



The Compassionate Friends
Minneapolis Chapter

Virtual Online
Candle Lighting
Program of Remembrance
December 21, 2020



Prelude

“Tonight I Hold This Candle”
Music & Lyrics by Alan Pedersen



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Welcome

By Monica Colberg

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The Minneapolis Chapter of
The Compassionate Friends
meets on the 3rd Monday of each month
from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Currently Online via Zoom,
and when possible, at St. Joseph Parish Community,
8701 36th Ave N
New Hope, MN

All bereaved parents, grandparents, siblings,
and extended family are welcome to attend.

Monica Colberg, Leader

Gloria Jordan, Co-Leader / Newsletter Editor

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When it seems that our sorrow
is too great to be borne,
let us think of the great family
of the heavy-hearted into which our
grief has given us entrance,
and inevitably, we will feel about us,
their arms and their understanding.

~ Helen Keller

The Compassionate Friends Credo

By Tom Lindfors

We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other in 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 our 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 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 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.

Siblings Walking Together

By Maggie Bauer

We are the surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends. We are brought together by the deaths of our brothers and sisters. Open your hearts to us, but have patience with us. Sometimes we will need the support of our friends. At other times we need our families to be there. Sometimes we must walk alone, taking our memories with us, continuing to become the individuals we want to be. We cannot be our dead brother or sister; however, a special part of them lives on with us. When our brothers and sisters died, our lives changed. We are living a life very different from what we envisioned, and we feel the responsibility to be strong even when we feel weak. Yet we can go on because we understand better than many others the value of family and the precious gift of life. Our goal is not to be the forgotten mourners that we sometimes are, but to walk together to face our tomorrows as surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends.



We gather to remember because our children lived,
not that they died.
May love be what we remember most.

Music and Readings

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|-----------------|--|---|
| Music: | “It’s My Life”
Music and Lyrics
by Alan Pedersen | By Steve Dahlmeier
In memory of
Melissa Roeser |
| Reading: | “The Nail”
written by Monica Colberg
(read by Monica Colberg) | By Monica Colberg
In memory of
Arthur Colberg |
| Reading: | “Measuring Our Sorrow”
written by Sandee Tweed
(read by Terri Lindfors) | By Sandee & Denny
Tweed
In memory of son,
Noah Tweed; and
grandchildren, Bryce
and Ashlin Bussen |
| Reading: | “We Are”
written by Crystal Hunter
(read by Maggie Bauer) | By Crystal Hunter
In memory of
brother, Justin and
nephew, Jethro |
| Music: | “For Good”
From the Musical, “Wicked”
Lyrics and Music by
Stephen Schwartz | By Kristin’s
Friends & Family
In memory of
Kristin Reller |
| Reading: | “The Last Battle -
The Final Book from
The Chronicles of Narnia”
written by C. S. Lewis
(read by Gloria Jordan) | By Perla Morley
In memory of
Caleb Morley |
| Reading: | “You Are Here”
written by Ingrid MacIntyre
(read by Mary Jo Peterson) | By David Benson
In memory of
Abe Benson |
| Reading: | “Dan’s Gifts”
written by Ruth, Jon and
Michael Larson
(read by John Jordan) | By Ruth & Jon Larson;
and Michael Larson
In memory of son;
and brother,
Dan Larson |
| Music: | “To Where You Are”
Lyrics and Music by
Richard Marx and
Linda Thompson | By Kristin’s
Friends & Family
In memory of
Kristin Reller |

Kristin’s Friends & Family:

Soloist — Colleen Bur Cellist — Matt Cummins
Accompanist — Pat Reller A/V — Jason Wittak

Ceremony of Remembrance

Reading and Lighting of Candles

By Gloria & John Jordan

This candle represents our **GRIEF**.

The pain of losing you is intense.

It reminds us of the depth of our love for you.

This candle represents our **COURAGE**...

to confront our sorrow...to comfort each other...

to change our lives.

This candle we light in your **MEMORY**.

Remembering the times we laughed...the times we

cried...the times we were angry with each other...

the silly things you did...the caring and joy you gave us.

This candle is the light of **LOVE**.

It reminds us of our love for you and the memories

that will last forever. We cherish the special place

in our heart that will always be reserved for you.

We are grateful for the gift your life brought to us.

And this is the candle of **HOPE**.

We light this candle that your light may always shine.

May the glow of the flame be a source of hopefulness

now and forever.

We love you. We remember you.



One by one a light is borne.

One by one it flickers, flames.

At this time, we invite you to light a candle.

We will take a minute of silence

to allow the glow to warm our hearts,

and remind us not only of what we lost,

but also of what we had.

May love be what we remember most.

We Remember Them

By Terri Lindfors

(Please join in by reading the refrain in **bold print**)

At the rising of the sun

and at its going down...

We remember them

At the blowing of the wind

and in the chill of winter...

We remember them

At the opening of the buds

and in the rebirth of spring...

We remember them

At the blueness of the skies

and in the warmth of summer...

We remember them

At the rustling of the leaves

and in the beauty of autumn...

We remember them

At the beginning of the year

and when it ends...

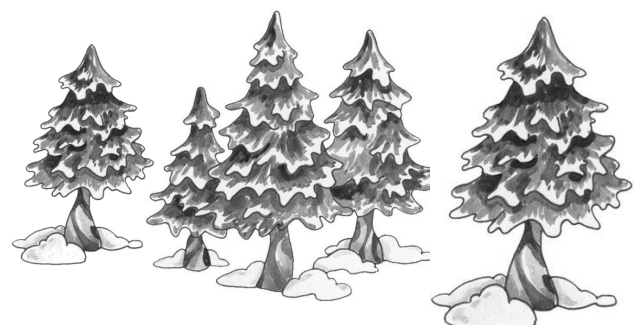
We remember them

As long as we live, they too will live;

For they are now a part of us,

As we remember them.

From *Gates of Prayer*, Reform Judaism Prayer book



Remembrance Slide Show

Produced by Kyle Peterson



Closing Song

“Over the Rainbow”

performed by
Israel “IZ” Kamakawiwo'ole

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dreams that you dream of, once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
And the dreams that you dream of,
dreams really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where trouble melts like lemon drops
High above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
And the dreams that you dare to
Oh why, oh why can't I?

Some day I'll wish upon a star
Wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where trouble melts like lemon drops
High above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Oh, Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dreams that you dare to,
Why, oh why can't I?

Original Version
Composed by Harold Arlen,
with Lyrics by Yip Harburg

Heartfelt Thanks

to all who attended online this evening;
to those who couldn't join us virtually,
but lit a candle in their homes or their hearts;
and to the following for their assistance
with tonight's Remembrance program...

Mary Jo Peterson and Monica
Colberg, our Special Events
Co-coordinators, and our
dedicated steering committee In memory of all our Children

Floral & Greenery Arrangements
by Monica Colberg In memory of Arthur Colberg

Table Displays
by Mary Jo Peterson In memory of Elsey Kirabo

Production Coordination and
Event Program Design
by Gloria Jordan In memory of Carson Jordan

Music Selection and Coordination
by Pat Reller In memory of Kristin Reller

Research and Implementing
Online Events Technology
by John Jordan In memory of Carson Jordan

And a special thanks to
St. Joseph Parish for use of their state-of-the-art technology,
and facility to record our Candle Lighting event,
and to staff member Jason Wittak for his
recording production and editing skills.
We are extremely grateful for their
understanding and support of our mission.

As long as I live... You will Live,
As long as I live... You will be Remembered,
As long as I live... You will be Loved.

