

The Compassionate Friends Marin County Chapter Supporting Family After a Child Dies

September—October, 2023 ISSUE

Vol 44, No. 5

#1184

This issue of the TCF Marin Newsletter is sponsored by love gifts from our members.

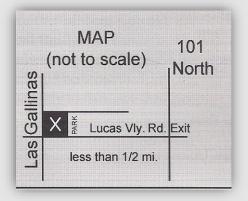
Chapter Leader: Eileen Rusky erusky@gmail.com

Facilitator: Mark Rosengarden

TCF Marin Monthly Meetings: Group meetings are normally held on the third Monday of the month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Hillside Church at Lucas Valley. 2000 Las Gallinas Avenue (at Lucas Valley Road)

San Rafael, CA

First time attendees are encouraged to arrive at 7:00 for orientation. All attendees arriving before 7:00 p.m. are asked to sign in and be seated in the lobby until the meeting room is ready. The TCF Newsletter and informational pamphlets will be displayed for attendees to browse.



FORWORD to this edition and note from the editor:

We are holding our usual monthly support meetings at the Hillside Church in Terra Linda. Attendees must show proof of Covid-19 vaccination and a picture ID. Facemasks are required.

Please let us know if you are not receiving periodic email information or if your email address is not on our contact list. We will add you to the list. Thank you for your continuing support.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony Sunday, December 10, 2023, 7:00 P.M. Unity in Marin 600 Palm Drive, Novato, CA 94949

Please join us to commemorate all children of all ages who have gone before their time.

For the 27th year, this deeply moving ceremony will celebrate, remember and honor the children who have died leaving behind family and friends searching for answers and support. Together we will share the joy of having known them and the sorrow of having lost them.

Starting in Greenwich, England at 7:00 p.m., participants light their candles to remember the children and, in our small way, to push back the darkness of loss. Then, heading westward as night comes to each community in turn, more candles are lighted in remembrance. As the world turns, the ceremony creates a virtual 24 -hour wave of light passing from time zone to time zone all around the planet. This powerful tradition unites family and friends around the globe in remembering those who left us too soon.

The ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m. During the course of the ceremony, each of us will light a candle to remember and celebrate a child we have lost.

The Compassionate Friends is an international, nondenominational support group made up of and for families who have lost children. At our monthly meetings we offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, grandparents and siblings who have experienced the death of a child from any cause, at any age. There, you will find a safe place to meet and talk freely about your child and your grief. There are no dues or fees.

Meeting Calendar Third Monday of the Month: Monday, September 18, 2023 Monday, October 16, 2023 Monday, November 20, 2023 Monday, December 18, 2023



TCF RESOURCES:

The Compassionate Friends, Marin County Chapter: P.O. Box 150935 San Rafael, CA 94915 www.tcfmarin.org tcfmarin@gmail.com https://www.facebook.com/ groups/36595597804 Info: Eileen Rusky (415) 457-3123

TCF San Francisco and Peninsula Chapter:

Meets: 2nd Wednesday Taraval Police Sta. 2345, 24th Ave Contact: Audre Hallum 1,650.359.7928, cwhallum1@mac.com Co Leaders: Meg Cunningham, Doug Cameron

TCF Sonoma County Chapter:

tcf.sonomacounty@gmail.com (707) 490-8640

Northern CA Regional Coordinator:

Nancy Juracka nancy_juracka@yahoo.com

TCF National Office:

P.O. Box 3696 Oak Brook, IL 60533-3696 Phone: (630) 990-0010 Toll Free: (877) 969-0010 Fax: (630) 990-0246 Email: nationaloffice@ compassionatefriends.org www.compassionatefriends.org

Additional Support Sites:

opentohope.com survivorsofsuicide.com griefspeaks.com friendsforsurvival.org

Other Grief Counseling Resources:

By the Bay Health (formerly Hospice by the Bay) offers individual and group grief counseling. Free Monthly Grief Support Group for Bereaved Parents 1st Thursday 11a-12p. Pre-registration required.

- Marin and SF (415) 526-5699
- · Sonoma (707) 931-7299

Email: <u>griefsupport@bythebayhealth.org</u> Website: <u>https://bythebayhealth.org/</u>I:

North Bay Grief Recovery in San Rafael : www.NorthBayGriefRecovery.com Ph.: 1.415-250-3027 LINK TO WEBSITE

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: www.afsp.org Ph.: 1.707.721.4062

Friends for Survival, Inc www.friendsfordurvival.org Ph.: 1.800.646.7322

Halloween

It is here, this day of merriment and children's pleasure. Gremlins and goblins and ghosties at the door of your house.

> And the other children come to the door of your mind. Faces out of the past, small ghosts with sweet, painted faces.

They do not shout. Those children who no longer march laughing on cold Halloween nights, they stand at the door of your mind

and you will let them in, so that you can give them the small gifts of Halloween, a smile and a tear.

> Sascha Wagner The Compassionate Friends

"The tears I feel today I'll wait to shed tomorrow. Though I'll not sleep this night Nor find surcease from sorrow. My eyes must keep their sight: I dare not be tear-blinded. I must be free to talk Not choked with grief, clear-minded. My mouth cannot betray The anguish that I know. Yes, I'll keep my tears til later: But my grief will never go." — Anne McCaffrey, *Dragonsinger*

"The griefs that have been hardest for me were the ones I didn't recognize as griefs, because they came in what were supposed to be the best times of my life. No one whispered in my ear that the best times, the ones that change our lives, are woven with the thread of loss."

- Anna White, Mended: Thoughts on Life, Love, and Leaps of Faith

You give yourself permission to grieve by recognizing the need for grieving. Grieving is the natural way of working through the loss of a love. Grieving is not weakness nor absence of faith. Grieving is as natural as crying when you are hurt, sleeping when you are tired or sneezing when your nose itches. It is nature's way of healing a broken heart. - Doug Manning

"Grieving is a journey that teaches us how to love in a new way now that our loved one is no longer with us. Consciously remembering those who have died is the key that opens the hearts, that allows us to love them in new ways." - Tom Attig, The Heart of Grief

Carol's Corner

by Carol Kearns, PhD author of "Sugar Cookies and a Nightmare"

Columns for The Compassionate Friends

I have found great solace volunteering for The Compassionate Friends, a hard-working group that supports families seeking "the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child" (www.compassionatefriends.org). My columns discuss topics of continuing concern in the Marin County CA newsletter. Please visit my newly updated website at www.carolKearns.com. - Carol

Suicide and Loss

I was asked the question, "What do you tell parents who have suicidal thoughts after their child dies?" As you all know, the death of a child is one of life's greatest pains. I think the only pain greater is losing more than one child, and too many of you parents have. When filled to the brim with pain, we may feel the only way to get rid of the pain is to get rid of ourselves. We can't imagine living without our child. Suicide may seem like the only option when the light at the end of the tunnel is either nonexistent or very dim. A suicidal person's perspective on life can narrow to the extent that she feels she has nothing to offer. The world is better off without her.

I remember well those suicidal feelings after my daughter Kristen's death and mention in my book how, when taking a bubble bath, I wanted to slip under the water and disappear. Exhausted from the pain, I saw this as an easy solution. Thank goodness an equally strong feeling overtook me: I could never do this to Michel, my son who was nine at the time. He had just lost his sister. He didn't need to lose his mother.

Still, living a life of pain would be like living a death. That wasn't an option. The only option was to somehow turn the pain into something meaningful.

This is the challenge we each face as bereaved parents if we are to live a life of meaning. Grief demands patience and a trust that we will find a way through. As impossible as this feels, we must try to reach deep within ourselves beyond the pain to the gifts our child gave us. Even in infant deaths, our babies gave us one of the greatest of gifts. They gave us love. We need to use the power of this love to create their legacy. Suicide robs them of that. We do not "get over" the loss of our child. We will never be the same. We will always miss them but, with the right support, we can recover from the anger, sadness, isolation and despair that threatened to devastate us. We heal and often become a better, stronger person.

From The Compassionate Friends to MADD, many wonderful organizations began with the death of a child. Great art, literature and music were created out of grief and have benefitted us all. The late Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, who pioneered the field of grief and loss often said, "Remember, the purest gold comes from the hottest fire." When you feel yourself giving into the desperate feelings of suicide, I challenge you to look for the gold. What will your child's legacy be?

After October

and if there be a perfect month, for me, it is October... with days and nights like laughing fauns, with mornings bright and sober. when wind will dance in sudden glee to do the autumn-sweeping or cloud and fog and wistful rain can move a heart to weeping. and in October You were born, four days before November... and four years later you were gone, my little son, my only son, l love you. and remember...

> Sascha Wagner © The Compassionate Friend

Our Children Remembered September

| Child | Birthdate | Anniversary | Bereaved | |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Daniel Zacharia Ashkenazy | 09/07/1984 | 01/14/2005 | Pamela Ashkenazy, Dan Ashkenazy | |
| Sean Behan | 09/21/1974 | 06/24/2019 | Gerri & Robert Behan | |
| Sylvia Chantal Bingham | 04/22/1987 | 09/15/2009 | Francoise Blusseau & Stephen Bingham | |
| Jason Bohlke | 09/20/1985 | 09/18/2010 | Adam Bohlke & Britt Rosenmayr | |
| Jacob Westley Brumbaugh | 09/13/1986 | 02/17/2011 | Mark & Deborah Brumbaugh | |
| Oksana Collins | 03/11/1991 | 09/07/2019 | Susan Collins | |
| Michael Kai Cornett | 09/17/1993 | 10/15/2022 | Karen & Jeff Marozick | |
| Scanlan Derrick | 09/21/2005 | 08/20/2020 | Susan Derrick | |
| Chelsea Faith Dolan | 09/14/1983 | 12/02/2016 | Colleen Dolan | |
| Dylan Simon Duncan Wright | 07/13/1981 | 09/14/2013 | Mara Duncan | |
| Jacob Samuel Freeman | 09/11/1985 | 04/03/2007 | Michael Freeman & Lisa Klairmont | |
| Errol Friedman | 09/11/1997 | 12/03/2018 | Jeff & Barbara Friedman | |
| Savannah Louise Hill | 06/04/1993 | 09/22/2003 | Andrea Hill | |
| Alecia Anne Marie Hopper | 09/26/1974 | 08/30/2017 | Bill Hopper, Constance Blake | |
| Hanna Rosa Hotchkiss | 12/25/1996 | 09/04/2021 | Marina Hotchkiss | |
| Dana John Hudson | 02/13/1972 | 09/04/2016 | Diana Hudson | |
| Grace Perin Kuhzarani | 08/17/2021 | 09/10/2021 | | |
| Evan Porter Larsen | 09/21/1981 | 11/15/2019 | Rachel Kepp & Ali Kuhzarani | |
| Chris Leach | 02/12/1974 | 09/02/2002 | Libby McQuiston | |
| Lisa Messik MacPhee | | | Marcie & Don Leach | |
| | 09/20/1997 | 05/02/2021 | Robert MacPhee | |
| Athena Maguire | 09/15/1988 | 10/07/2018 | Alexandra Maguire | |
| Fernando Martinez | 07/26/1975 | 09/13/1993 | Don & Maria Pazour | |
| Timothy Patrick McBride | 05/05/1986 | 09/24/2001 | Lois Kortum & George McBride | |
| Douglas Duncan McGeehon | 07/31/1983 | 09/13/2022 | Patricia McGeehon | |
| Daniel McLaughlin | 08/12/1960 | 09/20/2019 | Eve Pell | |
| Marci Eilene Meyring | 09/25/1979 | 01/05/1987 | Gary & Natalie Meyring | |
| Lauren Nelson | 08/20/1982 | 09/29/2010 | John & Vicki Nelson | |
| Diego Ruiz Palomino | 09/20/1982 | 09/25/2008 | Celia Ruiz & Michael Palomino | |
| Clara Struthers Payne | 11/17/1990 | 09/27/2021 | Pegan Brooke | |
| Nicholas Plaskon | 09/07/1971 | 06/19/1992 | John & Berit Lelas | |
| Joshua Adam Portnoy | 07/16/1978 | 09/27/1997 | Bob & Gunilla Portnoy | |
| Kareem Rafeh | 09/07/1982 | 08/25/2013 | Hafez & Nada Rafeh | |
| Daniel James Reed | 09/08/1987 | 10/31/2020 | Diane Reed | |
| Carolyn Reichling | 03/25/1993 | 09/03/2001 | Michelle Miller | |
| Lara Rachel Rusky | 03/26/1982 | 09/06/2009 | Edward & Eileen Rusky | |
| Benjamin P. Scheuenstuhl | 04/01/1981 | 09/07/1982 | Maureen & Heinz Scheuenstuhl | |
| Nicolas Simard | 09/26/2003 | 05/26/2016 | Julie Chabot & François Simard | |
| Vinnie J. Simons | 09/25/1982 | 07/11/2007 | Lori Jones | |
| William Kreitzberg Spinrad | 07/11/1990 | 09/13/2020 | Caroline Kreitzberg | |
| Jessica Young | 08/01/1983 | 09/01/2019 | Barbara Young | |
| Malika Ziani | 09/17/1973 | 01/26/2011 | Phyllis Callahan | |

At some of the darkest moments in my life, some people I thought of as friends deserted me-some because they cared about me and it hurt them to see me in pain; others because I reminded them of their own vulnerability, and that was more than they could handle. But real friends overcame their discomfort and came to sit with me. If they had not words to make me feel better, they sat in silence (much better than saying, "You'll get over it," or "It's not so bad; others have it worse") and I loved them for it. – Harold Kushner, Living a Life that Matters

Our Children Remembered October

| Child | Birthdate | Anniversary | Bereaved | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Chancellor Argall | 07/19/1996 | 10/18/2016 | Grier Argall & Jeanni Lang | |
| Lancelot Argall | 03/21/1998 | 10/18/2016 | Grier Argall & Jeanni Lang | |
| Matthew Buckley | 10/06/1975 | 06/04/1992 | Mark & Kristina Buckley | |
| Joey Ciatti | 02/10/1971 | 10/06/1986 | Becky Oken | |
| Michael Kai Cornett | 09/17/1993 | 10/15/2022 | Karen & Jeff Marozick | |
| David Riley Crook | 10/17/1958 | 07/01/2020 | Ronald & Joan Crook | |
| Misty Dollwet | 10/08/1977 | 01/21/1996 | Ronald & Joan Crook | |
| Adam Teplin Emmott | 10/27/1982 | 01/11/2015 | Michelle J. Maguire, Kristina Teplin | |
| Debra Lynn Ferrua | 02/27/1957 | 10/11/2003 | Ronald & Joan Crook | |
| Reneé Francesca Garcia | 03/29/1981 | 10/03/1996 | Bertlla, Carmen & Jose Armando Garcia | |
| Ellen Marian Haas | 10/17/1960 | 03/20/1998 | Harold & Mary Haas | |
| Pamela Dawn Heaster | 02/08/1964 | 10/29/2010 | lla Benavidez-Heaster | |
| Bowen Kader Johnson | 12/18/1996 | 10/13/2017 | Julie & Brian Gordon | |
| Emma Kristen Kearns | 10/27/2013 | 10/27/2013 | Dr. Carol Kearns | |
| Robert LeRoy Latham | 10/22/1985 | 06/18/2020 | Sharon R & Robert Finston | |
| Albert Arthur Levy | 12/02/1973 | 10/14/2016 | Shary Levy, Arthur Levy | |
| Athena Maguire | 09/15/1988 | 10/07/2018 | Alexandra Maguire | |
| Chance Pierre Maurer | 08/09/1998 | 10/18/2016 | Tracy Maurer | |
| Robert Scott McIntosh | 05/13/1985 | 10/03/2014 | Jennifer Holman McIntosh | |
| Ryan W. McKnight | 10/14/1985 | 04/20/2008 | Bob & Leesa Tuley | |
| Peter McLaughlin | 10/04/1962 | 04/18/2017 | Eve Pell | |
| Brian David Mixsell | 01/14/1986 | 10/14/2017 | Bill, Sandy & Belinda Mixsell | |
| Kayden Montoya | 10/24/1995 | 11/21/2018 | Michelle Padilla-Goode | |
| Peter Langhorne Morawitz | 10/20/1966 | | Terry Morawitz | |
| Emily Grace Panicacci | 03/10/1995 | 10/02/2010 | Scott & Jennifer Panicacci | |
| Phillip E. Perry | 10/22/1982 | 03/25/2018 | Sue Hecht | |
| Daniel James Reed | 09/08/1987 | 10/31/2020 | Diane Reed | |
| Steven Rodriguez | 04/27/1994 | 10/17/2013 | Rafael & Alex Rodriguez | |
| Lonnie Roper II | 10/02/1979 | 06/11/2011 | Shirlee Roper | |
| James Aaron Rosengarden | 03/02/1988 | 10/26/2009 | Mark Rosengarden | |
| Susan Rudolph | 11/29/1964 | 10/15/2010 | Jackie Martin | |
| Casey Sandvick | 12/15/1978 | 10/30/1991 | Rich Sandvick | |
| Anthony Salvatore Santa Maria | 04/30/1968 | 10/25/2018 | Pam Santa Maria | |
| Ellen Alexandra Scott | 10/14/1971 | 04/01/2018 | Carol Scott | |
| Railee Naomi Silvis | 08/18/2016 | 10/26/2016 | Linda Cox | |
| Adrian Rodolfo Valderrama | 10/12/1984 | 01/09/2010 | Rosa Sandoval & Rodolfo Valderrama | |
| Isabelle Quinn van Bergen | 08/22/1995 | 10/27/2011 | Fran Quinn van Bergen | |
| John Elliot Vipiana | 10/28/1994 | 04/12/2017 | Lisa Vipiana, John Vipiana | |
| Gregory Patrick Walsh | 10/14/1971 | 07/11/2001 | Sandy Williams | |
| Brittney Marie Weaver | 04/05/1991 | 10/03/2010 | Janine Schengel | |
| Craig Weldon | 04/07/1968 | 10/19/2014 | Lee Weldon | |
| Robert Craig Wilson | 10/25/1956 | 11/21/1983 | Mary C. Fishman | |
| Kendra Elizabeth Young | 10/15/1984 | 12/03/2017 | Betsy & Bryant Young | |
| - | | | | |

When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares. -Henri Nouwen

The Pain We Know

Pain, we've all experienced it in one form or another. Most of it fades away with time. Then on the other hand, there is the pain that comes when someone whose life you valued far above your own, who you loved unconditionally and without pause is taken away. That pain is very much different and can only be understood by those who have felt it. This type of pain or loss is the kind that leaves reparable damage, the kind that leaves the deepest of scars. Although they more often than not cannot be seen I assure you they are there, deep down below the surface and time does little to change them. The pain may dull but it always remains as a reminder of what was lost.

I have heard people say that time will heal or take the pain away but there is one thing they don't realize; for a part of us time has no meaning. A part of who we were before will forever be locked in those last moments, in that cold dark room, where years pass like seconds or time stands still altogether and the pain always remains.

People have asked "why do that to yourself, why keep the wounds open, why not move on?" The answer to that may not make sense to many. The reason may just be that although those moments are the worst, most heartbreaking, they are also the last we got to spend with the people we loved. Those moments contain the last time we held them, the last song we sang them, the last I love you and the last goodbye. So although they hurt they are valued.

I'm grateful that unlike many I had those moments with Madison. I never wanted to say goodbye, never wanted to let go, or to tell her that it was okay to leave but at least I got to have the chance. That is something many people never have.

Although I have found the strength to walk out of that room it will always be there and at times I will have to return to it. If you find me in one of those moments please don't tell me I have to move on or try to guilt me out, just simply walk inside and stand beside me while acknowledging that my pain is real and that my beautiful, sweet Madison was once very much alive and very much loved.

> Tracy Smith In Memory of my niece Madison Lynne Smith

The Color of My Grief

(this is a companion piece to The Color of My Joy)

I imagine various significant and emotional losses may be expressed as distinct colors on the color wheel with the death of a parent, grandparent, step-parent, friend, or child falling at different places. Today I decided the color of grief for the loss of a child is blue.

Anyone who has lost a child experiences blue - the constant yearning for things not to be what they now are. But how the loss occurs informs the shade of blue. A loss by miscarriage is not the same shade as a loss due to illness. A loss by suicide is not the same as the loss from an accident. And although we cannot distinguish the exact shade of blue other parents who have suffered loss are experiencing, we recognize it as blue, just like our own. We don't compare our blues, angling to see whose is darker or richer because we can only comprehend our own loss and its color. But we know the feeling of losing our most important gift, the piece of ourselves which was supposed to live beyond us, and we recognize that in others. In our loss, we all experience blue together.

> Kimberly Starr TCF Facebook Loss to Suicide Group In Memory of my son Tom

The Color of My Joy

scarf, given to me by one of Tom's high school teachers, a thoughtful gift to wrap me up through my grief. Then the question asked, "What was Tom's favorite color?" When he was young, it was yellow (or "lellow," as he said before speech therapy). Finally, the realization during that first week of loss, yellow is the color for suicide prevention. So yellow became forever tied to the memory of my beautiful son who left this world too soon. Now everywhere I see yellow, whether natural or human-made, magnificent or mundane, I am reminded of him:

Flowers in the yard, cemetery, or in vases given to us by those who continue to care for us.

The fire hydrant in our yard.

The bracelet I wear in his memory.

The Pikachu alarm clock and giant stuffed Pikachu, both in our Toffice (Tom's room + now our office).

The owl kitchen timer.

The ribbon pinned to his favorite stuffed animal, Bubby.

The teardrop gem necklace I am wearing right now.

The stuffed duck dropped off a few days ago along with a heartfelt card.

The cookies a student gave me last week.

The crocheted afghan, a gift from a student, placed lovingly on a chair in our family room where Tom spent most of his time.

The Dollar Tree crown resting on the head of his Mariners stuffed teddy bear.

The heart painted on a sign made for us.

The yellow ribbon bow, quietly placed on the bannister leading up into my high school classroom.

The blown glass heart, a gift after his passing, showcased in our shadow box of Tom's special items.

A sunset.

Just yesterday I realized anew I will never see him or hold him, hear his laugh, or roll my eyes at his bad puns again, at least in this life. But he lives on in me and around me in so many ways. So although blue is the color of my grief, yellow is the color of my joy, because when I see it, I am reminded of him and that others remember and miss him, too. Despite the fact he is no longer here with me, he is everywhere, every day.

> Kimberly Starr TCF Facebook Loss to Suicide Group In Memory of my son Tom

I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge—myth is more potent than history—dreams are more powerful than facts—hope always triumphs over experience—laughter is the cure for grief love is stronger than death. —Robert Fulghum

There are things that we don't want to happen but have to accept, things we don't want to know but have to learn, and people we can't live without but have to let go. —Author Unknown

"You care so much you feel as though you will bleed to death with the pain of it."

- J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

It was not planned, yellow meaning so much to us. First, a yellow

Love Gifts

The following love gifts were received for September and October:

Donor/s:Mary Haas Child: Ellen Marian Haas Dates: 10/17/60-3/20/98

Donor/s: Bob & Gunilla Portnoy Child: Joshua Adam Portnoy Dates: 7/16/78 - 9/27/97 "Forever 19"



Request for updated and new photographs for the upcoming Candle Lighting Ceremony

Please submit pictures with name, birth and anniversary information to tcfmarin@gmail.com No later than October 27, 2023

Deadlines for Love Gift information for Newsletters:

Jan/Feb issue Dec. 15 Jul/Aug issue Jun. 15 Mar/Apr issue Feb. 15 Sep/Oct issue Aug. 15 May/Jun issue Apr. 15 Nov/Dec issue Oct. 15

A PhD in Pain

I didn't take an entrance examination. I didn't apply for admission. I didn't register for classes. I never completed any assignments. I didn't write or defend a dissertation.

I didn't wear a cap, gown, or hood at graduation. I didn't walk to "Pomp & Circumstance."

I don't have this diploma framed on my wall. I don't have letters I use after my name.

But my son died five years ago.

So, I have a PhD in Pain.

I never wanted one.

Peggi Johnson TCF Piedmont Chapter, VA

Ritual

A gaze thru blurry window When did it start to rain? Then realize it's just the eyes They're crying once again

Emptiness is mighty Deep within begins the ache Intense, this pain that surely Will cause a heart to break

Shoulders gently tremble A moaning soft and low Arms tightly wrapped about oneself Body rocking to and fro

A ritual of comfort A numbing of the mind A cleansing of the tortured soul A knowing eye made blind

Thus begins the healing process Of this I know so well Without you, I fall victim to This mindless cast of spell

> Donna Gerrior TCF Pasco County, FL In Memory of Rob

| Child's name | Donor's name | |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| | | |

Child's Birthdate & Anniversary Date _____

Newsletter month _____

Message ____

Include your name, address and phone # if not on check in case of questions:

Mail the information above along with your donation (check) made payable to TCF/Marin to: TCF/Marin c/o Love Gifts, P.O. Box 150935, San Rafael, CA 94915.



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