



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Greater Providence Chapter

Volume 30, Issue 3

May — August, 2008

Greater Providence Chapter

10 Dail Drive
North Providence, RI 02911
(401) 231-9229 or 272-6267

Next Meeting

September 8
TUESDAY, October 14
November 10 **AND** 24 (2 meetings)

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Steering Committee

Chapter Co-Leaders	Lucille Valliere Sheila Capasso
Facilitators	Mike & Liz Carroll Cindy Parker
Secretary	Linda Chase
Treasurer	Paul Valliere
Publicity	Phyliss Sacchetine Christine Norwood
Outreach	Doris Desmet MaryBeth Brown
Newsletter Editor	Liz Carroll
Fundraising	Steve and Christine Norwood
Librarians	Margie Whitehead Maria Crudale

Our Mission

To assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive.

WWW.TCFPROVIDENCE.COM

National Headquarters:

P O Box 3696
Oak Brook, IL 60522-3696
Tel. (877) 969-0010
www.thecompassionatefriends.org

From Our Leaders:

As the summer heat continues so does our grief. It is ever changing, and we never know when the overwhelming feelings of loss take over. Summer was the time when my son Donald lost his battle with his illness. It was the time of the year he loved the most.

When Donald passed, I believed that I would not survive; coming to compassionate friends meetings gave me new hope. A place I could talk of Donald's life freely, where no one felt uncomfortable when I mentioned his name. Where members who had been grieving longer than I gave me new hope to survive, and have I?

There's not a day I don't miss my precious son, but there are many more days I can appreciate the love he brought into my life. With the support of fellow members I can share Donald, not in his death, but in his life. The support we give each other is the strength we need to help us survive this horrible pain. Thru supporting each other we will never be alone in this journey.

Sheila



THANK YOU!

Many parents give back to TCF through volunteer opportunities as a means of honoring their child. Without volunteers, our group would not exist. We are grateful to the following: **Lucille Valliere**, for serving as Chapter Co-Leader and **Paul Valliere**, for serving as Chapter Treasurer, in memory of their son, **Christopher P. Valliere**; **Sheila Capasso**, for serving as Chapter Co-Leader, in memory of her son, **Donald A. Capasso**; **Linda Chase**, for serving as Chapter Secretary, in memory of her son, **Gregory "Josh" Montigny**; **Liz Carroll**, for serving as Newsletter Editor and **Liz and Mike Carroll**, for serving as group Facilitators, in memory of their son, **Barton J. Carroll**; **Cindy Parker**, for serving as group Facilitator and mailing Remembrance Cards, in memory of her son, **Todd G. Parker**; **Judy Morris**, for serving as group Facilitator, in memory of her daughter, **rachel elain morris**; **Phyliss Sacchetine**, for continued handling of all Publicity literature, in memory of her daughter, **Lisa M. Barrio**; **MaryBeth Brown**, for creating & mailing Remembrance Cards, in memory of her son, **Derek Brown**; **Doris Desmet**, for serving on our Outreach committee, in memory of her son, **Robert Desmet**; **Steve and Christine Norwood**, for serving on our Fundraising committee, in memory of their daughter, **Lauren Rose Norwood**; **Margie Whitehead**, for organizing & setting up our Library, in memory of her daughter, **Brandi Lyn Burgess**; and **Maria Crudale**, for serving as current Librarian, in memory of her son, **Jon G. Nelson**.

Volunteering is a great way to give back in memory of your child after you have found hope, encouragement and strength from TCF to survive & thrive in spite of life's worst tragedy. Making the change from needing help & finding help—to giving help & support to new parents is another healing milestone. Please call or e-mail Lucille Valliere, 401-231-9229, LCGVALL49@hotmail.com, or Sheila Capasso, 401-272-6267, sheilac252@cox.net, if you have questions or if you'd like to volunteer.



Grief Support After the Death of a Child

The Compassionate Friends is a national nonprofit, self-help support organization that offers friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, grandparents and siblings. There is no religious affiliation and there are no membership dues or fees.

The secret of TCF's success is simple: As seasoned grievers reach out to the newly bereaved, energy that has been directed inward begins to flow outward and both are helped to heal. *The vision of The Compassionate Friends is that everyone who needs us will find us and everyone who finds us will be helped.*

Meetings:

Chapter meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at Central Congregational Church.

Directions: From I-95, take I-195 East to Exit 3 (Gano Street). Go right off the ramp. At the third light, go left on Angell Street (one way). Central Congregational Church is 0.2 miles down Angell on the right. Enter the church through the side entrance which is on Diman Place. Parking is allowed on Angell Street, Diman Place and Stimson Avenue, which is behind the church. If you have any questions, please call our Chapter Co-Leader Lucille at (401) 231-9229.

We have been asked by the church to keep the doors locked during our meetings. If you arrive after 8 PM, please go around to the door next to our meeting room and knock... we'll let you in!

TO OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE FURTHER DOWN THE 'GRIEF ROAD'

WE NEED YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND YOUR SUPPORT. EACH MEETING WE HAVE NEW PARENTS. 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, IT REALLY DOES GET BETTER!"

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

To Our New Members

If you are receiving your first Compassionate Friends newsletter, we wish to welcome you. We are sorry that you are eligible for membership in The Compassionate Friends. We are here if you need help, and we hope you find some measure of comfort from reading our newsletters, printed material, or by attending one of our meetings or activities. We know that it takes courage to attend a first meeting, but those who do often find an atmosphere of acceptance and caring among parents who have had or are having the same kinds of experiences or feelings. We come in different ages, shapes and sizes, but we share in the devastation associated with losing a child and struggle to find a way to "pick up the pieces". We realize that putting our lives back together and making sense of our loss is not easy, but it is easier on the mind to know we do not travel alone. You are not alone and you can survive. If you are hesitant to come to your first meeting, feel free to bring a friend or family member along with you.

Telephone Friends:

The following have volunteered to be Telephone Friends. We are available to talk or just listen. when you need someone. You need not walk alone...



If you would like to become a Telephone Friend, please contact Lucille or Sheila to let them know you would be willing to take calls.

Ann	401.946.3684	Bacterial Meningitis: son 23
Kathleen	401.764.5905	Cardiac Arrest: daughter only child
Madeline	401.434.1825 in PM	Suicide: son 19
Simone	401.724.8877	Accidental: son 11
Dawn	401.245.5241	Birth Injury: twin son 19 months
Geraldine	401.766.4492	Accidental: daughter 25
Carol	401.539.2547	Accidental: son 15
Jackie	401.831.6613	Accidental: son 22
Gladys	401.781.5042	Cancer: daughter 39
Anita & Bill	401.732.0360 in PM	Sudden Illness: daughter 11
Dick	508.252.6223	AIDS: son 29
Linda	508.993.8333	Drug Overdose: son 26
Lorraine	401.737.5968	Drug Overdose: son 30
Bob	401.354.4077	Auto Accident: daughter 19
Lorne	401.273.6577	Sudden Illness: daughter 5
Joyce	401.232.3721	Accident (AEA): son 31
Mary	401.921.1088	SIDS: son 2 months
Mike & Liz	401.293-0424 in PM	Murder RAV: son 18



May we lovingly remember these children and send our thoughts and prayers to their parents and families...

Nicole Marie Ferland	5/2/1981	Mr. & Mrs. Albert Ferland, Jr.	Olin Hackett	7/6/1982	Donald Hackett
Randy R. Oros	5/5/1991	Peter & Pauline Oros	Carter Vanderbilt Cooper	7/22/1988	Gloria Vanderbilt
Christopher P. O'Neill	5/15/1993	Carole O'Neill	Adam Christopher Saghid	7/16/1989	Gail A. Johnson
Jeffrey Scott Giguere	5/25/1993	George & Helen Giguere	Nicholas Charles Hendee	7/27/1990	Mary Javarey
Paul Mark Rebello	5/16/1996	John Rebello III	Joan Elizabeth Plante	7/29/1992	Obeline Plante
Gerard S. Connor	5/3/1998	Gerard Connor	rachel elain morris	7/11/1994	Judy Morris
William Wheeler, Jr.	5/11/2000	Nancy Carchia	Todd Michael Wexler	7/5/1994	Jeanne Wexler
Abby Aukerman	5/30/2000	William Aukerman	Daniel M. Malo	7/14/1998	David & Kate Malo
Jenna Turcotte	5/10/2003	Lisa Turcotte	Jean E. Bernat	7/18/1998	Carol Sylvia
Angel A. Lo	5/10/2003	Baye & Virginia Lo	Carrie Mattheus	7/27/1998	Regina Bourne
Christopher Paul Valliere	5/12/2003	Paul & Lucille Valliere	Lori Taglione	7/27/2000	Joyce Taglione
Jeffrey S. Monica	5/29/2003	Robin S. Monica	Shaun M. Kenney	7/21/2001	Russell & Aline Kenney
Hanna Marie Gervais	5/10/2004	Laura Miller	Richard E. Henri Jr.	7/4/2002	George & Kathleen Resnick
Zacharty Stiness	5/1/2005	John & Kelly Stiness	Barton Joseph Carroll	7/4/2002	Mike & Liz Carroll
George R. Couillard, II	5/3/2005	Sarah J. Couillard	Daniel John Coleman	7/6/2002	Joyce Coleman
Christopher Paul Pons	5/7/2005	Annie Colura	Kathleen "Katie" Boiros	7/11/2003	Maureen & Rick Boiros
Gregory "Josh" Montigny	5/27/2005	Linda Montingy Chase	Thomas Douglas Walker	7/29/2003	Robert & Rosemary Walker
Dante Cappelli	5/30/2006	Martin & Karen Cappelli	Danny Grant	7/31/2004	Danny & Kathy Grant
Zachary Cheetham	5/2/2007	Marjorie Pond	Paula Jane Torrico	7/4/2005	Albert & Corinne Resnick
Christine Grinavil	5/7/2007	Mary Grinavil	Robert Desmet	7/28/2006	Doris Desmet
Ryan Moelk	5/18/2007	Mike & Cheryl Moelk	Jenna Hull	7/7/2007	David & Laura Hull
Sara Grundy	5/9/2008	Ron & Brenda Grundy	Patrick Murphy	7/17/2007	John & Phoebe Murphy
Joshua Spinelli	5/10/2008	Boyce & Chris Spinelli	Jason Zagaski	7/18/2007	Chet Zagaski
Rebeckha Lynn Whitefield	5/16/2008	Michael & Jennifer Whitefield	Dylan Hebert	7/27/2007	Charles & Karen Hebert
James "JP" Madigan	5/18/2008	Kevin Madigan			
Dale Marie Erickson	6/13/1985	Geraldine Erickson	Thomas P. Kenney	8/13/1982	Ed & Shirley Kenney
Mary Elaine Ackaway	6/1/1988	Gloria J. Ackaway	Benjamin Russell Moran	8/21/1992	John & Jackie Moran
Emma Elizabeth Soares	6/28/1998	Jim & Kathleen Soares	Matthew A. Cardello	8/29/1993	Linda M. Cardello
Amy Shute	6/9/2000	Gary & Carol Shute	Jonathan Blake Waxler	8/20/1995	Bob & Linda Waxler
Jason Burgeson	6/9/2000	Ernest & Nadine Burgeson	Jason G. Naylor	8/11/1998	Elizabeth Naylor
David Allan DeAlmeida	6/24/2000	Michael & Sheila DeAlmeida	Maggie Anne McLoughlin	8/30/1998	Mark & Karen McLoughlin
Ali Dunn Packer	6/3/2001	Robert & Maureen Packer	Donald Anthony Capasso	8/14/2003	Donald & Sheila Capasso, Jr.
Domenic Folco	6/4/2003	Cheryl Folco	Corinne Marie Verity	8/17/2003	Kathleen Verity
Jennifer Lynn Peterson	6/5/2003	Richard & Mary Peterson	Michael Fuller	8/8/2004	David & Laurie Fuller
Jessica Mancini	6/10/2003	Tom & Sue Mancini	Lauren Rose Norwood	8/5/2005	Steven & Christine Norwood
Rebecca Eisen	6/14/2004	Judith Eisen	Joseph Allard	8/1/2006	Barbara Allard
Cory Byrum	6/18/2004	Linda Byrum	Joseph Pierno	8/21/2006	Joe & Julie Pierno
Nicholas Almeida	6/22/2005	Cristina Monteiro	Nathan W. Long	8/11/2007	Wayne & Carol Long
Jon Gabriel Nelson	6/5/2006	Maria Crudale	Angela R. Sbardella	8/31/2007	Kevin Sbardella & Lori Silva
Caroline Andrews	6/14/2008	Ed & Bernadette Andrews			

The lasting gift that any loved one gives us is their presence in our hearts.

It is up to us to dedicate ourselves to integrating that loving spirit into our ongoing lives.

By Carol Staudacher from "A Time to Grieve"

Thanks

By John DeBoer ~ TCF, Greater Omaha NE

Thanks to the friend who did know the right words to say: "There is a group in town that might help you."

Thanks to the parent who somehow found the courage to call that phone number and find out about "that group."

Thanks to the mother who went to that first meeting knowing it would really hurt to talk — and talked.

Thanks to the dad who said after the first meeting that he could never come back — but did.

Thanks to the parent who, at the fifth meeting, put her arms around a "new one" and said: "They really can help."

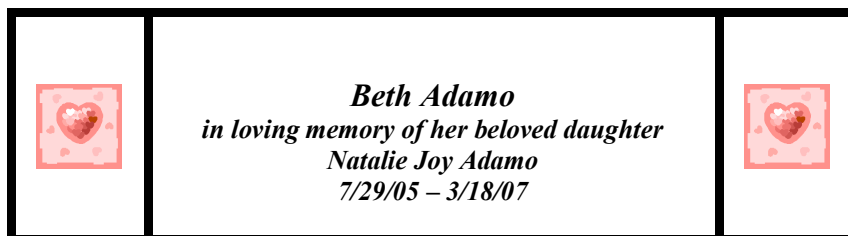
Thanks to the mom who, for the first time, was again able to bake cookies — for her "Compassionate Friends."

Thanks to the homemaker who could never talk in front of people — who became a facilitator.

Thanks to the six-foot father who cried in front of the other men — and didn't say he was sorry.

Because of you, we will be able to help someone we don't even know — next month.

We want to thank and acknowledge the following for her generous support of our chapter by submitting our organization to her employer—Blue Cross/Blue Shield Community Relations and Employee Services for their generous donation:



Our Credo...

We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other with love, with understanding and with hope. Our children have died at all ages and from many different causes, but our love for our children 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.

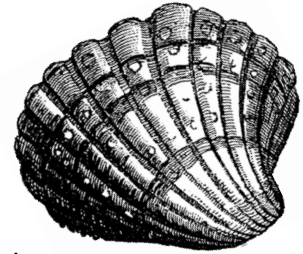
We are a unique family because we represent many races and creeds. We are young, and we are old. Some of us are far along in our grief, but others still feel a grief so fresh and so intensely painful that we feel helpless and see no hope. Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength; some of us are struggling to find answers. Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or in deep depression; 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 our children. We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves, but we are committed to building that future together as we reach out to each other in love and 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.



BROKEN SEASHELLS – BROKEN HEARTS

By Pamela Leonhardt

Recently while on a trip visiting my sister in Oregon I came across a lovely and heartfelt book entitled “My Beautiful Broken Shell” written by Carol Hamblet Adams and illustrated by one of my favorite seascape artists, D. Morgan. The words of the tender reflections in this book resonated with my heart as I walked along the sandy shores of the Oregon coast collecting seashells.



Adams shares the brokenness of her heart and spirit as she struggled through a difficult time. In her book, she describes her experience walking along the sandy seashore searching for perfect sea-shells to add to her collection. As she gazes at the sea of broken shells, she comes to realize that the broken ones reflect her own broken heart. In each shell, Adams sees those who are hurting and who have lost loved ones; those who are frightened or alone; and those who are living with unfulfilled dreams. Like all of us, each shell in the vast sea is tremendously resilient after fighting so hard to keep from being totally crushed by the pounding surf. We, too, come to realize that it takes courage to remain on the shore after being “tossed by the storms of life and worn down by the sands of time” despite the unrelenting pain and suffering in your hearts. Like each of us, broken seashells represent our tears, deepest sorrows and pain from the loss of our precious child. The turbulent crashing waves of the sea, followed by the calm waves, teaches us about the true meaning of strength, courage and faith. The brokenness of each shell comes to remind us that when our hearts are shattered beyond belief, we can survive even the most horrific storm in our own lives. As each beautiful broken shell doesn’t pretend to be perfect or whole, it allows for its brokenness to be seen, knowing that within the center of the shell lays immense beauty.

Broken seashells don’t exist alone but are surrounded by a vast number of seashells, each broken in their own unique way. Like all of humanity, when you truly look around, you see that we are all wounded in one way or another. As rare as it is to find a perfect shell in the midst of hundreds of shells lying on the beach, it’s equally rare to find any one of us who has not experienced deep pain and sorrow. As the broken shells lie close to one another, we are reminded that we, too, live in community with each other and when we draw upon the strength and courage of others it helps us through the most difficult times.

After reading this tender and heartfelt book, I walked the sandy Oregon shore, no longer in search for the perfect seashell for my collection but rather recognizing the strength, courage and beauty of all the broken shells that lay scattered along the shore. With each broken seashell I picked up and placed in my hand, I admired its own uniqueness and strength. It was through gazing at them I was reminded of my own brokenness and the tremendous courage it has taken me to survive the most turbulent storm in my life. Through my brokenness I have emerged stronger, more compassionate and loving and able to recognize and embrace my own internal beauty from that struggle. Like many others, I find my deepest peace and serenity by the seashore, mesmerized by the crashing waves followed by the slow, gentle retreat of the water back into the sea. As one of my favorite quotes so profoundly states, “no where on earth are heartaches better tended,” I feel the sadness in my heart soothed and my soul restored and nourished as I experience all the beauty that the sea offers. As I prepare to leave next week for another retreat to the sea, I will notice and cherish each broken shell knowing the strength and courage it took for each of them to survive the turbulent storms of the sea and be reminded of my own healing journey. Next time you find yourself walking along the shore’s edge, pick up a broken seashell that speaks to you and see yourself reflected in the broken edges. Recognize the strength of the shell to survive being tossed through the crashing waves just as your heart has survived and grown stronger after the most horrific and tumultuous storm.

Pamela is a Licensed Psychologist in private practice in Boulder, CO and bereaved mother to angel child, Michael, 12/2/76 – 7/14/98.

Reprinted from Denver Metro Area Newsletter July 2005

My Beautiful Broken Shell, 1998, by Carol Hamblet Adams, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR – to order online go to www.tcfatlanta.org/MyBeautifulBrokenShell.html



Special HAPPY BIRTHDAY remembrances for our following children:

Gregory S. Earley	May 28, 1960	Robert Allen Peideia, II	July 30, 1975
David Schaffer	May 3, 1962	Christopher Paul Valliere	July 6, 1977
Michael V. Medeiros	May 8, 1962	Ryan Moelk	July 7, 1979
Shaun M. Kenney	May 11, 1964	Michael Fuller	July 19, 1979
Eric Boyd	May 21, 1964	Danny Grant	July 28, 1979
Lisa Marie Barrio	May 31, 1973	Jennifer Lynn Howes	July 3, 1980
Gerard S. Connor	May 11, 1974	Andrew Hoban	July 27, 1980
Jennie Collen	May 16, 1974	Crystal Marie Paiva	July 22, 1981
Geoffrey Hugh Beattie	May 25, 1975	Sara Grundy	July 17, 1982
Michael Groff, Jr.	May 12, 1977	Matthew K. Serio	July 22, 1982
Justin T. Marron	May 30, 1978	George R. Couillard, II	July 2, 1983
Thomas Douglas Walker	May 2, 1979	Brian R. St. Germain	July 18, 1983
Derrick Blair	May 2, 1981	Natalie Joy Adamo	July 29, 2005
Lynda M. Robitaille	May 28, 1981		
Dylan Hebert	May 5, 1982	Ronald S. Buteau	August 3, 1949
Ben Karten	May 9, 1982	Cheryl Jackson Rebello	August 1, 1954
Steven P. Neary	May 23, 1990	Mary Elaine Ackaway	August 14, 1958
Lori Taglione	May 25, 2000	Dale Marie Erickson	August 21, 1959
Angel A. Lo	May 10, 2003	Todd Michael Wexler	August 6, 1964
Marina Spencer	May 19, 2005	Kevin Woodbine Gaudreau	August 22, 1964
		Christopher Robert Boone	August 23, 1966
James J. Chappell	June 26, 1965	Christopher Mark Leahey	August 8, 1969
George Botelho	June 4, 1971	Robert Desmet	August 19, 1971
Christopher P. O'Neill	June 14, 1972	Nicole Marie Ferland	August 29, 1974
Daniel Erik Schuster	June 5, 1979	Tamara Suzanne Meyer	August 20, 1975
John Paul "JP" Medeiros, Jr.	June 24, 1981	Richard E. Henri Jr.	August 25, 1976
Brendon H. Little	June 10, 1982	Joshua Spinelli	August 27, 1978
Melissa Lynn Watson	June 10, 1982	Justin Wilks	August 14, 1980
Nicholas Charles Hendee	June 15, 1982	Christopher R. Angelo	August 7, 1981
Edwin "Eddy" Espada	June 13, 1983	Michael Boyajian	August 20, 1981
Rachel E. Cournoyer	June 26, 1983	Brandi Lyn Burgess	August 3, 1983
Erica Desautels	June 27, 1983	Barton Joseph Carroll	August 10, 1983
Danielle Marie Laferriere	June 1, 1984	Joseph A. Duarte	August 26, 1985
Victoria Fasciano	June 12, 1996	Larissa Grullon	August 28, 1988
Caroline Andrews	June 14, 2008	Samantha Brasil	August 14, 1989
		David Allan DeAlmeida	August 22, 1998
Max R. Smith	July 17, 1956	Maggie Anne McLoughlin	August 29, 1998
Paula Jane Torrico	July 1, 1961	Dylan Paul Lapham	August 3, 1999
Adam Christopher Saghid	July 16, 1968	Justin Scully	August 7, 2000
Paul Joseph Battey	July 30, 1969	John Taglione	August 8, 2000
Melissa E. Allin	July 28, 1974	Noah A. Barber	August 1, 2005



Gifts of Love

A love gift is a gift of money to The Greater Providence Chapter of the Compassionate Friends. It is usually in honor of a child who has died, but it can also be from individuals who want to honor a relative or friend who has died, a gift of thanksgiving that their own children are alive and well, or simply a gift from someone who wants to help in the work of our chapters. The following donations are in support of the our ongoing newsletter, material distribution and other outreach.

In loving memory of Patrick Cannon—Forever in our hearts, Mom and Dad

In memory of Nicholas Charles Hendee

In memory of Bobby Desmet on his 2nd Anniversary and 37th Birthday—Forever in our hearts, Mom and Dad

In loving memory of Angela Rose Sbradella—I love you, All Day, Every Day. Dad

In memory of Angela Rose Sbradella—We miss you everyday and will never, ever forget you. Aunt Nette, Uncle Paul & Brandon

All chapters within TCF are totally dependent on funds from our families. We DO NOT receive funds from our National Office. Everything we need to operate our local chapters are paid directly from our local resources and our local family contributions. Thank you to all who contribute and support your local chapters. Some people contribute to the Memory of Other Children.....this is a wonderful way for others to say "I am Remembering your child" other "Gifts of Love" are evident by all the compassionate and giving volunteers we have within our own TCF organization.

From Our Chapter:

Two By Two

THEY CAME TO ME TWO BY TWO.
A BROWN EYED GIRL AND A BOY WITH EYES OF BLUE.
TWO BEAUTIFUL GIFTS FROM HEAVEN ABOVE.
MY HEART WAS FILLED WITH OVERWHELMING LOVE.
THE 24TH OF FEBRUARY 1977 WAS THEIR SPECIAL DAY.
KEEP THEM SAFE AND HAPPY EACH NIGHT I WOULD PRAY.
THEY WOULD KEEP ME GOING FROM MORNING TO NIGHT.
EACH AND EVERY DAY WAS A SHEER DELIGHT.
THEY SHARED A BOND THAT CAN NEVER BE BROKEN.
THEY KNEW EACH OTHERS THOUGHTS NO WORDS NEEDED TO BE SPOKEN.
THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD TIMES THEIR LOVE CONQUERED ALL.
THEY WOULD PICK EACH OTHER UP EVEN AFTER A BAD FALL.
AS THEY GREW OLDER THEY SOMETIMES WENT THEIR SEPARATE WAYS.
BUT ALWAYS FOUND TIME FOR EACH OTHER AND SHARED MANY SPECIAL DAYS.
ON THE 12TH OF NOVEMBER TWO THOUSAND SEVEN,
GOD SENT FOR AN ANGEL TO JOIN HIM IN HEAVEN.
I HOPED AND I PRAYED THAT IT WAS NOT TO BE.
BUT GOD WON HIM OVER WHEN HE WHISPERED "COME TO ME".
THE PAIN OF MY LOSS IS SO HARD TO BEAR.
I THINK OF HIM OFTEN AND SHED TEAR AFTER TEAR.
THIRTY YEARS TOGETHER WENT BY WAY TOO FAST.
IN MY HEART ARE MEMORIES THAT WILL FOREVER LAST.
I STILL HAVE MY BROWN EYED GIRL AND I'LL KEEP HER CLOSE TO ME.
BUT MY BLUE EYED BOY IS IN HEAVEN WHERE ONLY GOD CAN SEE.

WRITTEN FOR JOHN ANTHONY KOCZAN
AND HIS TWIN SISTER TRACY LYNN PRATA
BY MOM -

BETTY KOCZAN



Today

I saw you today,
My heart skipped a beat,
I could not help but state.

Your beautiful brown hair,
Your chubby cheeks and little round hands,
You were being held by another,
Tenderly nurtured and loved.

Time stood still as I was once again back in life with you.
Remembering your scent,
Hearing your voice as it crackled with a cry.

Tears flowed from my eyes,
Your visit was unexpected.
Ten years since your death,
Yet on occasion, when I least expect it,
You come to me.

Through another little being,
Your name called out in a park.

How I miss you and what could have been.

Thank you for the visit my precious little girl.

Kathleen Soares
Mother of Emma Elizabeth
April 2008



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
Greater Providence Chapter

10 Dail Drive
North Providence, RI 02911

Return Service Requested



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
Greater Providence Chapter

The Compassionate Friends is a Self-Help Organization supported solely from contributions by caring people and businesses.

We need your help so we can continue to help those who are grieving.

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO:

Co-Leader
Lucille Valliere
10 Dail Drive
N. Providence, RI
02911

Greater Providence Chapter TCF LOVE GIFT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

In Loving Memory Of: _____

Birth Date: _____ **Death Date:** _____

Your tax-deductible donations help defray the costs for the newsletter, postage, and other chapter expenses, and help for others who are grieving. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged in the newsletter.

Love Gift \$ _____ **Message:** _____



Send Donations To



Thank you!!