



The Compassionate Friends

Honolulu Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 2 APRIL - JUNE 2022 (SECOND QUARTER)

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Honolulu Chapter

The Myth of Closure

“When will I begin to feel better? When will I return to normal? When will I achieve some closure?” grievors often ask. Closure, our culture tells us, will bring about a tidy ending, a sense of completion. Some grievors hope that the desired magical closure will occur after the funeral or memorial service. Others are confident it will come once they have cleared out their loved one’s room. Or maybe after a special personal ritual. Or perhaps after the first anniversary comes and goes — “surely then, we will have closure,” we think. We pray.

The reason we long for closure, of course, is because we would like to nearly seal away all of this pain. We would like to close all of the sad, confused, desperate, angry feelings out of our life. We would like to put all of this behind us.

Closure. What an odd concept really, as if we could truly close the door on pain — turn the lock and throw away the key. The truth is far more complex, of course.

Closure is for business deals. Closure is for real estate transactions. Closure is not for feelings or for people we love.

Closure simply does not exist emotionally, not in a pure sense. We cannot close the door on the past as if it didn’t exist because, after losing someone dear to us, we never forget that person or the love we shared. And in some ways, we never entirely get over the loss. We learn to live with the loss, to integrate it into our new identity.

Imagine if we really could end this chapter in our life, completely. It would mean losing our memories, our connections to those we love. If we really found closure, it would ironically hurt even more because the attachment would be severed. And this attachment is vital to us—the memories are treasures to be held close, not closed out.

Perhaps it is better to think in terms of healing. Yes, we can process our pain and move to deeper and deeper levels of healing. Yes, we can find ways to move on and channel our pain into productive activities. Yes, we can even learn to smile again and laugh again and love again.

But let’s not ever think that we’ll close the door completely on what this loss means, for if we did that, we would unwittingly close the door on all the love that we shared. And that would truly be a loss too terrible to bear.

Ashley Davis Prend, ACSW, Hospice of North Idaho

Monthly Meetings [\(See Announcements\)](#)

Meeting Place: *Parish of St Clement*

Address: *1515 Wilder Avenue*

City: *Honolulu, Hawaii 96822*

Meeting time: *First Saturday of every month 10:00 – 11:30 AM*

Parking: *Entrance to the parking lot is on Makiki Street*

Meeting Place: *Ohana Baptist Church*

Address: *2879 Pa’a St*

City: *Honolulu, Hawaii 96819*

Meeting time: *First Tuesday of every month 6:30 – 8:00 pm*

Parking: *Church parking lot up the ramp*

Upcoming Events

45th TCF National Conference – August 5 to 7, 2022 Houston, Tx

Regional Coordinator

Regional Coordinator: David Kaniaupio

Phone Number: (808)222-6556

Email: kaniaupiotcf@gmail.com

National Office

The Compassionate Friends

48660 Pontiac Trail, #930808

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Announcements



Monthly Meetings Update ~ We have cancelled in-person meetings until further notice and been holding virtual monthly **Zoom** meetings twice a month **instead**. The meetings are held on the first Saturday (10:00 – 11:30 am) and third Tuesday (6:30 – 8:00 pm) of the month. You will need to download the Zoom APP (Zoom Client for Meetings). To download the Zoom APP, go to: <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the instructions to download the APP. The monthly meeting reminder will contain the link to join the meeting. Clicking on the link in the reminder email will allow you to join the meeting. If you have any questions, please call or email David Kaniaupio – (808)222-6556 or email – kaniaupiotcf@gmail.com.

Hawaii Regional Grief Conference 2022 ~ Thank you very much to all who volunteered to help at the conference. We had a lot of positive responses as to how AMAZING the conference was from many of the attendees as well as from the presenters themselves. Here is a quote from Dr. Bob Baugher: “I will leave you with my favorite quote. It's by Maya Angelou: ‘People may not remember what you said or what you did; but they will never forget how you made them feel.’ ❤️ This is exactly what you, Terry, and your committee did for every person who came to your amazing conference.”

Donating to TCF ~ Loved ones have asked how they can give to The Compassionate Friends. The Compassionate Friends is an approved non-profit organization. We are listed with both the Aloha United Way (under “The Compassionate Friends” #72860) and Combined Federal Campaign of Hawaii-Pacific (under “Compassionate Friends Inc” #78470). If your employer participates in either of these Giving Campaigns, please consider The Compassionate Friends when completing your pledge – Mahalo!

Voices ~ We would like to include writings from parents in our chapter’s quarterly newsletter. If you are a creative writer and would like to share your child through stories, poems or artwork in our newsletter, please submit it to us.

Treasurer Vacancy ~ We are looking for a qualified individual to fill the position of Treasurer for our Chapter. If you are interested in this volunteer position or know of someone who may be, please contact David at (808)222-6556 or kaniaupiotcf@gmail.com.



David Kessler

grief.com - A resource page providing education, support and information.

parentforever.com - A free 3-part video series for the heartbreaking grief that accompanies the death of a child.

griefeducator.com - A comprehensive grief training program to help you confidently guide others and heal your own heart.

tenderheartssupport.com - An ongoing online grief support group with live Zooms and weekly videos to help navigate the rocky terrain of grief.



Loving Listeners:

David Kaniaupio (808)222-6556

Terry Kaniaupio (808)222-2729



The Honolulu Chapter of The Compassionate Friends operates solely on donations: monetary gifts in any amount are deeply appreciated. Donations can be made to: The Compassionate Friends, c/o Terry Kaniaupio, 45-686 Halemuku Way, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744. Mahalo!

Our Children Remembered

Forever Loved, Missed, Remembered

APRIL

Our Children Born in April

Keisha Agena, Apr 1989 - Jul 2015
Andy Agnostinelli, Apr 1979 - Feb 1992
Victoria Kanani Augugliaro, Apr 2003 - May 2007
Brody David Black, Apr 1998 - Mar 2002
Clay Chung, Apr 1976 - Jul 2008
Stephan Dinnan, Apr 1978 - Jun 2013
Brandon Keola Fong, Apr 1975 - Aug 1995
Leah Marie Goldberg, Apr 1996 - Aug 2014
Michael Hallenbeck, Apr 1994 - Aug 2015
Jacob Hensley, Apr 1993 - Nov 2015
Laura Weldon Hogue, Apr 1965 - Jul 2009
Charlie Lilinoepahola Kimura, Apr 2014 - Jul 2016
Andrew Madrid, Apr 2000 - Sep 2014
Enzo Atsuo Matsumoto, Apr 2007 - Dec 2010
Arianna Lei Müeller, Apr 2018 - Apr 2018
Dustin Phillips, Apr 1986 - Apr 1986
Linden Jordan Radona Quintal, Apr 1996 - Jan 2015
Allan Gordon Sanford, Apr 1960 - Aug 1990
Nicole Siegrist, Apr 1987 - Dec 2016
Shannon Shea Smith, Apr 1976 - Mar 1997
Jeremy Tolentino, Apr 1983 - Apr 2001
Kirk Wehrenberg, Apr 1974 - Dec 2013
Ross Yokoyama, Apr 1965 - May 2007

Our Children Who Left Us in April

Erika Byrd, Jun 1968 - Apr 2013
Kyle Spencer Iaukea Ennis, Jul 1991 - Apr 1994
Mark Gatanis, Mar 1967 - Apr 2013
Nicole Keonimelani Hookeno-Elliot, Mar 1980 - Apr 2009
Scott Hoover, Dec 1967 - Apr 2006
Yoshio E.K. Lamansky, Aug 1976 - Apr 1996
Shaun Mahtani, Dec 1966 - Apr 1999
Darius Ikaika Mau, Jan 1991 - Apr 2013
Arianna Lei Müeller, Apr 2018 - Apr 2018
Broch Nall, Jun 1978 - Apr 2013
Maya Eve Tacadena Perdido, Dec 2002 - Apr 2004
Dustin Phillips, Apr 1986 - Apr 1986
Dalzell Johns Potter, Dec 1961 - Apr 2005
Jared Makana Isamu Teruya, Jul 2000 - Apr 2013
Jeremy Tolentino, Apr 1983 - Apr 2001



Andrew Madrid



Arianna Lei Müeller



Linden Jordan Radona Quintal



Scott Hoover



Darius "Ikaika" Puni Mau



Leah Marie Goldberg



Jared Makana Isamu Teruya



Nicole Siegrist



Mark Gatanis



Michael Hallenbeck



Charlie Lilinoepahola Kimura



Victoria Kanani Augugliaro

Our Children Remembered

Forever Loved, Missed, Remembered

MAY

Our Children Born in May

Jasonims Amora, May 1981 - Oct 2013
Brandon Aurand-Stephens, May 1989 - Oct 2010
Diana Mei Barthel, May 2019 – May 2019
Poppy Elizabeth Baxter, May 2013 - Jun 2013
Quintin Cho, May 1994 - Feb 2016
James Brennan Cohen, May 1966 - Mar 2009
Daniel John Collette, May 1976 - Mar 2005
Danielle Reiko Cox, May 1991 - Mar 2016
Melissa Hauser, May 1982 - May 2007
Devin Johnson, May 1986 - Nov 2009
Jaime Avelina Leonen, May 1986 - Sep 2015
Michael Joseph Maneha, May 1986 - Nov 2008
Eric Bradford Rohlfing, May 1961 - Mar 1986
Diane Marie Taylor, May 1973 - Oct 1996
Leif Timothy Umphrey, May 2008 - Oct 2008
Simon Chung Yuen, May 1974 - Nov 2009

Our Children Who Left Us in May

Victoria Kanani Augugliaro, Apr 2003 - May 2007
Diana Mei Barthel, May 2019 – May 2019
Alissa Rona Bennett, Sep 1989 - May 2014
Marcia Chu, Dec 1980 - May 2009
Kristin Akemi Claudi, Nov 1980 - May 2009
Kaelyn Cullender, Jan 2009 - May 2010
Christina Fang, - May 2012
Evan Robert Kai Gleason, Nov 1992 - May 2009
Franklin Waikilo Goldwire, Feb 2018 – May 2019
Melissa Hauser, May 1982 - May 2007
Elia Puahone Heder, Oct 1982 - May 1991
Shaun Makena Kailikea, Oct 1982 - May 2017
Maile Christina King, Oct 1989 - May 1998
Destiny King, Mar 2002 – May 2008
Jeffrey Michael Kiyan, Sep 1987 - May 2010
Bert Kenalio Malott, Sep 1961 - May 2014
Dwayne George Mattos, Sep 1970 - May 2013
Julie Anne McHale-Reti, Dec 1965 - May 1995
Kyla Mariko Meaney, Oct 2010 - May 2015
Ruby Miller, Jul 2007 - May 2013
Barbara Alice Mower, Jun 1959 - May 1980
Manuel Reza, Oct 1980 - May 1996
Christopher James Tamao, Sep 1992 - May 1994
Grant Uyeshiro, Sep 1976 - May 2006
Ross Yokoyama, Apr 1965 - May 2007



Diane Marie Taylor



Christina Fang



Victoria Kanani Augugliaro



Evan Robert Kai Gleason



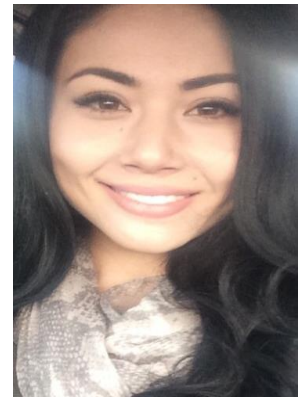
Brandon Aurand-Stephens



Ruby Miller



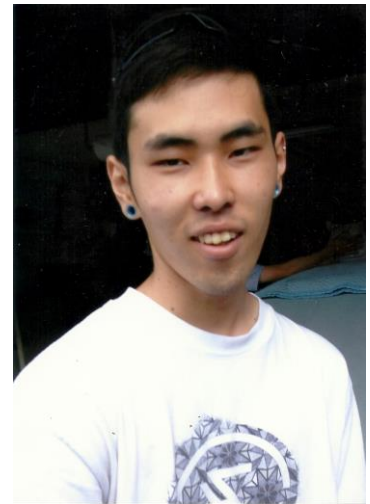
Jaime Avelina Leonen



Danielle Reiko Cox



Alissa Rona Bennett



Quintin Cho



Manuel Reza



Dwayne George Mattos



Diana Mei Barthel



Franklin Waikilo Goldwire



Bert Kenalio Malott



Poppy Elizabeth Baxter

Our Children Remembered

Forever Loved, Missed, Remembered

JUNE

Our Children Born in June

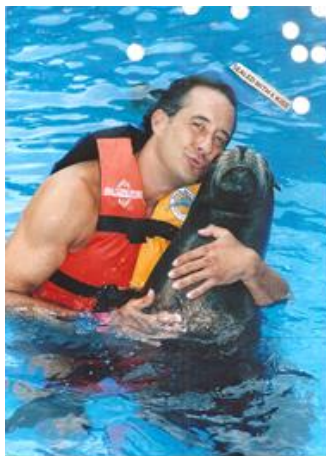
Anthony “Tony” Almeida, Jun 1989 - Mar 2014
Harper Posey Bennetts, Jun 2015 - Jun 2015
Erika Byrd, Jun 1968 - Apr 2013
Jaime Akamie Coelho, Jun 1991 - Dec 2004
Melissa Jo Elmore, Jun 1971 - Jul 1992
Amy Elizabeth Heitz, Jun 1969 - Jun 1989
Daniel Jezek, Jun 1977 - Sep 2010
David Joshua, Jun 1983 - Aug 2006
Ronald Kaneta Jr, Jun 1959 - Jun 1999
Noel Christopher Lagat, Jun 1989 - Feb 2009
Jing Li, Jun 1967 - Jul 1990
Richard Mannheimer, Jun 1961 - Aug 2010
Michael Mannheimer, Jun 1962 - Jul 2019
Peter Miller, Jun 1973 - May 2006
Barbara Alice Mower, Jun 1959 - May 1980
Broch Nall, Jun 1978 - Apr 2013
Lisa Marie Ortiz, Jun 1978 - Oct 1998
Steven M. Oshiro, Jun 1963 - Jan 2000
Shaun Shinjiro Tokumura, Jun 1979 - Jun 1989

Our Children Who Left Us in June

Poppy Elizabeth Baxter, May 2013 - Jun 2013
Harper Posey Bennetts, Jun 2015 - Jun 2015
Frank Joseph-James Cleboski, Oct 1989 - Jun 2015
Jack Cone, Dec 1984 - Jun 2006
Stephen Dinnan, Apr 1978 - Jun 2013
Danielle Eiko Fletcher, Feb 1997 - Jun 2016
Amy Elizabeth Heitz, Jun 1969 - Jun 1989
Ronald Kaneta Jr, Jun 1959 - Jun 1999
Alex Mambo, Mar 1979 - Jun 2011
Jason May, Jul 1974 - Jun 1988
Kourtnee Otsuka, Mar 1990 - Jun 2016
Elston Pang, Jul 1990 - Jun 2014
Ameliya Ridgeway, Feb 2015 - Jun 2015
Sonny Dee Vesper Santiago, Sep 1962 - Jun 1990
Tabatha Schoenfelt, Jul 1985 - Jun 2016
Aaron Carter Steffens, Feb 1974 - Jun 2010
Shaun Shinjiro Tokumura, Jun 1979 - Jun 1989
Matthew Trinkle, Aug 1992 - Jun 2012
Matthew Jee Yul Williams, Jul 2000 - Jun 2013
Evan Jonah Won, Aug 2002 - Jun 2017



Anthony “Tony” Almeida



Alex Mambo



Daniel Jezek



Richard Mannheimer



Michael Mannheimer



Poppy Elizabeth Baxter



Elston Pang



Matthew Jee Yul Williams



Tabatha Schoenfelt



Peter Miller



Aaron Carter Steffens



Danielle Eiko Fletcher



Frank Joseph-James Cleboski



Jason May



Kourtnee Otsuka



Matthew Trinkle



Evan Jonah Won

Hawaii Regional Grief Conference 2022

A few comments from attendees who attended the conference:

“At the second event that I spoke at, a Compassionate Friends conference in Hawaii, I saw the power of community reinforced as strangers came together and shared their deepest grief. It was a powerful example of the possibilities and necessity of human connection, especially when we are in grief or trauma.

These two conferences which felt daunting at first became sweet reminders of the power of connection.”

“I was not disappointed, I was inspired! Every session I attended was great to excellent!”

“Bravo!!!! What a tremendous weekend it was. We were so blessed by the speakers, families, and connections we made. It was healing, hope AND aloha for sure!”

“I loved chatting with you at the conference, and again had such a great and heartwarming experience! Thank you so much! I really appreciate it :) thank you for helping get us all together, my life is forever changed.”

“I was afraid of going before, but it has brought me so much healing. Incredible feeling, being part of everyone there.”

“It was such an awesome event.”

“Aw... thank you for everything. It was a blast! Hope you've recovered from the amazing event you put on!”

“What a wonderful experience that was...”

“Yes, I found them and the yoga experience was great. Heavy heart after today's sessions but so enriching”

“BTW, I really enjoyed and benefited from the conference; I had a stillbirth 25 years ago and I was devastated.”

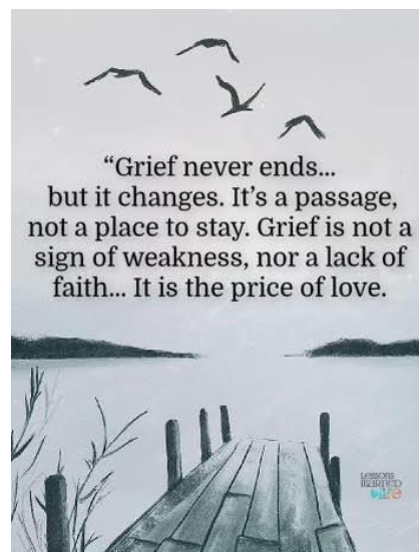
“Great job”

“I could not be prouder of being a small part of this amazing event.”

“Thank you for inviting me and the other very talented people. You touched so many lives. I will leave you with my favorite quote. It's by Maya Angelou:

*‘People may not remember what you said or what you did; but they will never forget how you made them feel.’ ❤️
This is exactly what you, Terry, and your committee did for every person who came to your amazing conference.*

Thank you, thank you.”



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 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. ©2016

The Mission of The Compassionate Friends

When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family.

The TCF Mission Statement

The Mission of The Compassionate Friends is 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.

Please Consider Helping

I have found through my own experiences that helping others through their grief journey has strengthened my own journey. The memories of my son are positively reinforced as other bereaved parents share their stories and memories. We Need Not Walk Alone. That simple phrase resonates throughout my journey. There are other aspects to The Compassionate Friends that need help. If you have a talent – web design, writing, creativity, organizing, and greeting and would like to help others – please let us know.

