You may add a photo of your child to our website by submitting a photo to Stew Levett via email at [stewlevett@msn.com](mailto:stewlevett@msn.com) or contact him if you don't have that capability. Almost any photo file format is acceptable (jpg, gif, tiff). Photos may be cropped to best fit onto the website.

We hope to eventually add a photo page with pictures of our event happenings. Access the website by going to <http://www.tfccolorado.org>

With the newsletter being available online we are looking at updating and increasing our online mailings with the goal saving a tree and reducing our postage. We will still make hard copies available for those people that need or enjoy a hard copy.



...that their  
light may  
always shine.

Light a candle for all children who have died.

**Sunday, December 14, 2008**

7 PM Around the Globe

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING

A tribute to our son, Colin, on what would have been his 36th birthday (November 14): These simple thoughts were written when I visited Providence College in Rhode Island this past summer. Ten years before his death he graduated there with a BS in Psychology. Later he studied at Naropa Institute for a MFA in Poetics.

#### *Waves of Grief*

*Grief is gentle: Floating on your back in a peaceful lake.*

*Grief catches you off guard: Diving into a cold sea.*

*Grief knocks you down: Being toppled as a wave as a child.*

*Grief derails you totally: Being dragged down by a fierce rip tide.*

*Yet!*

*Grief is even uplifting: Allowing the ocean, as God's creation, to buoy you up.*

*Grief is simply present: Yielding to the persistent currents in life.*

*Godspeed, Colin!*

Kerry Baerman



Paul and Kerry Baerman, in loving memory of  
**Colin Peter Baerman**  
November 13, 1972 - March 28, 2005



Remembering Our Children On Their Birthdays

*The light of life never goes out, so we remember them on their birthdays....*



<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Compassionate Friend</u>
Robbie Rickman	12/1/1966	12/25/1987	Auto accident	Jean Rickman
Abraham Daniel Boukhari	12/2/1986	4/4/2005	Auto accident	David & Deborah Woodrow
Dwayne Stoppel	12/3/1954	11/8/2000		Pearl Stoppel
Derek Matthew Chandler	12/4/1982	7/29/1997	Hit by truck while riding ATV	Billy & Cheri Chandler
Konrad Ferrer	12/7/1982	11/27/1999	Car accident	Maria Hymes
John Walther	12/8/1968	10/1/2000		Joseph Walther
Nicole Maria Kelley	12/8/1987	8/28/1992	Anesthesia complications	John & Lois Kelley
Zachary Nathaniel James	12/9/1984	9/21/2002	Drunk driver	Gloria & James Olsen
Scotty Strader	12/11/1953	10/28/1978	Car accident	Kathrine Strader
Matthew Stockwell	12/11/1978	5/15/2004	Rare disease	Mark & Sally Stockwell
Kristen Amanda Teran	12/12/1982	12/28/2005	Suicide	Donna Loughridge
Abbie Flynn	12/12/2003	3/20/2004	Unknown virus	Ginger Flynn
Kristopher Lohrmeyer	12/13/1981	7/16/1999	Murdered	Dan and Lori Lohrmeyer
Paul Anthony Fischer	12/14/1971	1/6/2004	Car crash	Stephanie Newcomb
Noelle Pearl	12/15/1989	2/13/2007	Car accident	Michelle Fleming
Chris Reiter	12/18/1969	12/27/1997	Car accident	Sharon Reiter
Timothy Patrick Shea	12/22/1974	3/31/1996	Suicide	Joe & Paula Shea
Nicolas Jay Broughton	12/23/1980	5/30/1999	Car accident	Rose Broughton
Katie Kennedy	12/23/1987	9/10/2003	Cancer	Van & Kathy Kennedy
Trevor "T.J." Franks	12/24/1981	10/24/1999	Car accident	Penny Franks
Davey Christopher Hoffman	12/24/1982	9/25/2001		Elaine Hoffman
Sheri Cavin	12/27/1971	10/9/1993	Car accident	Susan & Alan Cavin
Anthony Anselmo	12/28/1979	12/21/2002	Accidental fall	Vicki & Frank Anselmo
Megan Lane	12/28/1985	1/27/2004	Auto accident	Sandra Gail Lane
Chelsey Ann Kear	12/29/1984	8/5/2000	Suicide	Tami Kear





**Remembering Our Children On Their Anniversaries**

*That their lives will always shine, our children are remembered. Our special  
its go to you on the anniversary of your child's death....*



Date of

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Compassionate Friend</u>
Eric Sutton Skinner	10/9/1979	12/4/1998	Clinical depression	David & Gail Skinner
Mia Allyson Gardiner	8/22/1987	12/4/2003	Car accident	Peri Gardiner
Renee Lee Seiberlich	6/6/1979	12/5/1980	Reyes Syndrome	Joe & Leda Seiberlich
Marc Darby	3/25/1986	12/12/1998	Respiratory failure	Lori Darby
Joseph Gentry Richardson	4/6/1984	12/13/1985	Infection after liver transplant	Jack & Miriam Gentry
Ember Maria Arthur	2/16/1975	12/17/2005	Collision	Jeanette Newville
Anthony Anselmo	12/28/1979	12/21/2002	Accidental fall	Vicki & Frank Anselmo
Tyler Glicken	2/8/1984	12/22/2003	Car accident	Ginger Jones
Patrick Niedringhaus	5/5/1987	12/22/2005	Avalanche victim	Leah & Dave Niedringhaus
Robbie Rickman	12/1/1966	12/25/1987	Auto accident	Jean Rickman
Chris Reiter	12/18/1969	12/27/1997	Car accident	Sharon Reiter
Kristen Amanda Teran	12/12/1982	12/28/2005	Suicide	Donna Loughridge
Brian Jensen	10/26/1974	12/29/2002	Suicide	Deborah Jensen
Mary Hope Burton	8/27/1994	12/30/2001	Perforated gastric ulcer	Jim & Betty Burton
Julian King	3/18/1984	12/31/2005	Murdered	Leonie Cramer





***Gently. Softly. Slowly.  
With Love.***

Tears stream down my face. I repeat my mantra.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I give myself permission to grieve.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I yearn. I search. I cling. My heart breaks.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I wail. I scream. I worry. I despair.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I listen. I read. I write. I pray. Not often, I talk.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I remember. Your face. Your eyes. Your smile. Your love.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I feel your presence next to me. I reach out my hand.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I learn to care for myself, as I once cared for you.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

I face one more day.

*Gently. Softly. Slowly. With Love.*

*—By Debbie Ortega for her daughter, Angela Marsh*

*TCF We Need Not Walk Alone, Spring 2008*



**FOR BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

**Sean**

*By Dana Lyn Brophy*

*This is a poem I wrote for my brother....*

*I love you, Sean!*

i stood in the bathroom, what should I do?  
Mom had just told me someone had found you.  
She had no idea what she should say now.  
But I cried from my heart "Please tell me how?"  
We raced down the freeway to where you lie,  
As my mind asked "How can someone just die?"

I collapsed to the ground dizzy from pain,  
Breathing from habit like a fall's first rain.  
Back to the church we unwillingly went,  
Gathered together we started to vent.  
Reminiscing on times we've laughed and cried,  
Trying to be closer to you inside.

The time had stopped ticking in life for me.  
A day without you would be misery.  
The funeral came and is like a dream.  
I spoke onstage but wanted to scream.  
Now it's been months and gets worse with each day.  
Missing you desperately here's what I'll say,  
I promise you I'll never say good-bye.  
Just please let me know you hear when I cry!  
I have a hope that I'll see you again  
When I finally set foot on the streets of heaven.

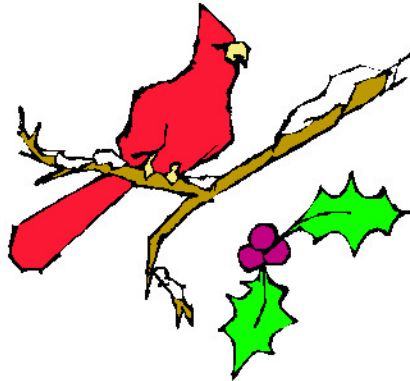
*In memory of Sean Patrick Sullivan*

*TCF We Need Not Walk Alone, Spring 2008*



**Organizational Contacts**

TCF National Office  
 P.O. Box 3656  
 Oak Brook, IL 60522  
 630-990-0010 OR (toll free) 877-969-0010  
 E-mail:  
 nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org  
 Web sites  
 national: www.compassionatefriends.org  
 Colorado: www.tcfcolorado.org  
 Regional Coordinator: David Derby  
 (303)979-2631 daved@tcfcolorado.org



**SIDS bracelets** are available by contacting info@coloradosids.org. They are white with a teal swirl with the words "Love and Remembrance" on them. You can call 303-320-7771. There is no charge but a donation to the Colorado SIDS program would be appreciated.

Even though the church is kind enough to lend us space for our meetings, The Compassionate Friends is not a religious organization. We meet to do our best to help each other as we try to adjust to this new life after the deaths of our children. Please join us for our monthly meeting on the third Thursday of the month at First Baptist Church, 317 E. Kiowa, at 7:00 p.m.

We welcome your contributions to the newsletter, whether original or something you have read that you'd like to share.

Please address any submissions to:

*Cora Davis*  
 8535 Pine Cone Rd.  
 Colorado Springs, CO  
 80908  
 Or send to  
 CoraWD@aol.com

Submissions need to be received by the 10th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

**Submissions to the Newsletter and Love Gifts**

**LOVE GIFT DONATION**

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Child's Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Anniversary Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Dedication** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Picture Enclosed:    Yes            No

Mail to:

Frank Schager  
 2235 McArthur Ave.  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Our chapter exists entirely through donations which are tax deductible. Our largest expense is the printing and mailing of our chapter newsletter, which is distributed to over 325 readers. Love gifts enable us to continue our outreach to bereaved parents through many chapter activities. A love gift is money donated to the chapter in memory of a child who has died. If you feel a love gift is an appropriate way to honor the memory of your child, and to support the Pikes Peak Chapter, please consider a donation to the chapter in any amount, small or large. Just fill out the form on this page and mail it to the address listed. If every chapter member sent in only \$10, we could raise \$3000 for the chapter. All pictures will be returned unless you specify for us to keep them and place them on the Child Remembered board displayed at monthly meetings. Thank you for your support!

**Submission Guidelines:**

**Under \$50** -- Picture, if available, and dedication to be listed in the newsletter.

**\$50 or more** -- Newsletter sponsor. May include a full page for printing. Please remember to send it in "ready to copy" form, exactly as you would like it printed in the newsletter. Thanks.

**These items must be received by the 10th of the month preceding the issue in which you would like them to appear. Please send Love Gift donations directly to the chapter's treasurer, Frank Schager, at the address above.**



Your Name(s):

Phone #

Address:

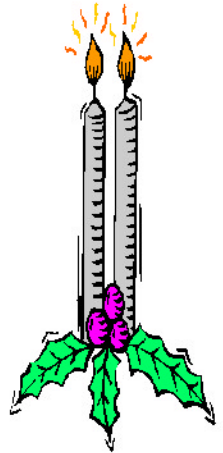
Your child(ren)\*s name(s) as you want it to appear on the video:

Child's Birthdate:

Child's Memorial Date:

Cause of Death (Optional)

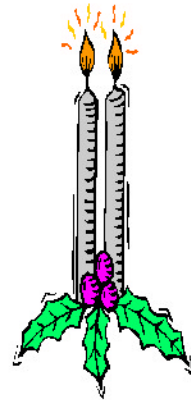
Dedication/Message to my child: (Please limit to 50 words or less)



Picture(s) included: Yes                      No      Number of pictures included:

Please create my page with information and picture(s) provided:

Please use last year's slide:



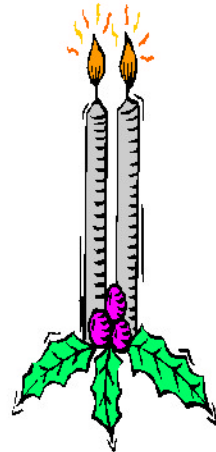

...that their  
light may  
always shine.

Light a candle for all children who have died.

**Sunday, December 14, 2008**

7 PM Around the Globe

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING



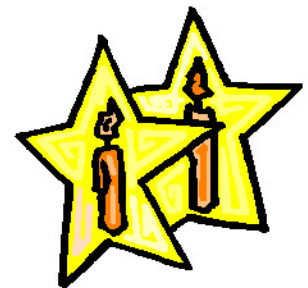
Photographs and dedications may be emailed to Stewart Levett at [stewlevett@msn.com](mailto:stewlevett@msn.com) or send to Stewart Levett c/o The Compassionate Friends, 160 El Dorado Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80919. Please inform us if you would like the photographs returned.

ALL PHOTOS AND DEDICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY DECEMBER 5TH.

The Compassionate Friends  
Pikes Peak Chapter  
P.O. Box 26239  
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Permit #215

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*As long as I can I will look at this world for both of us.*

*As long as I can I will laugh with the birds,*

*I will sing with the flowers, I will pray to the stars,*

*for both of us ~*

Sascha TCF e-newsletter Nov 07