



The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Inside This Issue

Grandparents Day	1
Note From Toni	2
Up-Coming Events	3
Walk to Remember/ Picnic	4
And Telephone Friends	
Up-date Form	5
Lawrence County Event	6
Our Children Remembered	7
Love Gift Insert	8

In Loving Memory
of Homicide Victims



Gone But Not Forgotten

-RHV

September 25th is

The National Day of
Remembrance for
Parents of Murdered
Children

The Compassionate Friends

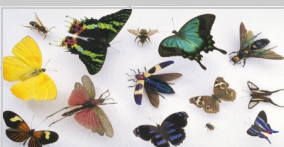
State of Arkansas

Regional Coordinators

David and Dana Penn

870-759-1299

www.djdp32@hotmail.com



Healing Hearts Newsletter

2211 Jones Road, Paragould, AR.

Up on the hill at Southside Community Church, in the Conference Room.

Email: tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com Webpage: tcfofnortheastarkansas.weebly.com

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea/>

Our next meeting is September 11th, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. — 9:00 P.M.



September 7th is National Grandparents Day this year. Grandparents are often left out of the picture when they lose a grandchild. I remember when my daughter died, my mother didn't talk much to me about the 15 year-old grandchild that she loved so much. I remember Mom coming over with something new for Melissa, she would say, "this is absolutely the last thing I'm buying for this baby!" I still have many pictures of my mother, as well as my grandmother with my children. When my daughter, Melissa died in 1985, my mom was right there with me. She never once mentioned her pain; she was too worried about me. I remember that after the funeral, Mom came home with me and my other 3 girls, and spent a week with us. It got to the point that I was feeling quite smothered having her take "care of me," until I woke up one morning and she had walked my 3 year old just up the road to visit a neighbor. When I realized I was alone, I panicked. It was a long time before I could stand being alone. My own grandmother mentioned Melissa's death to me only one time; she said "I just can't stand to think about it." Maybe parents grieve the most when a child dies; siblings, grandparents and other family members and friends also suffer.

These are pictures of my mother, L, holding Melissa at 7 mo. and my grandmother holding Melissa on her 1st Easter. My mother crocheted the dress Missy is wearing for her 1st Easter.



The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas would like to sincerely thank the person who so generously donated \$100 to TCF of NEA Shoe Box Fund-raiser. What a great surprise to come home and find an envelope in our mail to help our organization. THANK YOU!!! YOU ARE MUCH APPRECIATED!!!

Advisory Board Members

Associate Pastor Pat Graham, LMSW

Crystal Baldwin, MSNFPN-BC

Mariah Bryson, General manager of Zaxby's

Rick Nunn, Owner of Swirlz

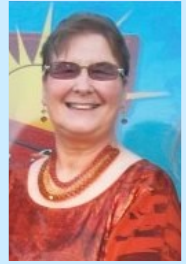
Copyright The Compassionate Friends, Inc. All rights reserved. TCF National Office: PO Box 3696, Oak Brook, IL. 60522-3696, Phone: 630-990-0010. Fax: 630-990-0246. Toll free national office: 877-969-0010 Web address: www.compassionatefriends.org. Facebook: Compassionate Friends/USA



Healing Hearts Newsletter

of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

Note from our Chapter Leader, Toni Baker



School is now in session and for some has brought up some emotions of possibly "my child would be attending such and such a grade this year, this is my child's senior year--missing graduation and all his/her senior activities, etc." Each season brings up different memories to us. Try remembering all the good memories and always think on the positive side. Our hearts are broken with a piece missing--it's like a sore that scabs over and every once in awhile the scab is ripped off and pain begins again. TCF of NEA is here to help you. We are a group who is walking this long, hard journey and together we encourage each other, show love and compassion. We are not therapists--ordinary individuals like yourself. TCF does not espouse any religion or denomination and if The Lord has helped you on your journey you are welcome to express that but we cannot tell someone else how to grief or their religion is not right. Join us the second Thursday of each month in the conference room at Southside Community Church. We are located up the hill from the church at 2211 Jones Road, Paragould.

We have a few events scheduled for this year. We will have our Annual Walk to Remember and Family Picnic on Saturday, October 25th. We encourage you to join us to socialize with other grieving families and walk in memory of your child (I understand some cannot walk and that's ok as someone will walk for you and carry your child's name--you can visit in the Pavilion while others walk). We are ordering t-shirts for the event and if you would like to place an order please call or email me. tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com. See more information under Upcoming Events or call 870-467-6025.

Another event is our Annual Candle Light Service on Sunday, December 14th. This is a worldwide event in memory of all our loved ones gone too soon but never forgotten.

Our next meeting is Thursday, September 11th at 7pm - 9pm. Call me if you would like a personal visit.

Love and Hugs, *Toni*



My son, Jayson

We'd love to have your feedback!

Join Us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea/>

Join Us on the Web!

tcfofnortheastarkansas.weebly.com

Our next 3 Meetings!

September 11, 2014

October 9, 2014

November 13, 2014

Mark Your Calendars!



The Compassionate Friends does not

espouse any religious ideologies. Southside Community Church has graciously offered the use of it's conference room as a meeting place for our chapter.

Thank You

Southside Community Church!

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter with an original poem or story you wrote,

or If you wish to stop receiving this newsletter,

please contact me at:

linda@thelenoxfamily.com



Healing Hearts Newsletter of

The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

In September, We will be having our regular meeting

Upcoming Events:

September →

Our chapter has been invited by The Compassionate Friends of Lawrence County for their Annual Balloon Release. It will be held in Walnut Ridge September 20th, between 12:30 and 12:45 at The Beatles at The Ridge celebration. More info is on page 5 of this newsletter.

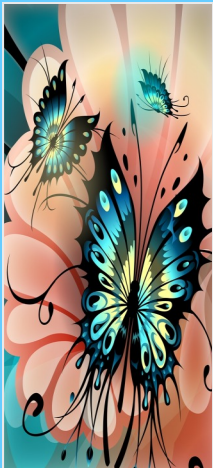
October →



In October we will be sponsoring our 2nd Annual Family Picnic and Walk to Remember again at Crowley's Ridge State Park, in the large pavilion. We will be serving bar-b-que sandwiches, and are asking everyone to bring a covered dish to share with the group. TCF of NEA will supply plates, eating utensils, etc. Everyone is welcome to bring family or friends! This isn't a meeting, so children are welcome. We will have our "Walk to Remember," in which we will walk and carry small signs with our children's name on each, in remembrance of our children, grandchildren and siblings "Gone Too Soon." After the walk, we will have out meal. We will have a door prize and a few items for sale. We will need a count of people likely to attend so we can make sure to bring enough food and supplies. Please contact Toni,

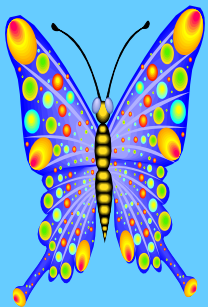
476-6025, or email, tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com if you can come.

December →



On December 14th we plan to hold our World-Wide Candle Lighting. This year would have been the 3rd Annual Candle lighting for The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas, however, our event in 2013 had to be canceled because of dangerous, icy roads. Our first Candle Lighting was a very beautiful and moving tribute to our lost loved ones. Please sign in at the door to have your loved ones names added to our scroll to be read aloud on stage.

Because this is a world-wide event, candles will be burning for 24 hours around the globe. Please try to be there by 6:00-6:30. We will begin lighting our candles in time to have them all lit promptly by 7:00 P.M. We will supply a candle for each participant to hold. Please bring a picture of your loved ones; we have a table to display the pictures. We will have the reading of our loved one's names, and the lighting of the 5 candles on stage. Refreshments will be served after the event, and there will be a door prize. As with all of our events, there will be no charge. We do our work with the help of love gifts given to our chapter. Donations, and our fundraisers pay for our newsletter, our events, and any crafts we do in our meetings, and are very appreciated. Further information will be posted as we get closer to the time for this event.



National Day Of Remembrance
September 25th

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN

Parole
Life for a life!

THE DEAD CAN NOT CRY OUT FOR JUSTICE
IT IS THE DUTY OF THE LIVING TO DO SO FOR THEM



Healing Hearts Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
Walk to
Remember



TCF of Northeast Arkansas will hold their Annual Walk To Remember and Family Picnic at Crowley's Ridge again this year – in the large

Pavilion by the lake. We will start gathering around noon on Saturday, October 25th.

We are taking orders for T-shirts—if you are interested in purchasing any please fill out the information.

Shirts will be \$10 for Sm-XL; \$12 for 2X-3X; \$13 for 4X and \$14 for 5X.

How many shirts would you like: _____

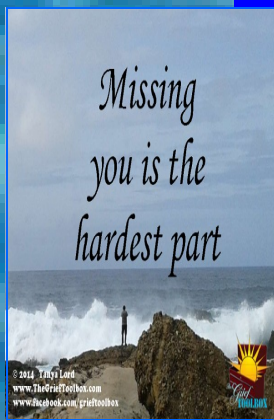
Sizes: _____

Make check payable to TCF of NEA and mail to 2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450.

Questions please call Toni at 870-476-6025. HUGS!!



Sample Tee Shirt



We're sending out a big "Thank You" to the ladies who came out for our meeting at Swirlz August 5th!
We Appreciate you!



Telephone or email Friends
Toni Baker, 870-476-6025 or baker2205@msn.com
Toni's son Jayson died in a motorcycle accident.
Linda Lenox, 870-573-6920 or linda@thelenoxfamily.com
Linda's daughter Melissa died in a flooded creek.
Jo Cook, 870-249-1290
Jo's daughter, Jennifer died in an accident with a train.



**Healing Hearts Newsletter of
The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas**

Dear Compassionate Friends:

We are in the process of updating our records and need your help! Please consider helping us by filling out the information below and mailing back to us!

2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450.

Your Name: _____

Deceased Child's Name: _____

Birth and Death Dates: _____

Full Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Cause of death (Optional) _____

Would you like to receive our monthly newsletter? _____

By snail mail?? _____ **Email** _____





Healing Hearts Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

A Mother's Wish

Forever In My Heart

You are forever in my heart
The day will come, I know
When all the rain has fallen
And the sun begins to show

I'll think of you in all I do
Your warmth will touch my face
You'll twinkle in the starlight
And be held in each embrace

So please do not be saddened
If a tear for you I shed
But we had dreams and wishes
Which I'll safely keep instead

Although it hurts, I understand
You'd somewhere else to be
Our time together has not passed
You'll always be with me

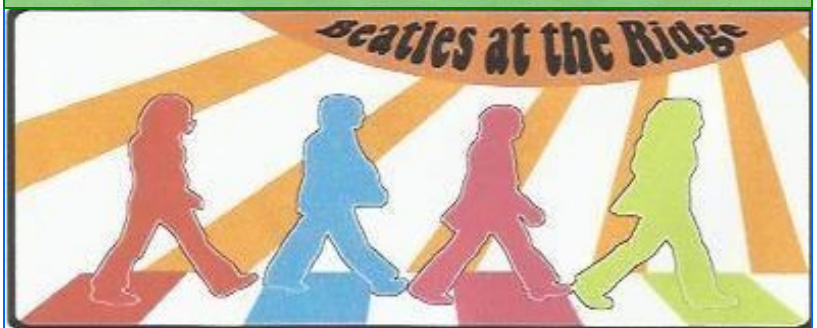
In every day, in every way
You'll always be a part
My precious little angel
You're forever in my heart

The Compassionate Friends of Lawrence County
Have invited our chapter to their balloon release
And Walk to Remember!

September 20, 2014, 12:30-12:45

BEATLES AT THE RIDGE FESTIVAL

Walnut Ridge, Arkansas - SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2014



www.beatlesattheridge.com

First National Bank's Beatles Park Stage



*Today the words come slowly
To express the weight upon my heart
Missing you
Is the hardest thing I have ever had to do
The poetry and prose
Can all be summed up
In the simplest of words
Spoken by so many
Thought by even more
Grief Sucks*

©2013 -Tanya Lord
www.TheGriefToolbox.com
www.facebook.com/grieftoolbox





Healing Hearts Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

Our Children Remembered

Melissa Noel Wilkinson

Jayson Baker

Cooper Catharine Porter

Nathan Kidd

Haylee Kidd

Nicholas Zurosky

Jennifer Cook

Timothy Lee Fitzwater

Samantha Cook

Shane Mathew Fitzwater

Jennifer Lee Hancock

Aaron Scott Boyer

Ashlyn Dunn

Aidyn Isaiah Queen

Annaya Marie Edwards

Shane Palmer

Tabitha Marsh

Steven Charles Garland

Stephanie Sluder

Timothy House

Julie Ellen Amick

Carter Smith

Olivia Jurkin

Tyler James Tritch

Mattie Bryant

Terry Brown

Jayden Wilkinson

Caiden Billups

Blake Howerton

Andrew Wayne Myers

Jon David Penn

Joseph "Chase" Jackson

Tyler James Troutt

Matthew Russo

Brent Hawkins

Nathan Swafford

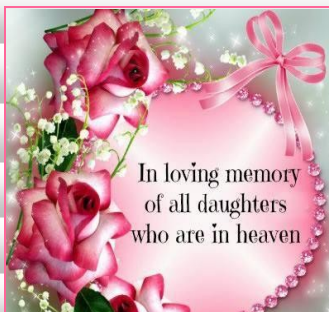
Daryl McWilliams

Billy Ray

Noah Spencer Boyd

*If you would like your child added to this
list, contact me:*

linda@thelenoxfamily.com



The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

2703 Stonegate Drive

Paragould, AR 72450

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

_____ Please check here and return this page if you

no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

You DO NOT have to attend meetings to receive newsletter.

Address Label

IF YOU ARE MOVING, Please send us your change of address.

Expenses of our newsletter and meetings are covered by monetary donations given by those who want to help in our outreach. It may be given in memory of your child, a loved one or a friend. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Make checks payable to: The Compassionate Friends of NEA

Send to: TCF of NEA, 2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450

\$ _____ For: _____ Newsletter Expense _____ Meeting Expense _____ Where Needed

IN MEMORY OF (state relationship) _____

GIVEN BY: _____

Complete mailing address: _____

We truly appreciate your love gifs.

The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas is a support group for those who have experienced the death of a child, grandchild, brother or sister. Parents whose sorrow has softened and who have found fresh hope and strength for living offer friendship, understanding and hope to others through monthly meetings, "telephone friends," a library table, and a newsletter. Attending your first meeting does take courage, but our parents who do attend find a comforting network of support and friendship that only friends who have "been there" can give. COME JOIN US!!