



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 still a 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.

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Our Children Remembered

Birthdays

Kyle Fischthal 11/18/00
Grandson of Gerri Diamond

Nichoolas Mendillo
Son of Kathy Mendillo
Grandson of Marie Fafard

Michael Gambone 11/30/60
Son of Susan McCann

Heather Rybinski 11/30/01
Daughter of David & Kim Rybinski

Anniversaries

Timothy Napoli 11/2/09
Son of Karen & Gary Napoli

Janee' Wallace 11/2/06
Daughter of Cathy Gambrell

Heather Rybinski 11/30/03
Daughter of David & Kim Rybinski

Ryan Vernoooy 12/4/10
Son of David & Nancy Vernoooy

John Brodski 12/6/03
Son of Joan Brodski

Kyle Fischthal 12/6/03
Grandson of Gerri Diamond

Nicholas Mendillo 12/10/03
Son of Kathy Mendillo
Grandson of Marie Fafard

Felicia Perugini 12/12/06
Daughter of Joseph & Elsa Perugini

Matthew Balisciano 12/17/05
Son of Anna Hodoba

Shawn Rivard 12/20/98
Son of Lidia Marques



How Many Stockings Shall I Hang?

What a torment! Funny how you worry what your friends will think. For days I worried. And finally I hung three upon the fireplace wall, and laid one gently on the mantel. But that was last year! And this year I shall hang all 4 above the fireplace. For it does not really matter whether my oldest daughter lives in Tucson, or my youngest son is dead, these are my children – our family – and as long as we hang the Christmas stockings, we shall hang them all ... with love.