



Mother's Day and Father's Day

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Those of us who have experienced the death of a loved one can attest that holidays are extremely difficult to endure. Men and women who are grieving the loss of a child are soon facing perhaps two of the most difficult of celebrations: Mother's Day and Father's Day. Each year during the spring and summer two Sundays are set aside to honor and praise parents. But what about the moms and dads who do not have any living children? Are they allowed to be acknowledged and celebrated too? Most definitely!

These days may bring dread and misery to many bereaved mommies and daddies because they feel as if they are the "forgotten parents." Unfortunately, other family members and friends fail to acknowledge the hurting couple on these two days, which cause them to feel isolated and alone. Many will find themselves questioning, "Does anyone know how I feel?" "Can anybody possibly understand?" "Has everyone forgotten my baby?" "Don't they realize I AM a parent?"

Even if it seems your family, friends, and maybe even your spouse have had a difficult time relating to your emotions, simply cannot or refuse to understand, really have forgotten your precious baby and truly do not recognize your parentage, there is Someone who does. The Lord knows EXACTLY how you feel! The Bible tells us in Isaiah 53: 3, "... (Jesus) was a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering."

Let Him get you through this difficult time. If you haven't already, pour your heart out to Him. Don't feel as though you must talk to Him in a formal and articulate way – speak to Him as you would a friend. King David, who also lost a child, instructs us in Psalm 55: 22, "Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall." What an incredibly reassuring and comforting promise! But we have to do our part in giving our burdens to Him – then keeping them there. So often we are guilty of surrendering something to God then snatching it back when times get tough. He wants us to relinquish our problems then LEAVE THEM!

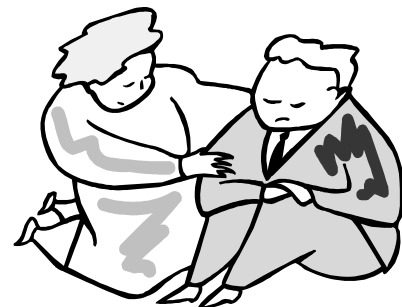
Remember there are those of us at MEND who can relate to you as well. If you feel as if you have no one on this earth with whom to share your hurts, contact us and we will do our best to connect you with another bereaved parent. The guest book on our website is one of the best avenues to establish a relationship with such a person (www.mend.org/guests_book.asp). Simply browse the posts of others then respond to the ones that are of interest to you. I also encourage you to post a message yourself and I'm certain others will respond.

Please know you and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers on May 13 and June 17 as we all celebrate our parenthood and commemorate our children who are with the Lord.

Rebekah Mitchell

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He Didn't Give Me Answers He Gave Me Himself

by Dr. Earl W. (Sandy) Stradtman, M.D., P.C.

My first experience as a father was a study in the unexpected. Although our first ultrasound at just under six weeks showed only a sac of fluid in the womb, a repeat ultrasound two days later told us we could tell our families at Christmas that we are going to have a baby. Later, after our amniocentesis, my wife Celia wanted to know the gender of the baby, but I wanted it to be a surprise.

It wasn't meant to be. When I worked in the genetics lab during my fellowship, one of the technicians slipped and said, "So, you're Dr. Stradtman. When is your baby boy due?" Little did I know at the time how much I would later appreciate that slip.

I can still remember the phone call—I can still feel its impact. Celia called to say that her cervix was dilating—an incompetent cervix. Her doctor performed emergency surgery to try to save the baby by placing a stitch in the cervix. All we could do was wait and pray. I was no longer an objective physician, but an involved father and husband.

Late on the third evening after the surgery, the membranes ruptured, and early the next morning, on April 29, 1989, James McGilvray Stradtman was born. He lived for about an hour and fifteen minutes. We grieved while his life was slipping away in the intensive care nursery.

After he died, we held him for a long time, still in disbelief. Even though his life was short and I had not wanted to know his gender at first, we had an opportunity to enjoy him during his life in utero more than if we had not given him a name. I was grateful for that.

Since we lost James just before Mother's Day, Celia and I were unsure about how to handle that commemorative day. After all, I could find no memorial cards in the Mother's Day section, but she had been a mother briefly. I hurt at a "gut" level and tears came as I sought healing. I knew Celia hurt too—certainly even more than I did. Persistent questions occupied my thoughts.

Why did our son have to die? If God loves us, why does He let tragedies happen? Had I angered God? Upon reflection, I realized that I sinned against Him continually. On the other hand, I knew God was good, and despite how I felt and hurt, I believed He would bring good out of this bad situation.

The answers to my questions came as I tried to make my own Mother's Day card for Celia and to work through my own grief. For a reason that was unclear to me at the time, I turned to the Bible for inspiration. At first, no passage seemed appropriate. Then I remembered a verse I had memorized years ago, but its impact was different this time. In the Gospel of John, Jesus Christ spoke to a bewildered Nicodemus about how a person must be born again of the Spirit to be saved. He explained the divine plan: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son ... that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). As my attention was drawn to the first part of the verse, it was as if the Spirit of God had put His hand on my heart. "I know what it is like to lose a son."

God did not explain why our son had to die. He didn't give me answers; He gave me Himself. He alone is sufficient for our needs and our wounds. At a time when I was spiritually broken, He dealt with me graciously, according to His own principles described in the Bible.

As I prayed earnestly with a "mustard seed" of faith, broken in spirit, utterly dependent on Him, and confessing my sinfulness, God used His Word to counsel and comfort me, and to teach me about Himself. When I came to Him on His terms—not mine—His Word came alive.

I had lost my son involuntarily and would have preferred to have it otherwise. God gave His Son voluntarily for you and me, and He would not have had it any other way.

Reprinted with permission from the Feb./March 01 issue of [Stepping Stones](#), a Christian-based newsletter of support and encouragement for infertility related

M.E.N.D. Fundraisers

As a non-profit organization MEND is funded solely by private donations and fundraisers. Any assistance you can give us by participating in any or all of these fundraisers is greatly appreciated.

Kroger grocery stores donate a percentage of all purchases of those shoppers who have and use a Kroger Share Card. To obtain your Share Card, contact Rebekah via one of the ways listed on the last page of this newsletter, and let her know how many you need. This program is valid in Texas, but residents of other states may need to check with store managers to see if they participate.

Tom Thumb also has a program in Texas that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you have a Tom Thumb Reward Card, please ask your Tom Thumb cashier to link your card with M.E.N.D. Our number is **6265**. If you are already linked to another organization, they will split a donation of one percent of your purchases between the organizations. It only takes about five minutes to get a Reward Card, and it can also be used at Rاندalls and Simon David stores.

Kathryn Padilla, a M.E.N.D. member, is an independent **Mary Kay** consultant who is donating ten percent of all sales to M.E.N.D. if they are made by M.E.N.D. members. Members also get ten percent off their first online order. You can shop online at www.mymk.com/kpadilla1.

Kim Robinson, a **Pampered Chef** kitchen consultant and M.E.N.D. family member, is donating 10-15 percent of sales to M.E.N.D. members back to our organization. You can browse products at www.pamperedchef.com, then e-mail Kim at kimr@cheerful.com to place an order.

Stamps.com offers a \$10-\$20 referral program. If you would like to purchase stamps from home and receive a free postage scale, visit www.stamps.com, and use referral code C-4FTJ-TWR. Stamps.com will give the incentive money to M.E.N.D. in the form of free postage.

May, 2000- We were looking forward to our first Mother's and Father's Day as parents. We knew we were going to have this wonderful, healthy, precious little boy. His name had been decided- our little Logan David. Bedding, clothes, diapers, and toys had been purchased, showers had been given, and suitcases, waiting to be carried to the hospital, had been packed. In the wee hours on May 5th, we rushed to the hospital, thinking we were in labor. Little did we know that our wonderful, healthy, precious little boy had already died due to a placental abruption, and that two weeks later, we would be going through our first Mother's Day as parents of a stillborn child.

On Mother's Day, we packed away the baby things and took a few of the items back to the baby store. When asked if we would like merchandise credit, I tearfully told them that our baby had died, and we would not be shopping at their store for quite some time. It was a long month of waiting for Father's Day, when I would have to look into the eyes of my wonderful husband and know that he was thinking of our son, knowing that he would never hear the words, "Happy Father's Day, Daddy," from Logan's lips.

As our second Mother's and Father's Day approach, we think of Logan and how much we miss him. We reflect, as all of you do, of the few but irreplaceable memories, of that baby we did not get to hold on the holidays that celebrate the joys of motherhood and fatherhood. Last year, our smiles were deep in hiding over our grief of losing our baby boy, but this year is different. Memories of that first sonogram, first kick, and the ice cream sundaes he "helped" me devour during those last few months of pregnancy bring smiles and deep pride that I was the lucky mother who got to carry my little Logan inside of me.

The memories of that little one you love and miss may be too new and fresh this Mother's and Father's Day, or it may be that your loss occurred before mine. Whatever the case may be, our hope and prayer is that Mother's Day and Father's Day will one day bring a smile to your face and warm your heart with the pride of being a parent to a perfect angel in Heaven.

*Samantha Iliff, mommy to Logan David, stillborn May 5th, 2000,
due to placental abruption*

In our January/February issue, we printed an article by Dr. Paulina Van-Patterson, *Living with grief after pregnancy loss: Perspectives of African American women*. Since that issue was published, Dr. Van-Patterson's e-mail address has changed. If you have questions or comments about the article, you can now reach her at dr_paulina_van@hotmail.com or pvan@itsa.ucsf.

July/August Topic

Pregnancy/Infant Loss and Infertility

Deadline - May 31, 2001

September/October Topic

"That We Can Comfort" - Anniversary Issue

Deadline - July 31, 2001

M.E.N.D. will commemorate 5 years of ministry to hurting families in September. We would like to dedicate this issue to what our members have accomplished in five years, along with what we hope to achieve in the future. We would like to hear testimonials from you about how you have been able to use your grief experience to comfort others.

Stories, poems, thoughts, and/or feelings regarding these topics are welcomed. Submissions must be received by the deadline to be considered for publication in the newsletter. Unfortunately, there is not enough room to include all submissions. Choices will be left to the discretion of the editors. Please see the back page of the newsletter for the appropriate address to send your submissions. Any submission printed in our newsletter will also be posted to our website indefinitely unless we receive notice in writing that you are only granting permission for your submission to appear in the printed version of the newsletter.

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M.E.N.D. Support Group Meetings

Join us in a time of sharing experiences.

Regular M.E.N.D. meetings

are held the
2nd Thursday of every month from
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

**Mommies AND Daddies are both
welcome at all of our meetings.**

Threads of Hope, Pieces of Joy Bible Study

Please contact Jana Spigener
at (817) 468-9963 or
gaspigener@aol.com if interested.

Playgroup

*For families with children born prior
to or subsequent to a loss*
Contact Pam Morren
At (972) 335-8202
ashtonsmom98@hotmail.com

Our Daddies Group

meets the 2nd Thursday of
March, June, September, and December
From
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

**This is a special time for Daddies to get
together and discuss concerns unique to
them as fathers. Our moms and dads
meet together for introductions before
dividing into two groups for discussion**

For more information or directions,
Call (972) 459-2396.

*(Bible Studies and Playgroups meet at various
locations around the Dallas/Fort Worth
Metrolplex.)*

Subsequent Pregnancy Group

meets the 4th Tuesday
of each month from
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

*For families who are considering becoming
pregnant or are currently pregnant after a loss*

All support group meetings are held at:

**1159 Cottonwood Lane, Suite 150
Irving, Texas (Las Colinas) 75038**

(This is on the west side of MacArthur
Boulevard, across the street from the Four
Seasons Resort.

There is a Holiday Inn Express at the en-
trance of Cottonwood Lane.)

Birthday Tributes to Our Special Babies

Happy 1st birthday Colten!

You have taught us a love greater than we ever knew possible. We love you, our sweet angel,
 Mommy and Daddy.
 (Parents Jamieson and Regan Ballmer)

Colton Benjamin Balmer
 Stillborn May 28, 2000
 Due to Umbilical Cord
 Stenosis - Congenital



Happy 6th birthday our precious gift from God. Thank you for all you have taught our family these years about love, compassion, sorrow and most of all God's loving mercy and grace. Until we meet again...

Love,
 Mommy, Daddy, and Lil' B

In loving memory of
 Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
 Stillborn June 24, 1995
 Cord Accident
 Parents, Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
 and big brother, Byron, Jr.



Our Little Logan David,
 We miss you so very much. It's hard to believe that an entire year has passed since we held you in our arms. You will always be our pride and joy, and we cannot wait to hold you again up in heaven. Happy 1st birthday.

Love, Mommy and Daddy

Logan David Iliff,
 stillborn May 5th, 2000
 due to placental abruption
 Parents: Joseph and Samantha Iliff



Happy 3rd Birthday, Tristen!
 You are deeply missed.
 From Mommy and little sister Valerie

In memory of Tristen Wayne Livermore,
 stillborn 5/5/98 due to a cord accident
 Mother: Cindy Livermore

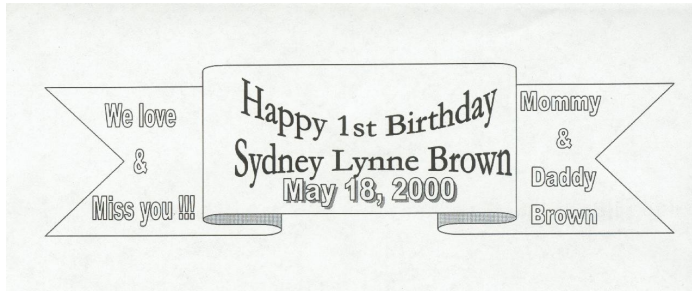


A year gone by, a lifetime remembered.
 Happy First Birthday Mackenzy!

In loving memory of
 Mackenzy Annagrace Worthy,
 stillborn May 23, 2000,
 due to unknown causes.

Parents: Fred and Vicky Worthy
 Big sister: Katelyn





*In loving memory of Sydney Lynne Brown,
Stillborn May 18, 2000, due to unknown cause
Parents: Brian and Marilyn Brown*

HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY OUR LITTLE SAMANTHA ANGEL, WITH LOVE.

From Mommy, Daddy,
and big sister Lauren



*Samantha Angel Hampton
May 22, 2000
Parents: Steve & Brenda Hampton
Big sister: Lauren*



Happy 5th Birthday to our sweet little boy
David. You are loved with
mended hearts but never forgotten. We
imagine a joyful "big boy" party
in heaven and are content in knowing
that you are whole, happy and
resting in the arms of Jesus.

Mommy, Daddy and little sister Hannah

*From: Dianna, Joel & Hannah Hatfield
In Memory of David Thane Hatfield
May 14 - 15, 1996
Cause: placental abruption
due to a uterine abnormality*

The hurt has dulled, the love has grown
More than we could have ever known.
A life so short, a hand so small
Has touched our hearts and blessed us all.
How is it that we now have joy
Without our precious baby boy?
"God will increase", his given name
Is truth that took away the pain,
For eyes that we could never see
Are open to eternity,
A view unclear to us down here,
Yet lets us glimpse that heaven's near.
Our baby sweet, our little one
Has shown to us another Son
And how God's love must reach the sky,
For He watched His own baby die.
Through our own grief and pain of loss
We understand that on a cross
A Father gave us everything
So we could be the heirs of a King.
Oh, little child, you had to go,
For through your death, we learned to grow.

*Happy 2nd birthday,
Joseph!*



*In memory of Joseph Charles Libby
Stillborn May 26, 1999,
due to a cord accident
Parents: Wim & Sharlene Libby
Siblings: Will, John, & Mary Grace*

Happy 1st Birthday to Our Precious Baby
Girl

Lauren Faith Dugas



We can't believe that it has already been a
year since we held you in our arms. We
have never felt such pain and such love
since you entered our lives. You have
taught us so many things and you have
touched so many lives during the months I
carried you, your two days here with us,
and you are still touching lives while you
are in Heaven. We think of you each day
and dream of the day that we will hold you
in our arms again forever.

All Our Love – Mommy & Daddy

*In Loving Memory of Lauren Faith Dugas
June 27, 2000 – June 29, 2000
Heart Defect
Parents: Joey & Rhonda Dugas*

Music Resources

The following music has been helpful to others during their time of grief.

Angel Unaware

Words and music by
Shari Buie and Tamara Miller
HeartSong 96
826 Royal Birkdale Dr.
Garland, TX 75044



Home Free

Words and music by Wayne Watson
Watson's *Home Free* CD can be found at most Christian bookstores.

Together We Can Heal

A beautiful collection of music for bereaved families. Call or write:
Source Music
P.O. Box 1543
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
719-442-0152/ 800-338-4312 (orders)
<http://www.sourcemusic.com>
<http://www.sourcemusic.com/heal>
(This URL takes you directly to the recording.)

Thought You'd Be Here

Words and music by Wes King
From his CD *A Room Full of Stories*, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

I'll Meet You in the Morning

By Karen Ritchey
<http://www.members.cnx.net/kritchey/>
e-mail: kritchey@cnx.net

With Hope

By Steven Curtis Chapman
From his CD *Diving In*, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

Goodbye for Now

Words by Kathy Troccoli, music by Scott Brasher and Kathy Troccoli
From Troccoli's CD *Corner of Eden*, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

Glory Baby

Written by Nathan and Christy Nockels
Found on Watermark's *All Things New* CD, can be purchased at Christian bookstores.

Empty Arms

Words and music by Teri Curp
From her CD *Look Ahead*
Teri Curp Ministries
1413 NE Grand Avenue
Lee's Summit, MO 64086
816-246-8374
tcsings@swbell.net
www.tericorp.com

When I lost my first child at age 19, and barely married five months, I thought, "Oh I'll get pregnant again." I cried, but only when two of my sisters (who were also pregnant at the same time) started comparing ultrasound pictures at a family reunion. Believe it or not, we tried for that first child and were successful in getting pregnant within two months of trying. We lost the baby at 8-10 weeks along.

Little did I know what lay ahead of me. It was seven years before I ever got pregnant again, and that was with my little girl, Sierra Grace, who is now 3 years old. I lost my first child on May 13, 1990. It was Mother's Day that year. I got pregnant with Sierra on Mother's Day weekend of 1997.

When Sierra was just a few months old, we began to discuss when we would begin trying for another. We decided we wouldn't wait. We went off birth control when she was six months old. We just knew we would be one of those couples who would get pregnant right away. Well, we weren't. It was two years later before I got pregnant again.

Right before getting pregnant this last time, we had visited the doctors and found the reason for our infertility. Our testing came to a stand still due to lack of money. Little did I know I was going to get pregnant that month. I found out I was pregnant on the same weekend that I found out I was pregnant with Sierra. I got pregnant with this third child right after Mother's Day weekend. We were elated. I was relieved that it was over. I was pregnant and if it was a boy, hopefully the pain of wanting more would go away.

Well, on Father's Day of 2000, I began to spot. I lay on my couch, not believing that it was happening again. Even though it had been ten years since the last miscarriage, I thought, "NO! I don't want to do this again. I want my family complete." I knew if I lost the baby, I would want to try again, and I didn't know if I could handle the pain any longer. I was tired. I went for an ultrasound the next day and it showed me at almost two weeks behind on my date. I knew it was over. The signs of miscarriage began to get worse. I went back the following day and, sure enough, the sac was gone. I had lost another baby, one that I had tried for two years to conceive.

I still think my age had a lot to do with not mourning my first loss like I should have. I was young. But with this last baby, I cried for a week. I just couldn't believe it was over. One minute you're pregnant, the next minute you're not.

So we are on that road again. We are waiting on God to complete our family. By the time this is printed it will have been a year. Someone at church gave me a word of hope yesterday. She said she sensed my next child was near. She felt that I would be pregnant soon. I have asked people if this lady normally says such things, and they have said "no." She doesn't say things like that unless she means it and believes it. So I am hanging on for a while longer.

Jonnie Harvey

In Memory of Daniel Isaiah,
lost on May 13, 1990, at 8-10 weeks due to blighted ovum.
In Honor of Sierra Grace, born on January 25, 1998.
In Memory of Solomon,
lost on June 20, 2000, at 6 weeks and 4 days
due to blighted ovum.

A Mother's Day Gift

A Baby's Secret



Written by Aunt Kim Shane
In memory of

Andrew Joseph Jack

stillborn 11/11/2000
due to cardiac arrest
Mother: Patty Jack
of Sweetster, IN

I'm just a little fellow
Who didn't quite make it there.
I went straight to be with Jesus
But I'm waiting for you here.



Don't you fret about me Mommy,
I'm one of all God's lambs, most blessed
I'd have loved to stay there with you
But the Shepherd knows what's best.

So sweet Mommy don't you sorrow
Wipe those tears and chase the gloom
I went straight to Jesus' bosom
From my lovely Mother's womb.

Flowers from Anna on Daddy's First Father's Day

Our daughter, Anna, was born and died on July 2, 1999, at 23 weeks gestation after a PROM at 22 weeks. In August we placed Anna's ashes under a baby Ponderosa Pine tree in the Mount Rose Wilderness Area in the mountains southwest of Reno where we live. It takes an hour and a half to hike to the tree, mostly climbing up 6 switchbacks. I had planned to hike to the tree at least once a year on Anna's anniversary. But by June of 2000 I was pregnant with Anna's little brother, Andrew. Due to my incompetent cervix, I had to have a cerclage placed on June 26 with a week of bedrest after the surgery. So I knew I wouldn't be able to hike to my baby girl's tree on her anniversary. On Father's Day, two weeks before her anniversary, my husband Stan agreed to hike to her tree. It was a beautiful day to be out in the mountains. When we arrived at Anna's tree we found it surrounded by wildflowers at their peak of color – reds, yellows, and purples. It was a wonderful surprise for Daddy (and Mommy) from Anna on Father's Day. Had we waited 2 weeks for her anniversary we would have missed the flowers at their prime. Hiking to Anna's tree on Father's Day just might become an annual event. This year we will take Andrew along in the baby carrier. (Despite the cerclage, Andrew was born at 25 ½ weeks and spent 3 ½ months in the NICU. He is doing great now).

By Meg Macdonald
Remembering Anna with love
July 2, 1999

Blessed Mommy

Do you hear the rhythm of my beating heart?
It began to beat much stronger from your very start.
The moment you came and touched our lives -
We'll never be the same.
How mine and Daddy's hearts do smile
When we hear your name.
But, you couldn't stay, you had to fly,
Your time with us was through.
Straight to Heaven to Jesus' arms
To start a life of new.

With every Mother's Day that comes,
I'll wish that you were here.
So, I'll close my eyes and touch my heart,
And I know that you'll be there.
I love you, Julia, with all my heart -
How God has blessed me so.
I have your daddy, your sisters, and YOU -
Blessed more than all will know.
Thank you for being born!

For: Julia Claire Bruner
March 9-31, 1999
Fetal congenital heart block
Parents: Keith and Emily Bruner

Grief Materials

Birth and Life

141 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 371-4445

Centering Corporation

PO Box 4600
Omaha, NE 68104
(402) 553-1200

Wintergreen Press

3630 Eileen St.
Maple Plain, MN 55359
(612) 476-1303
www.Wintergreenpress.com

Perinatal Loss

2116 N.E. 18th Ave.
Portland, OR 97212
(503) 284-7426

ICEA Bookmarks

P.O. Box 20048
Minneapolis, MN 55420
800-624-4934

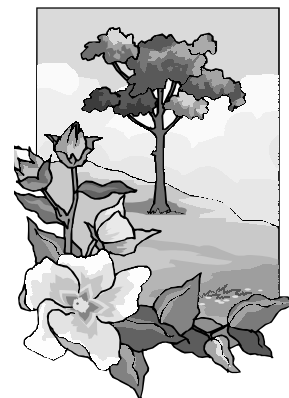
For Family, Friends, Hospitals,
and Organizations:

A Loss Remembered

2908 South Clemont Dr.
Denver, CO 80222
(303) 692-9668
lossremembered@cs.com
Provides beautiful remembrance cards on the
anniversary of a child's death.

Haley's Creations

P.O. Box 13242, La Jolla, CA 92039
Toll Free Phone: 877-538-6446
www.haleyscreations.com
Offers remembrance cards, journals, and
keepsakes relating to infant loss.



Organizations and Internet Support

Pregnancy Loss & Grief Support

Angel Babies – Forever Loved

<http://www.welcome.to/Angels4ever.com>

Antiphospholipid Syndrome

<http://hometown.aol.com/AmAmail/Anti.html>

Bereaved Families of Ontario

<http://www.inforamp.net/~bfo/>

CHERUBS-The Association of

Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia

Research, Advocacy, and Support

e-mail: cherubs@gloryroad.net

www.cherubs-cdh.org

P.O. Box 1150

Creedmoor, NC 27522

919-693-8158

Children and Grief

<http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/civitas/>

Footprints Ministry

13611 Merton Woods Ln.,

Charlotte, NC 28273-9008

GriefNet

<http://rivendell.org/index.html>

H.A.N.D.

(Houston's Aid in Neonatal Death)

<http://www.hern.org/~hand/>

Helping After Neonatal Death (HAND)

P.O. Box 341, Los Gatos, CA 95031-0341

408-447-6283

Santa Clara County: 408-732-3228

Alameda and Contra Costa

Counties: 800-963-7070

Central Valley: 209-823-5503

<http://www.h-a-n-d.org>

e-mail: info@h-a-n-d.org

Hygeia

<http://www.hygeia.org>

Infanlos

e-mail: majordomo@taex001.tamu.edu

Type "Subscribe Infanlos"

Visit the Infanlos Family Website and

<http://www.amets.net/infanlos>

M.E.N.D.

(Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death)

P.O. Box 1007

Coppell, TX 75019

972-459-2396/ 1-888-M.E.N.D.

<http://www.mend.org>

Mending Broken Hearts

<http://camalott.com/~libbys/mbh/mbh.htm>

MIDS

Miscarriage, Infant Death & Stillbirth

16 Crescent Dr.

Parsippany, NJ 07054

e-mail: MIDS@nac.net

M.I.S.S.

Mothers in Sympathy and Support

Joanne Cacciatore (voice) 602-979-1000

(fax) 602-979-1001

Julie White (voice) 602-584-0805

<http://www.misschildren.org>

Morning Light Ministries

c/o St. Mary Star of the Sea Church

11 Peter Street South

Mississauga, Ont. L5H 2G1

905-278-2058

morninglightministry.com

For bereaved Catholic parents who have experienced the death of their baby through ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, stillbirth or early infant death, including up to one year old.

Nathaniel's Friends

P.O. Box 2372

Frazier Park, CA 93225

<http://NathanielsFriends.com>

bayonne@bigvalley.net

Precious Children Remembered

P.O.Box 534

Huron, OH 44839

<http://www.accnorwalk.com/~mom2nich/>

PCR – Chat Room

Monday 10 p.m. Eastern

Contact Shanna at Ladyinno@aol.com or

HostAHTHShanna@aol.com for info.

Pregnancy/Infant Loss Center

1415 East Wayzata Blvd. #30

Wayzata, MN 55391

612-472-9372

Pregnancy Loss Newsgroup

<http://web.co.nz/~katef/sspl/>

Resolve Though Sharing

LaCrosse-Lutheran Hospital

1910 South Avenue

LaCrosse, WI 54601

608-785-0530

S.A.N.D.S.

<http://www.sandswa.org.au>

<http://www.sandsvic.org/au/>

SHARE

St. Joseph Health Center

300 First Capitol Dr.

St. Charles, MO 63301-2893

314-947-6164

S.O.F.T. (Support Organization for

Trisomy 18, 13 & Related Disorders)

c/o Barb Van Herreweghe

2982 S. Union St.

Rochester, NY 14624

716-594-4621

800-716-SOFT (7638)

e-mail: barbsoft@aol.com

<http://www.trisomy.org/>

SPALS (Subsequent Pregnancy Afer Loss)

<http://www.inforamp.net/bfo/spals/>

Tom Golden's Crisis, Grief & Healing

<http://www.webhealing.com/>

UNITE, Inc. (Perinatal grief support)

7600 Central Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19111-2499

215-728-3777

Zoom

<http://www.premier.net/~zoom/>

Continuing a Pregnancy After Adverse

Prenatal Diagnosis

Abiding Hearts

P.O. Box 5245

Bozeman, MT 59717

e-mail: hearts@imt.net

Anencephaly Support Foundation

<http://www.asfhelp.com/>

Abundance of the Heart

c/o Mark & Tonya Bayonne

P.O. Box 2372

Frazier Park, CA 93225

<http://www.abundanceoftheheart.org/>

Infertility

Hannah's Prayer

Providing Christian Support for Fertility Challenges. Online newsletter available.

P.O. Box 5016, Auburn, CA 95604-5016

775-852-9202, <http://www.hannah.org/>

INCIID

<http://www.inciid.org/>

Infertility

<http://www.fertilethoughts.net>

Journey to Jordan

A ministry for families dealing with infertility and adoption. Publishes a newsletter for a small fee.

4511 E. Gatewood Rd.

Phoenix, AZ 85024-6938

Reproductive Medicine Program

<http://repro-med.net>

Resolve

<http://www.resolve.org/>

Stepping Stones

Offers Christian hope, encouragement, and support to infertile couples. Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter.

c/o Bethany Christian Services

901 Eastern Avenue NE

P.O. Box 294

Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294

<http://www.bethany.org/step/>

Multiple Loss

CLIMB (Center for Loss in Multiple Birth)

e-mail: climb@pobox.alaska.net

www.climb-support.org

Limbo-L List,

Loss in Multiple Birth Outreach

For parents who have lost one or more children in a multiple birth situation.

Contact Terry Callaghan at

Terryc45@hotmail.com

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Lake/5142>

The Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome

Foundation

411 Longbeach Parkway

Bay Village, OH 44140 440-899-8887

<http://www.ttsfoundation.org>

Twinless Twins

11220 St. Joe Rd.

Ft. Wayne, IN 46835-9737

219-627-5414

SIDS

SIDS Network

P.O. Box 270, Ledyard, CT 06339

800-560-1454

<http://sids-network.org>

e-mail: sidsnet@sids-network.org

Cot Life Society

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Trail/5955>

Spanish

Fundacion Esperanza

www.geocities.com/Heartland/Bluffs/7102/

e-mail: carlarh@ivillage.com

Legislation is currently being discussed in several states regarding parents' rights to decide how to care for the remains of their miscarried children. For more information, visit <http://hometown.aol.com/mum2anangel/Amendment.html>. For Congressional e-mail addresses, visit <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/1411/index.html>

Helpful Reading ...***A Deeper Shade of Grace***

by Bernadette Keagy.
Sparrow Press, Nashville, TN, 1993.

A Silent Sorrow

by Ingrid Kohn.
Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing
Group, Inc., 666 Fifth Ave., New York,
NY 10103, 1992

***Empty Arms: Emotional Support
for Those Who Have Suffered a Miscarriage
Stillbirth, or Tubal Pregnancy***

by Pam Vredevelt.
Multnomah Press, Sisters, OR, 1984

***Empty Cradle, Broken Heart – Surviving
the Death of Your Baby***

by Deborah L. David, PhD.
Fulcrum Publishing, 350 Indiana St.,
Golden, CO 80401, 1991

Free to Grieve

by Maureen Rank.
Bethany House Publishers
6820 Auto Club Rd.
Minneapolis, MN 55438

Heaven's Not a Crying Place

by Joey O'Connor.
To order, visit his website at
<http://www.joeyo.com/>
or e-mail joey@joeyo.com

I'll Hold You in Heaven

by Jack Haford.
Regal Books
Ventura, CA

Letters to Gabriel

by Karen Garver Santorum,
wife of Senator Rick Santorum
To order, call 800-935-2222.

***Loss and Grief Recovery
Help Caring for Children with
Disabilities, Chronic or Terminal Illness***

by Joyce Ashton with Dennis Ashton.
Baywood Publishing

Miscarriage – A Shattered Dream

By Sherokee Ilse and Linda Hammer
Burns.
Wintergreen Press, Maple Plain, MN
55359, 1981

***Morning Light – Miscarriage, Stillbirth and
Early Infant Death from a Catholic Perspective***

by Bernadette Zambri.
To order, call 905-278-2058 (in Canada).

***Pregnancy After a Loss – A Guide to
Pregnancy After a Miscarriage, Stillbirth, or
Infant Death***

by Carol Cirulli Lanham.
Berkley Books, a Division of Penguin Put-
nam, Inc., 375 Hudson St., New York, NY.
To order directly, call toll-free 1-877-853-
3595.

Silent Grief

by Clara Hinton.
Published by New Leaf Press

The Christmas Box and Time Piece

by Richard Paul Evans.
Simon and Schuster, Rockefeller Center, 1230
Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY
10020, 1995-1996

***The Rocking Horse Is Lonely – and Other
Stories of Fathers' Grief***

by James D. Nelson, Editor.
Pregnancy and Infant Loss Center,
1421 E. Wayzata Blvd., Suite 30,
Wayzata, MN 55391, 1994

36 Hours with an Angel

by Lindsay Roberts.
Richard and Lindsay Roberts Ministries,
P.O. Box 2187, Tulsa, OK 74171

***When a Baby Dies: A Handbook for Heal-
ing and Helping***

by Rana Limbo and Sara Wheeler
Bereavement Services/RTS, LaCrosse Lu-
theran Hospital, 1910 South Avenue,
LaCrosse, WI 54601, 1985

When God Doesn't Make Sense

by Dr. James Dobson.
Published by Tyndale House Publishers,
Wheaton, IL, 1993

When Hello Means Goodbye

By Paul Schweibert, M.D., P., and Kirb.
Perinatal Loss, 2116 NE 18th Ave.,
Portland, OR 97212, 1986

***When Pregnancy Fails: Families
Coping with Miscarriage, Stillbirth and In-
fant Death***

By Susan Borg and Judith Lasker.
Bantam Press, 1989

SIDS ...***The SIDS Survival Guide***

by Joani Nelson Horchler and
Robin Rice Morris.
To order, call 301-773-9691.

Subsequent Pregnancy ...***Still to Be Born***

by Paul Schweibert, M.D.
Perinatal Loss, 2116 NE 18th Ave.,
Portland, OR 97212, 1986

Another Baby? Maybe ...***Thirty Questions on Pregnancy After
Loss***

by Sherokee Ilse and Maribeth Wildre
Doerr.

Contact Centering Corporation
www.centering.org
402-553-1200

***Trying Again--A Guide to Pregnancy
After Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Infant
Loss***

by Ann Douglas and John R. Sussman,
M.D.

Taylor Publishing, 2000.

[http://www.having-a-baby.com/
tryingagain.htm](http://www.having-a-baby.com/tryingagain.htm)

For Children ...***Let's Talk About Heaven***

by Debby Anderson.
Chariot Books, David C. Cook
Publishing Co., Elgin, IL, 1991

Molly's Rosebush

by Janice Cohn, D.S.W.
Albert Whitman & Company, Morton
Grove, IL 1994

***Mommy, Please Don't Cry – Tender
Words for Broken Hearts***

by Linda DeYmaz.
Multnomah Publisher, Bend, OR
Contact www.multnomahbooks.com

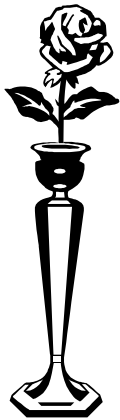
Someone I Love Died

by Christine Harder Tangvald.
Chariot Books, David C. Cook Publish-
ing Co., Elgin, IL, 1988

***The Cherry Blossom Tree – A
Grandfather Talks About Life & Death***

by Jan Godfrey.
Augsburg Fortress, 426 S. Fifth St., Box
1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440, 1996

In Loving Memory



Michael Joseph Böer
Stillborn July 17, 1996
Trisomy 18
Given by parents,
Paul and Lynne Böer
and siblings Paul, Jr. and
Maggie

Whitney Leigh Grams
Stillborn March 9, 1998
Unknown Cause
Given by parents,
Brian and Patti Grams
and little brother
Joseph Ronald Grams

Lauren Faith Dugas
June 27 - 29, 2000
Heart defect
Given by parents,
Joey and Rhonda Dugas

M.E.N.D.

gratefully acknowledges these gifts of love given in memory of a baby, relative, friend or given by someone just wanting to help. These donations help us to continue M.E.N.D.'s mission by providing this newsletter and other services to bereaved parents free of charge. Please refer to the back page of this newsletter for more information regarding where to send your donations and what information to include.

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord accident
Parents, Rebekah and Byron Mitchell
Big brother, Byron, Jr.
Given by grandparents Dennis and Sue Brewer

Brianna Renee Fisher
August 19 - September 20, 1999
Meningitis and other complications
Given by parents, Debby and Thomas Fisher
and twin brother Cameron

Katlynn Lee Busbee
Stillborn March 3, 2000
Cord accident
Parents, Brandi and Nick Busbee
Given by big brother Griffin
and twin sister Kaylena

Faith Elizabeth Durham
Stillborn September 25, 1999
Triploidy
Given by parents, Leighton and Lisa Durham
and little brother Frederick Leighton

Nicholas Varea-Simpson
December 16, 1999
Obstetrical negligence
Given by parents, Marco and Andrea Varea
and little sister Isabella

Colten Benjamin Ballmer
Stillborn May 28, 2000
Umbilical Cord Stenosis - Congenital
Given by parents, Jamieson and Regan Ballmer

Tristen Wayne Livermore
Stillborn May 5, 1998
Cord Accident
Given by mother, Cindy Livermore
and little sister Valerie



*When God calls little children
To dwell with Him above
We mortals always question
The wisdom of His love.
For no heartache compares with
The death of one small child
Who does so much to make this world
Seem wonderful and mild.
Perhaps God tires always calling
The aged to His fold
And so He picks a rosebud
Before it can grow old.*

*God knows how much we need them
And so He takes but few
To make the land of Heaven
More beautiful to view.
Believing this is difficult
Still, somehow we must try
The saddest word that mankind knows
Will always be goodbye.
And so, when little ones depart
We who are left behind
Must realize how much God loves children
For angels are hard to find.*

*In memory of Daniel William Fett (10-20-94)
and David Allen Fett (10-20-94 through 10-21-94)
Parents: Bill and Jana Fett*

Joseph Charles Libby
Stillborn May 26, 1999
Cord accident
Given by parents,
Wim and Sharlene Libby,
Big brothers Will and John,
and little sister Mary Grace

Another May

I still can't find the words
to express the loss I feel,
but the days, weeks, and months
that passed have made the loss more real.

I know the emptiness can't be filled.
She cannot be replaced.
There is no substitute for our Angel dear.
Her death.....must be faced.

I never doubted her presence
with the loving Lord I know,
but I questioned far too often
"why" the Lord would let her go.

Will time help ease the loss?
Will life ever be the same?
Will I come to know a peace in this?
Will I accept it in His name?

Will my arms stop aching to hold her near?
Will my memories of her dim?
Will a smile come more easily
when I think of her with Him?

I don't have the answers.
I wish I really knew.
For if I did I know for sure.....

I would share them first with you.
- Marge Hampton
(2001) Copyright

*In memory of Samantha Angel Hampton
May 22, 2000*

*Parents: Steve and Brenda Hampton.
Grandparents: Jerry and Marge Hampton
and Thomas and Gayle Luttrell*



Subsequent Births

Richard and Stacy Hunt
of Dallas, Texas,
proudly announce the arrival of
Richard Mason Ray,
born February 19, 2001,
6 lbs., 8.6 oz., 19 1/2 inches.
The Hunts lovingly remember
Olivia Grace,
February 8 -9, 2000,
unknown heart condition,
possibly Long QT Syndrome.

Marco and Adrea Varea
of Quito, Ecuador,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Isabella Varea-Simpson
at 8:40 a.m. on December 17, 2000,
weighing 7 lbs., 4 oz., and 20 inches long.
The Varea-Simpson family
lovingly remembers
Nicholas,
born and died on December 16, 1999,
due to obstetrical negligence.

Horace and Tammie Ates,
along with big sister Erin
of Flower Mound, Texas,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Brandon Medearis,
born Saturday, March 10, 2001, 5:51 a.m.,
7 lbs., 2 oz., 20 1/2 inches.
The Ates lovingly remember
Maya Denise,
stillborn January 6, 1998,
due to a clot in the umbilical cord.

Paul and Patty Reiman
and big brother Tim
of Cleveland, Ohio,
joyfully announce the birth of
Gregory William,
born March 21, 2001 at 3:51 a.m.
He was 8 lbs., 3 oz.,
and 20 3/4 inches.
The Reimans lovingly remember
Natalie Faith Reiman,
stillborn April 14, 1999,
due to anencephaly,
and Reiman babies,
miscarried November 1999
and May 2000.

Ted and Marianne Shields,
along with big brother Ryan
of Plano, Texas,
proudly announce the birth of
Matthew Marion,
born Wednesday, March 21, 2001,
at 12:35 p.m.,
7 lbs., 11 oz., 20 inches.
The Shields family lovingly remembers
Brianna Marin,
stillborn October 15, 1996,
Group B Strep.

Meg and Stan Macdonald
of Reno, Nevada,
joyfully and thankfully announce
the birth of
Andrew Thomas,
September 12, 2000,
3.5 months premature.
He weighed 1 lb., 13 oz.,
and was 13 1/2 inches long.
He came home from the hospital on
December 24, 2000,
the best Christmas present
we could ever ask for.
The Macdonalds lovingly remember
Anna,
July 2, 1999,
due to PROM/incompetant cervix,
holding her in their hearts forever.

Bill and Liz Adams,
along with siblings Peter, Noah, Jonathan,
Rebekah, Ethan, and Ruthie
of Watervliet, New York,
thank God for the gift of
Anna Hope,
born October 17, 2000.
She weighed 7lbs., 1oz.,
and was 18 1/2 inches long.
The Adams lovingly remember
and forever miss
Michael Asher,
born still April 19th at 21 weeks gestation
of unknown causes.

Mike and Kelli Mendias,
along with big brother Zachary
of Fort Worth, Texas,
announce the birth of their daughter,
Peyton Alexis,
born March 29, 2001,
7lbs., 12 oz., 19 1/2 inches long.
The Mendias family lovingly remember
their twins
Noah Christopher and Sharon SuzAnn,
March 25, 2000,
possible TTS.

Pam and Tim Morren,
along with big sister Ashton
of Plano, Texas,
announce the arrival of
Alexa Caroline,
born March 28, 2001, at 11:12 a.m.,
weighing 8 lbs., 8 oz.,
and was 20 1/2 inches long.
The Morrens lovingly remember
Timothy "Schuyler" Morren II,
September 28 - December 23, 1997,
SIDS.

Jennifer and Paul Warrington
and big brother Cole
of Louisville, Kentucky,
are so blessed to announce the birth of
Luke Michael,
born October 18, 2000,
9 lbs., 6 oz., and 21 inches long.
The Warrington family
lovingly remembers
Ryan Samuel,
stillborn February 8, 1998,
due to premature labor
caused by placental abruption.

Brian and Patti Grams
of Eules, Texas,
joyfully announce the birth of
Joseph Ronald,
born August 4, 2000,
weighing 7 lbs., 10 oz.,
19 1/2 inches long.
The Grams lovingly remember
Whitney Leigh,
our perfect gift,
stillborn on March 9, 1998,
of unknown causes.



M.E.N.D. is a Christian nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to reach out to those who have lost a child to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death and offer a way to share experiences and information through monthly meetings, this newsletter, and our web site.

For inquiries, subscription requests, deletions, and submissions to the newsletter, contact us at
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Coppell, TX 75019
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1-888-695-M.E.N.D.
Fax (972) 459-2396
E-Mail: Rebekah@mend.org,
Sharlene@mend.org

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Your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated and should be sent to:

M.E.N.D.
P.O. Box 1007
Coppell, TX 75019.

If your gift is made in memory of a baby, please include that baby's name (if named), date of birth and/or date of death, the parents' names, and the name of the benefactor. You may also include the cause of death (if known).

Visit our web site at:
<http://www.mend.org>

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