

Jordon Ferber

Bio:

Jordon Ferber is a standup comedian and a bereaved sibling. He started stand-up comedy in 1999 while majoring in Film at Occidental College in Los Angeles. For the next two years he honed his skills and ultimately decided to move back to New York in 2001. As a native New Yorker, he had no trouble getting on the circuit, and has since performed in every club in Manhattan, including Carolines, Gotham Comedy club and Madison Square Garden. He appeared on NBC's Last Comic Standing, and is a favorite on the NY scene.

Two years into his burgeoning comedy career, Jordon's brother Russell was killed in a car accident on July 6th, 2002, at the age of 21. Since then, Jordon has worked to become a much needed voice in the bereavement community. He has facilitated the TCF Manhattan Siblings group for the past 7 years and has written often for his chapter's newsletter. Jordon is a unique public speaker, having performed at the sibling banquet during the 2010 TCF conference in Virginia, and at the TCF Regional conference in PA this past October 2015. He offered his "Story Of Hope" in Dallas, and received the Karen Snepp Sibling Leadership Award in Arizona.

In addition to on the sibling panel for parents, Jordon has presented his own workshops on sibling grief for the past five years, titled "Suddenly Alone," and "How's Your Mother?" Jordon is the producer of "Where's the Grief?," a podcast in which he interviews other comedians who have experienced tragic loss. He and his family run The Russell Ferber Foundation, which provides scholarships to the Culinary Institute of America. He produces a yearly comedy benefit show for the foundation, continuing to bring people together and carry on the spirit of his brother Russell through love and laughter.

Workshops

Suddenly Alone;

This workshop is for siblings who have become only children quite suddenly, whether by overdose, suicide, auto accident, heart attack, or any other sudden loss. The sibling relationship that one can alternatively count on and take for granted. Becoming an only child after having had a sibling for most of or all of your life can bring many issues to a head, including dealing with one's parents by themselves (the pressure of creating grandchildren, etc.), unresolved sibling rivalries (survivors' guilt), as well as feelings of identity loss (who am I without my sibling?). This workshop will intend to make sense of these feelings while striving to incorporate them into our new lives as only children.

HOW'S YOUR MOTHER?

This question is one that every bereaved sibling has heard. "Oh my God, your sibling died? Your parents must be devastated!" The general population doesn't seem to grasp that we as siblings are also dealing with a level of pain and despair that we have never known before. By assuming that our parents are the only ones who are deeply affected by the loss, the question, "how's your mother" often can feel dismissive to our own feelings. It is very often the fact that others don't recognize our grief as legitimate that further isolates us from our extended family and friends at the time when having a support system amongst love ones is the most needed. This workshop will attempt to find ways to respond to these types of questions that validate what we are going through as siblings, as well as inform the asker that we are hurting just as much as parents. They say when you lose your parents, you lose your past. When you lose your spouse, you lose your present. When you lose your child, you lose your future. When you lose a sibling, you lose all three.