

If you hope to join our gathering in Ellington on December 11,  
**PLEASE REGISTER BY DECEMBER 7** to receive a personalized memorial photo gift.  
*(you are welcomed to attend if you register after, but may not receive a memorial photo gift)*

This WorldWide Candle Lighting notice will share  
**WHAT-WHY- WHEN- WHO- WHERE- WHAT TO BRING- WHAT TO WEAR-HOW**  
You don't have to attend meetings, to attend this gathering.  
Family and Friends are welcome to join you.

## **WHAT**

The Candle Lighting is a  
The Compassionate Friends Tradition, which is 20 years old.

There are **two things that happen EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF DECEMBER** each year. *(the date will change, but the day does not, so place it on your annual calendar)*

### **VIRTUAL CANDLE LIGHTING**

CompassionateFriends.org

[http://www.compassionatefriends.org/News\\_Events/Special-Events/Worldwide\\_Candle\\_Lighting.aspx](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/News_Events/Special-Events/Worldwide_Candle_Lighting.aspx)

You are welcomed to "light a virtual candle" and to write words of remembrance

### **PHYSICAL CANDLE LIGHTING EVENTS**

Worldwide, there are thousands of candle lightings taking place in various sizes and locations. The National TCF website will always list some of them. Worldwide gatherings will vary in size and formality from a few people for an intimate gathering *(like our TCF East Of The River Chapter)* to hundreds and hundreds in attendance; and from very formal staged productions to more family like gatherings *(again, such as our Chapter's)*.

Each year you can attend what best meets your needs, at that time.

### **TCF East Of The River CT CHAPTER CANDLE LIGHTING (ETOR)**

Our Chapter lighting brings us all together like the extended family we become through our understanding of each others' pain, grief and need for support.

It is a gentle, simple, warm, family friendly atmosphere.

It is Not a Party, but a warm, caring gathering of people who hugs each others' hearts and hold each others' hands in understanding of our painful losses.

## **WHY**

The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting, unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories their loved ones who left before them.

Started in the United States in 1997 as a small internet observance, the event has since swelled in numbers as word has spread throughout the world of the remembrance. Hundreds of formal candle lighting events are held and thousands of informal candle lightings are conducted in homes as families gather in quiet remembrance of our children, grandchildren, siblings and loved ones who have died, but will never be forgotten.

## **WHEN**

### **TCF East Of The River CT CHAPTER CANDLE LIGHTING (ETOR)**

We Will **Begin To Gather** at about **5:30ish to 6:00**

#### **Shared pot luck begins**

please bring something to contribute, if you are able  
entrees, side dishes, desserts, beverages are all welcome

**SLIDESHOW will be playing of our loved ones images**

**Back Ground Music** will be playing,  
featuring songs of understanding, love and hope

**The 5 Candle Lighting Ceremony** takes place beginning at **7:00**

individual candles will be lit and the names of our loved ones shared  
poems, stories may be shared (please bring something special to you if you wish  
or, preferably email a copy to [TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com](mailto:TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com) before  
Saturday)

**Following the Candle Lighting** and the Bringing the light of their love into our hearts  
there will be sharing of stories, desserts, conversation

**9:30 ish**, clean up completed

## **INTERNATIONALLY**

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

As candles are lit at 7:00 p.m. each local time, hundreds of thousands of persons  
commemorate and honor the memory of their loved ones

It is the largest mass candle lighting on the globe, creating a virtual 24-hour wave of  
light as it moves from time zone to time zone.

## **WHO**

We welcome those who do not or cannot attend our regular meetings.

We welcome Our Chapter Members, our families, our friends, our support system.  
Anyone who cares to share this experience with you and wishes to remember a loved  
one, among others who lovingly understand.

Children are welcomed. Remember that there will be a Candle Lighting with open flames. We want the young ones not to be uncomfortable with the memorializing content. Feel free to bringing coloring books or quiet toys.

## **WHERE**

The Private Home Of  
The Home of Amy Schmelter  
7 Justin Drive Ellington, CT  
(near Frog Hollow, off of Abbott Rd)

### *note:*

*A decorated Christmas Tree will be up,  
but other holiday decorations will be very minimal.*

## **WHAT TO BRING**

\*If you are able, please bring something to contribute  
entrees, side dishes, desserts, beverages are all welcome

\* poems, stories, reading that are important to you – Please send a copy to  
[TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com](mailto:TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com) before Saturday

**Candles are Shared By The Chapter**

## **WHAT TO WEAR**

This is a very low-key, informal event. Jeans are welcome.

## **HOW**

**Please Reserve at:**

<http://www.tcfeastoftheriver.org/events/worldwide-candle-lighting/>

If you hope to attend, but are not certain, please reserve anyway.  
We would rather plan on having you there and understand if you can't make it, then to not have enough materials planned for those who do attend

if you are unable to access the registration on line, please send an email to  
[TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com](mailto:TCFEastOftheRiverCT@gmail.com) Subject: Candle Lighting Reservation

Please include the following:

1. Names of those attending (list as many as attending, separated by commas, please)
2. ..Number of people attending with you (including yourself)
3. Your Home Address
4. City, State, Zip
5. Phone Number
6. Email Addresses of All Those attending, separated by commas, please\*
7. You are Attending In Memory Of .....
8. Relationship

Son    Daughter    Grandson    Granddaughter    Brother

Sister    Friend    Support to a Friend    Other

Other Relationship

9. Those accompanying you are Attending In Memory Of

*please list the name of the person being remembered with the name of the person attending & relationship in ( parentheses) For example: Robyn (Janet & Ted Flanagan, Robbie's aunt and uncle)*

10. Food item(s) or Food Group you plan to bring:  
(It is not necessary to bring an item to attend)

Right now, we are short on ENTREES.

We are planning a pot luck dinner before the candle lighting with desserts and snacks after the candle lighting.

Entree, Appetizers, Desserts, Salads, and Beverages are all appreciated, but are not necessary to be able to attend.

11. Will you be submitting a photo for the slideshow? \*

12. Anything else that you would like us to know or wish to share with us?

**Thank you**  
**Hope That You Will Join Us**  
**Sunday December 11, 2016**