



Chapter Leaders: William and Millie Hunton 504-265-0581 Email address: [tcfnola@gmail.com](mailto:tcfnola@gmail.com)

# SAVE THE DATE – OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> **Memorial Walk and Auction**

To be held in the Children’s Memorial Garden in Lafreniere Park – See Page 5  
 See attached flyer for full details and Business Donation letter.

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## HEART CONNECTIONS THE BONDS OF SHARED GRIEF

Divisiveness and intolerance for others’ views seem prevalent all around us today. We see it in our political beliefs, social justice concerns, and health environment. It is apparent within families, workplaces, and organizations. When we are grieving the painful death of a child, grandchild, or sibling, this divisiveness creates walls that can make our sorrow even deeper. It’s difficult enough when we’re grieving to feel connected to the people around us, and these dividing walls can further isolate us.

The Compassionate Friends credo begins with these words:

*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.*

**Continued on Page 3 – See BONDS**

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**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.**

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING:**

**July 10, 2023**

**Lafreniere Park Foundation  
 Center Conference Room**

**7:00 – 9:00 pm**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

9 Jan 23	13 Feb 23	13 Mar 23
10 Apr 23	8 May 23	12 Jun 23
10 Jul 23	14 Aug 23	11 Sep 23
9 Oct 23	13 Nov 23	11 Dec 23 ZOOM

**REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

Denise St. Pierre  
 504-460-2970  
[denisestp12@gmail.com](mailto:denisestp12@gmail.com)

**NATIONAL OFFICE**

The Compassionate Friends  
 48660 Pontiac Trail # 930808  
 Wixom, MI 48393

[nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org](mailto:nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org)  
[www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)  
 877-969-0010

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Butterfly Release**

April 22, 2023 – held in the Children’s Memorial Garden in Lafreniere Park

**Memorial Walk and Auction**

October 14, 2023 – held in the Children’s Memorial Garden in Lafreniere Park

**WorldWide Candle Lighting**

December 10, 2023 – Held in the Foundation Center Patio in Lafreniere Park

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**BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION:** Birthdays can be found on “Our Children Remembered” page. We do encourage both you and your family to come when it is your child’s birthday month, to share your child with all of us with photos and memories. You will receive a special birthday gift in memory of your child. Bring that treasured picture of your child that always makes you smile so we may smile with you. Refreshments in honor of your child, grandchild, or sibling are welcomed.

To all those newly bereaved, who are receiving this newsletter for the first time and to all our Compassionate Friends, we wish you were not eligible to belong to this group, but we want you to know that you and your family have many friends. We, who received love and compassion from others in our time of deep sorrow, now wish to offer the same support and understanding to you. Please know we understand, we care, and we want to help. **You are not alone in your grief.**

**Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Foundation Center Conference Room in Lafreniere Park at 7:00 P.M.** We are a self-sustaining organization with no funds except what we receive through donations from members and newsletter recipients. Please join with us at a meeting.

**Grief support after the death of a child**

The Compassionate Friends is a national non-profit, 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.

**Big Thanks to Our Steering Committee**

**Contact:**

**Phone: (504) 265-0581**  
**Email: [tcfnola@gmail.com](mailto:tcfnola@gmail.com)**  
[www.tcfneworleans.com](http://www.tcfneworleans.com)  
**1104 Colony Rd**  
**Metairie, LA 70003**

Chapter Leader	William Hunton
Chapter Co-Leader	Millie Hunton
Special Advisor	Denise St. Pierre
Treasurer	Isabel Vigne-Miranda
Facilitator	Millie Hunton
Newsletter Editor	William Hunton
Webmaster	William Hunton

**Steering Committee: William Hunton, Millie Hunton, Denise St. Pierre, Isabel Miranda-Vigne, Jan Dutilh, Linda Provance, and Dena Peters.**

**Denise St. Pierre, Regional Coordinator**  
 (504) 460-2970

TCF National (877) 969-0010

[www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

**The Meeting Agenda**

**7:00 p.m.** - The meeting will begin with a short introduction followed by lighting of candle and then reading of the Credo. Remembering our children's birthdays of the month. Then followed by smaller groups of sharing.

**8:45 p.m.** - Meeting will close by recognizing our children's names. Feel free to visit with each other and check out a book from our library.

**Newsletter Submissions:** TCF Greater New Orleans welcomes all submissions to our newsletter. Send articles, poetry, love messages and scanned photos to: **TCF GNO, 1104 Colony Rd., Metairie, LA 70003.** You may also text photos and messages to 504-251-1938. As our chapter is only funded by your donations, we ask for a donation of **\$15** or more for a dedication for our newsletter. This is tax-deductible. We reserve the right to edit for space and/or content. Deadline for submissions is listed below. TCF Chapters may copy articles from this publication provided credit is given to the author and the original source. Errors and Omissions: Please notify me if any of your information is incorrect. Thank you!

**Newsletter Dedications to be put in our newsletter are due the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

**A Newsletter Dedication:** is a special page dedicated in memory of your child with a poem or writing that you submit.

**A Love Gift:** is a short one or two sentence message in your child's memory.

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**BIRTHDAY CAKE:** Our child's birthday is still such an important day to us bereaved parents. In TCF this is where we can celebrate our child's birthday and remember the love we still have for them no matter how long it has been since they died. Our members are welcomed to bring a cake or individual snacks to recognize their child's birthday. Notification is not necessary, but you are welcome to inform me, **William Hunton (504) 265-0581.** Please bring necessary utensils as the facility does not offer any items in this matter.

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**TCF Greater New Orleans Memorial Candles and 3" Photo Buttons**

We are asking for donations of \$20 per candle. Candles will have 3 photos, name, dates, and an LED insert.

We are asking for donations of \$5 for each button or \$12 for three buttons.

Email Your Child's Photo to [tcfnola@gmail.com](mailto:tcfnola@gmail.com) or call William Hunton (504) 265-0581 for info.

Candles and/or photo buttons will be delivered to the next meeting if info is received 72 hours before meeting.

Please make checks payable to: TCF – GNO, 1104 Colony Road, Metairie, LA 70003.

## TCF Greater New Orleans Chapter Memorial Walk & Auction

The Greater New Orleans TCF Chapter is sponsoring a Children's Memorial Walk followed with an Auction on October 14, 2023 at Lafreniere Park in Metairie, LA to raise funds for the operating expenses of our chapter.

We are encouraging you to contact any vendors you may know who will be willing to donate merchandise or gift cards. We will also welcome any items you may wish to donate. This can range from anything old or new. If we are going to have a successful fundraiser this year then we are going to need your help.

This letter is to ask YOU, our MEMBERS, to help us make our Children's Memorial Walk a great success. We are asking for a donation. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged. For cash donations please make checks payable to The Compassionate Friends GNO. Non-cash items donated will be auctioned off at our auction following the Children's Memorial Walk.

We greatly appreciate any help you can give us.  
Please feel free to contact me to arrange a donation.  
William Hunton – 504-251-1938

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## BONDS - Continued from Page 1

Uniting people who share this deep grief was the premise that started The Compassionate Friends. The death of our brother, sister, child, or grandchild permeates all aspects of our being. It's something that can't easily be explained to those who have not experienced it, while those who have, possess a deep and compassionate understanding that requires little explanation. The bonds within our TCF community can bridge these chasms we see around us. Rather than being further isolated in our grief, we can feel surrounded by understanding, community, and shared hope that can be lifesaving during this time.

While none of us would choose to be a part of this community given the reason that brought us, we are connected at a deeply meaningful level. It's hard to see someone across the table with a similar loss and stay in a place of intolerance and anger. When we remember what binds us as a group and honor our shared losses, we focus on supportive and comforting connectedness. When we reach for the love in our hearts that's bolstered by our shared sorrow, we can model a greater energy that's needed in our world. Our child, grandchild, or sibling who died and brought us to TCF is honored each time we choose this path of connection through our differences rather than more division because of them.

BY SHARI O'LOUGHLIN, CEO, TCF

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## DAYS OF GRIEF

There will be days when your grief is deep and consuming, dark and lonely. I hope you find refuge in supportive friends, family, or counselors on the days when you most need someone to sit beside you in that darkness.

There will be days when your grief is a bit more subtle and silent, content with buzzing in the background instead of being center stage. I hope you don't feel guilty for the days when this allows you to feel joy or hope. These days are so deeply important as you move forward at your own pace.

There will be days when your grief changes on a dime, demanding different things from you moment to moment, giving you emotional whiplash as you try and keep up. I hope you are gentle with yourself on these days. Your heart is looking for ways to process a love that has changed due to loss (a love that is still present, but in a different way). That is a lot of work on a weary soul.

There will be days when your grief softens enough to allow your mind to wander in memories, to rejoice in remembering, to allow the light to trickle in to the most painful spaces. And on those days, I hope you let the comfort surround you like a warm sweater. I hope you let the light in and feel it surrounding you.

Because grief will bring about many different kinds of days. May we take them one day at a time, one moment at a time, and make room for the tension that it brings.

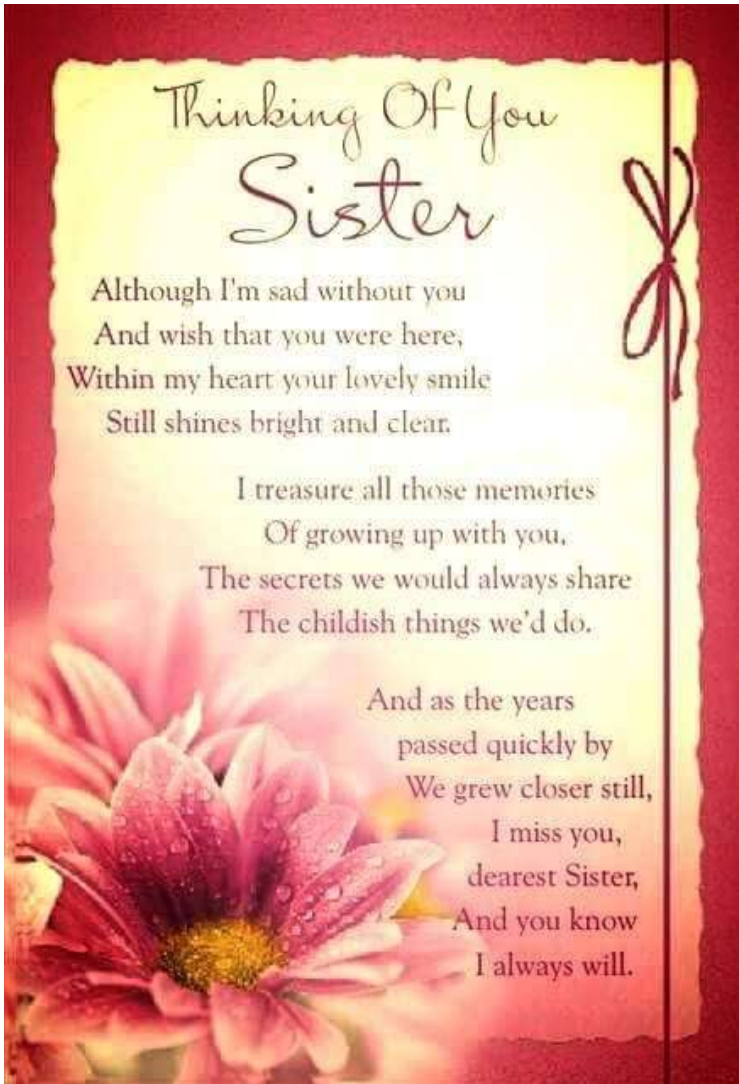
And in this life we will constantly be pulled between love and loss, grief and gratitude, pain and purpose. But how brave it is to allow yourself space for the tension, to know that seemingly opposite things can all be true at once and to hold them all in your hand at once, in your heart at once.

-Liz Newman

**NEWSLETTER DEDICATION IN LOVING MEMORY OF**



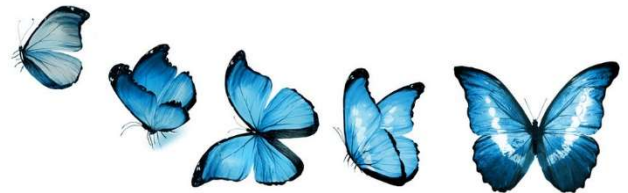
***Níva Rosa Murillo***  
**July 26, 1955 – May 10, 1994**



Happy Birthday to My Dear Sister,

You are missed more than you could imagine. Your memories are not forgotten and I think of you every day. I think of all the sisterly things we would have done. Staying up late and chatting about this and that, painting each other's nails, hours and hours of shopping, and regular lunch outings. I can imagine all the family get-togethers and all the little things we would have shared.

You would be so proud of Becky and all she has accomplished.



*NEWSLETTER DEDICATION IN LOVING MEMORY*

*Grant Adair Gorman*

*Born – July 4, 1992 Died – Jul 25, 1995*



*A Million Times*

*“Happy 31<sup>st</sup> Heavenly Birthday”*

*You never said “I’m leaving,” you never said “Goodbye”  
You were gone before I knew it and only God knew why.  
A million times we’ve needed you, a million times we’ve cried  
If love alone could have saved you, you never would have died.*

*In life we loved you dearly; in death we love you still.  
In our hearts you hold a place no one else will ever fill.  
It broke our hearts to lose you but you didn’t go alone  
Part of us went with you; the day God took you home*

*Missing and Loving you more each day.*

*Love, Mimi*

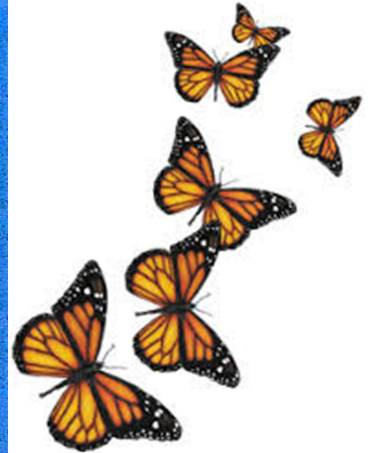
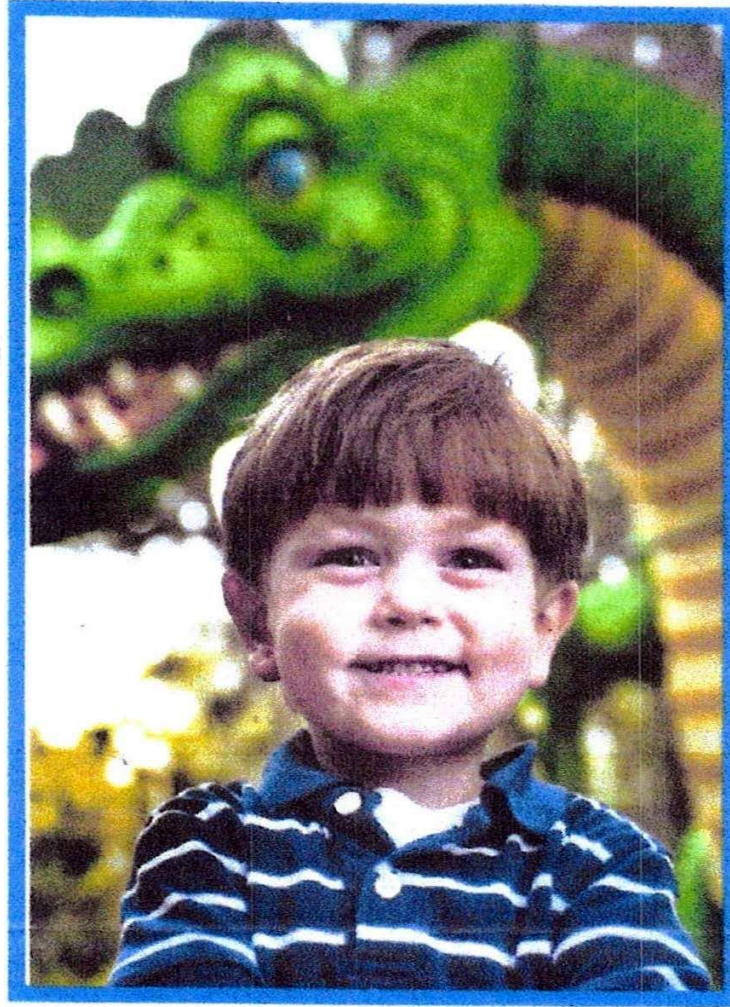


*NEWSLETTER DEDICATION IN LOVING MEMORY*

***Kendall Oliver Springman***

*IN LOVING MEMORY ON YOUR 18th BIRTHDAY*

**JULY 12, 2005 - JULY 31, 2011**



**We miss you so much !!!..**

**You are forever in our hearts**

*Mom, Dad, Kaol, Grandpa and Granny*

Dedication sent in by Rosan Springman

# NEWSLETTER DEDICATION IN LOVING MEMORY OF *Alexis Bounds*

November 9, 1981 – July 24, 2019



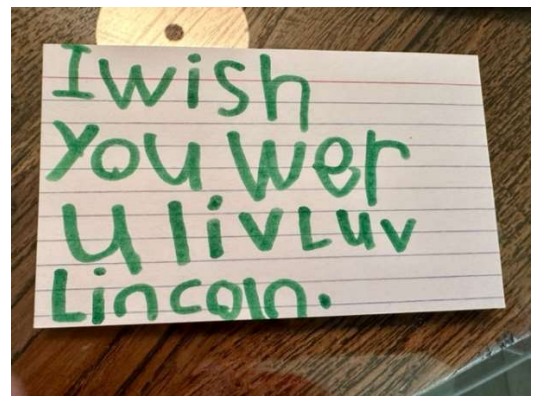
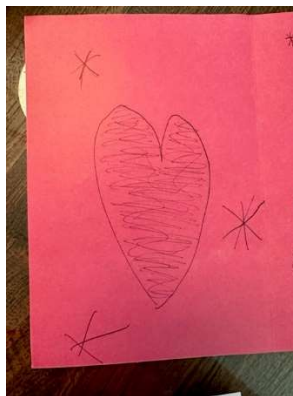
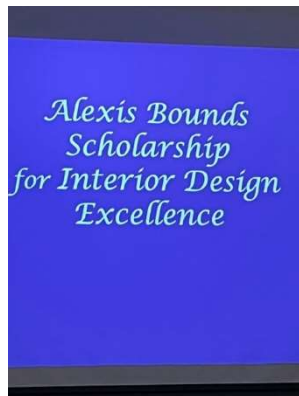
My Dearest Alexis,

*This month it will be 4 years since you received your angel wings. I am blessed that I have 37 years of memories with you. It's bitter sweet knowing you had so much more to live for; Teddy, the love of your life, and your boys, now 4 and 8, all struggle in their own ways. They were robbed of making memories with you. I continue to spend as much time with your boys as I can. We try and do the things that you liked. The outdoors, picnics, parks, books at bedtime, bubble baths, lullabies, and plenty hugs and kisses. They loved going to Uncle David's recently for swimming, fishing, crabbing and boating.*

*I always tell them how much you love and miss them. The boys often make mommy cards for special occasions. Often they will tell me, look Mia, it's a Butterfly or a Dragonfly or a Penny on the ground. "It's mama." More recently, I found a turtle in your birdbath at the cemetery. I brought it home for the boys and bought a second one so they could each have and name their own turtle. They named the turtles, Waffles and Pancakes. They are spoiled turtles, living a good life.*

*Roger and I wanted to do something in memory of you this year. You graduated from LSU's School of Interior Design and went on to become an accomplished professional. Your award-winning designs in numerous facilities in California, Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico stand today as testaments to your creativity, work ethic, and talent. We worked with LSU's School of Interior Design and in May, the first recipient received the Alexis Bounds Scholarship for Interior Design Excellence. I was unable to attend as I was with your boys. Roger and Bonnie attended the awards ceremony for the family.*

*Love and miss you always, Mom* ❤️🦋😊



## Our Children Remembered



### Angel Birthdays

Bessma Hendawi	July 2	Daughter of Diane Hendawi
Grant Adair Gorman	July 4	Grandson of Charlene Gorman; Nephew of Denise
Jonathan Reid Caluda	July 5	Son of Faith Caluda
Jennifer "GG" Arnold	July 8	Daughter of Dee Arnold
Leia Roniger	July 9	Daughter of Lexus Edmondson; Granddaughter of Leslie Edmondson
Rene Pierce	July 9	Brother of Prashanti van Calsem
Je'Ryan T. M. Edwards	July 12	Son of Linda Edwards
Clint Butler	July 12	Son of Marilyn Strecker
Kendall Springman	July 12	Grandson of Rosan Springman
Jacob Cristin Buuck	July 14	Son of Alice and Arthur Buuck; Brother of Jennifer
Brian Christopher	July 14	Son of Gaynell and Sidney Leonard
Keith Eiserloh	July 15	Son of June DeJong
Jason Lynn	July 17	Son of Nalani Lynn
Joseph "Joey" Burke	July 19	Son of Steven Burke and Anne Adams
Brent Ashley Isenberg	July 19	Son of Sandra and Jack Isenberg
Niva Rosa Murillo	July 26	Sister of Millie Hunton; Mother of Becky Greenup
Colby Wayne	July 27	Son of Stephanie and Wayne Adams
Clay Hubble	July 29	Brother of Shannon Andrews

### Angel Anniversaries

Chase Anthony	July 1	Son of Sandy and Brent Chester; Brother of Molly
Jacob Cristin Buuck	July 3	Son of Alice and Arthur Buuck; Brother of Jennifer
Milan Arriola	July 3	Daughter of Imani Ruffins
Pearson Pratt	July 9	Son of Kelly and Andrew Pratt
Onzaye Morris	July 10	Son of Diane Morris; Brother of Nia Woods
Paul-Anthony A. Fenasci	July 10	Son of Nicole Fenasci
Joshua Paul Keller	July 13	Son of Jerry and Dana Keller
Christopher Brady	July 14	Son of Janice Brady
Patrick O'Neil	July 16	Son of Kathy O'Neil
Leia Roniger	July 16	Daughter of Lexus Edmondson; Granddaughter of Leslie Edmondson
Jennifer Lynn	July 18	Daughter of Mary Ann Piazza; Sister of Jonathan
Bryan A. Eiserloh	July 19	Son of June DeJong
Keith Eiserloh	July 19	Son of June DeJong
Frank "Frankie" Castagna, Jr.	July 21	Son of Margaret and Frank Castagna
Jonathan A. Fenasci	July 22	Son of Nicole Fenasci
Jennifer "GG" Arnold	July 24	Daughter of Dee Arnold
Alexis Bounds	July 24	Daughter of Peggy and Roger Boardman
Grant Adair Gorman	July 25	Grandson of Charlene Gorman; Nephew of Denise
Jonathan Coslan	July 26	Son of Sheila and John Coslan
Chad Wershbaile	July 27	Son of Debbie Wershbaile; Sister of Brandi
Rebecca (Beca) DeMuth	July 27	Daughter of Kathy and Wilton DeMuth
Brian Christopher	July 28	Son of Gaynell and Sidney Leonard
Robert Weeks	July 30	Son of Ellen Dotter
Joshua Louis Matranga	July 31	Son of Jodi Caronna and Joseph Matranga; Brother of Jaclyn and Joseph
Kendall O. Springman	July 31	Grandson of Rosan Springman



### **Phone Friend List**

*Our listeners are willing to listen, understand, and share.*

504-454-3293 – Melva Duhon, son, 41, suicide  
 504-456-8248 – Patsy Ashton, son, 24, drug overdose  
 504-559-2438 – Jaimie Kimball, sibling, 12, vehicle accident  
 504-265-0581 – William and Millie Hunton, daughter, 30,  
 accidental overdose