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## Keeping Your Baby's Memory Alive

One of the biggest fears we face as parents who have lost a baby is that people will forget our babies. Regularly I remind those who attend our support groups that it is up to us to ensure this does not happen. Your baby who died is not a deep, dark secret that you must hide from others. Yet many families find openly including their deceased children as part of the family uncomfortable. I believe we must make room for our heavenly child in our families as we see fit and not worry what those around us may think or say. It has been ten years since my baby Jonathan was stillborn, and thankfully his name is still commonly brought up in conversations among my immediate and extended family. No one squirms or holds their breath when the name Jonathan is mentioned. I attribute this to my husband Byron and I never being private about our loss and initiating talk about our son during the early days of grief, thereby giving our family and friends permission to do so as well.

So exactly how do you keep your baby's memory alive? As I've already mentioned, don't be intimidated to share your baby with those with whom you are close. However, sometimes this is easier said than done. Sadly, I hear parents tell our support group members that no one in their circle of friends nor their relatives want to talk about their loss. Some clearly attempt to change the subject when the heartbroken couple tries to share their emotions. If this is the case, you may need to sit down and have a heart-to-heart talk with your loved ones. Explain that

your baby, although dead, is still your child and will always be a part of you. If your relationship with them is to remain close, then they need to accept the "new you" and allow you to open up and express yourself. Hopefully this will cause them to reconsider their insensitivity and be willing to share in your sorrow.

Further, don't be afraid to display photographs of your child in your home or carry them in your wallet as you would pictures of a living child. You can be as subtle or as open as you like with the display of these treasures. I know a family who hung an 8x10 of their baby above their mantle, while there are those of us who have our babies' photos strategically placed on our bedside tables and other parts of our homes. If you were not given a photograph of your baby, feel free to exhibit anything that reminds you of your child, even if you are the only one who is privy to the item's significance.

Another way to keep your baby's memory alive is to remind others that you have not forgotten, no matter how many years have passed. This can be achieved by telling of your loss in your annual Christmas letter the year of the baby's death, then subsequent years by printing a symbol such as an angel next to your name. Or soon after your loss, send a bereavement notice to those whom you would have sent a birth announcement. Send an email to family and friends on the anniversary date of your baby's birth or death date reminding them that this is a bittersweet day for you and that you welcome their talking to you about it as well as their prayers.

Whichever way you choose to acknowledge your little one, don't be hindered by fearfully thinking you will offend someone. Your baby was real, beautifully knit together in your womb, and deserves to be honored and remembered. ♥

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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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Phone and Fax: (972) 506-9000

*(Please call before faxing)*

E-Mail: [Rebekah@mend.org](mailto:Rebekah@mend.org)

[Sharlene@mend.org](mailto:Sharlene@mend.org)

Donations make the printing and distribution of this newsletter possible. Your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated and should be sent to the address listed above. 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).

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*M.E.N.D. is a member of  
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FirstCandle

Visit our web site at: [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org)

## Victoria

*by Yelena Kulick*

The day you were born, between your parents' birthdays,  
Colors of autumn just started touching leaves,  
Sunshine filled the room with light and magic beauty  
And angels gathered all around you on their knees.

The moment I held you in my arms and felt your warmth  
Our souls were at peace.  
Your eyes were closed but a tender smile curled your scarlet lips.  
I will always remember how beautiful you were, my Victoria.

I sang you songs just one last time, when there were just two of us -  
The same songs I sang for your sister every night  
And you inside me, you who couldn't wait to be born,  
Moved to the sound of my voice. Do you remember?

There are so many more songs I wanted to sing,  
So many times I wanted to be near you but, my angel,  
You will not hear me and you will never know the sweet warmth of the drink  
Your sister called banana-strawberry ice-cream.

When the telephone rang in the dark hospital room with double doors  
You were sleeping by my side.

I grabbed it fast so it wouldn't wake you up  
But nothing, Victoria, could wake you from the eternal dream.  
I will never know the color of your eyes or the sound of your voice  
But I always will remember the power of your touch.

We brought you home for the last goodbye, put you in the crib  
Your big sister smiled and didn't understand you will forever sleep  
And the flames of the candles were shaking with sadness  
And the lilies were lowering their heads.  
We walked outside holding you gently, the warm sun on your face.

A Christian blessing, a little white casket, white lilies, a last kiss.  
I close my eyes in the river of tears that a gentle warm breeze tries to dry.  
Our guardian angel, our special daughter!  
We thank you for making us wiser and stronger, more loving and thankful for life,  
Even as we try to imagine where you are now.

It must be a beautiful place, full of love and peace  
Because it is home for an angel like you.  
I feel Victoria is here and whispering to me,  
"Mommy, don't cry. I always will be here inside your heart."

*Written in loving memory of Victoria Kulick*

*Stillborn October 4, 2004*

*Unknown Cause*

*Parents: David and Yelena Kulick*

*Big sister: Nicole*

M.E.N.D.'s **Walk to Remember**  
will be Saturday, October 1, at 2:00 p.m.,  
at Calvary Church, 4401 N. Hwy. 161  
(161/President George Bush Fwy. & Walnut Hill)  
Irving, TX 75038

Reservations Requested

(972) 506-9000 or [Rebekah@mend.org](mailto:Rebekah@mend.org)

## Never Forgotten

by Sharlene Libby

*"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me." - Isaiah 49:15-16*

There comes a time after losing a child when the world seems to forget what a devastating experience you've had.

For me, the big fear wasn't doing things on my own after all that support dwindled away. Meals stopped coming to my door, but I felt ready to try to cook again. Calls and cards slowly trickled down to one or two a week, then none, but that was okay, too. I knew it was time to move ahead. No, I wasn't so afraid of trying to live life again. My fear was that my sweet son, whom I loved so completely, was going to be forgotten. "Life goes on," and since Joseph wasn't a part of everyone else's life, I feared that no one would remember him.

The verse above says "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?" Our first reaction is "No! I'll never forget my child!" It's true, Joseph is always in my heart, and he's often on my mind. But there are plenty of times during the day when the demands of life push his memory back, and I don't think of him as I make up beds or fold laundry. There are times that I do think of him during these tasks, but not always. And that's how it's supposed to be. We ARE supposed to move ahead, take care of our responsibilities, and keep our love for our children in our hearts, if not always first in our minds.

But God says, "Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me." The names of the tribes of Israel were engraved on stones and fastened to the garment of the high priest as a memorial before the Lord. They didn't want God to forget them. They wanted their names ever before His eyes. God Himself has written down our children's names, permanently, on his own hand! When no one else remembers them, He does. And, our names are written there, too, as children of God.

In God's eyes, our children are infinitely precious. Others may not see their value as we do, but God sees, even more than we are capable of seeing. No, they weren't able to climb mountains, build monuments, make names for themselves here on earth. But their lives have such worth that God knows their names and engraves them on his own hand.

*"I will not forget you."* When the world around seems to have forgotten you and your babies, know that we are never truly forgotten. The One who really counts, the One we want most to remember, never forgets. ♥

## November/December Topic

Getting Through the Holidays

Deadline: September 30, 2005

## January/February Topic

How Resources Help Us Survive Grief

Deadline: November 30, 2005

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 page two 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 for a time of sharing experiences.

### All main chapter support group meetings are held at:

**Suggs Law Firm**  
**1522 W. Airport Freeway, Suite 200**  
**Irving, TX 75062**

(Located on the south side of the highway,  
 Between MacArthur Boulevard  
 and Story Road)

For more information, call (972) 506-9000.

**Mommies AND daddies are both welcome at all M.E.N.D. meetings.**

### New Chapter Meetings:

**M.E.N.D. - NW Arkansas**

Held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month  
 from 7:00—8:30 p.m.

at the Jones Center for Families, Room 114,  
 922 East Emma Avenue,  
 Springdale, AR 72765.

For information, call 479-524-3500  
 or e-mail april@mend.org.

**Subsequent pregnancy group** meets in the same place the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:00—8:30, led by Pam Morren (pam@mend.org).

### M.E.N.D. meetings

are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month  
 from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

### Our Daddies group

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.*

### Subsequent pregnancy group

meets the 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Led by Lori DeLaTorre (lorid@myyourfaceshirts.com).*

### Playgroup

*For families with children born prior to or subsequent to a loss.*

Contact DaLana Barsanti at (817) 589-0588  
 fivekids@ev1.net

*(Playgroups meet at various locations around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.)*

### M.E.N.D. - Kansas

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:00 p.m.  
 at Cora Miller Hall/Newman Division of  
 Nursing, Room 1007

1127 Chestnut, Emporia, KS 66801

Director: Stephanie Metzger

Stephanie@mend.org.

(620) 343-6357

### M.E.N.D. - Houston

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 at South Montgomery County

Community Center

2235 Lake Robbins Dr.

The Woodlands, TX 77380

Director: Jaimie Crump

Jaimie@mend.org

(281) 374-8528

### M.E.N.D. - Georgia

Opening October 10, 2005.

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7:00

McDonough Women's Club

199 Turner St., McDonough, GA 30253


Director: Marie Stockdale

Marie@mend.org

(770) 954-1115

## Tributes to Our Special Babies

### My Dearest Laiken,



It seems like only yesterday that we were planning your arrival. We were so very excited that you were coming—our little princess! I can't believe it has been three years since I felt you kick inside my belly, three years since I held you in my arms and kissed your sweet face, and three years since I told you goodbye... There is not a day that goes by that you are not missed and thought of. We pray that you have a blessed third birthday in Heaven surrounded by your angel friends. Blow out your three candles, my sweet girl, and know that we are loving you every second of every day. We will be sending you up balloons at the cemetery filled with all of our love. Someday we will all be reunited, and then we will never, ever let you go.

Love always,  
Mommy and Daddy,  
Arianna, Jarod, and Gavin

*Laiken Riley Madison Kale*

*September 15, 2002*

*HELLP Syndrome and severe prematurity*

*Parents: Rick and Alysha Kale*

*Siblings: Arianna, Jarod, and Gavin*



### My Precious Mercedes,

Because of you I give thanks....

for the opportunity to teach children your age God's Word every Sunday;

for all the times in the last ten years, even recently, I've been able to encourage someone who has lost a child;

for the ten-year-old girl who will not go without Christmas this year;

for the love that wells in my heart for your three little brothers because of the profound understanding of the gifts I've been given;

for the confident assurance and reminder that God is in control and that He blesses those who trust in and depend on Him despite circumstances;

for being a part of praying for and seeing the sorrows of families I've known through M.E.N.D. turn into pure JOY;

for a perspective that is NOT of this world that has changed the way I live, and breathe, and exist;

for who I am because I have been touched by your life!

*"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever."*

I GIVE THANKS FOR YOU, MERCEDES,  
ON YOUR 10TH BIRTHDAY!!!

Always remembering,  
MOM

*In loving memory of Mercedes Ruth Spigener  
Stillborn September 21, 1995*

*Intramembranous Insertion of Umbilical Cord  
Parents: Jana and Grant Spigener  
Brothers: Wyatt, Ford, and Porter*

*Also remembering Twin Blossoms Spigener,  
miscarried July 1996/August 1996,  
and Baby Spigener, miscarried February 2004*



## Happy 6th Birthday, Ashley Renee

We love you and miss you always.

Mom, Dad, and Laura

*Ashley Renee Dedear*

*October 29—November 1, 1999*

*Extreme prematurity*

*Parents: Tim and Cindy Dedear*

*Twin sister: Laura*



### Dear Riley,

Happy 4th birthday, our precious boy. You are a special boy, with a special purpose for your life given to you by God. We still don't fully understand God's plan for you, but we do know that He is good, and through your life and death we've seen how He can turn the worst circumstances around and make good come from them. We've had a year full of changes, which always makes us so sad that you're not a part of them: moving back to Texas and adding a little sister to our family. We know that we'll get to see your beautiful face again some day. We're holding onto this hope!

We love you and we'll always remember,

Mommy and Daddy

Big Brothers Reid, Tyler and Cameron

Little Sister Caroline

*Riley Marshall Sharpless*

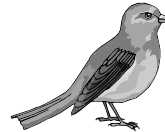
*September 3, 2001*

*Placental abruption*

*Parents: Ken and Lisa Sharpless*

*Big brothers: Reid, Tyler and Cameron*

*Little sister: Caroline*



### For our little Gracie on her 2nd birthday

We miss you and hope you enjoy your birthday party.

Love,

Mommy, Daddy and little brother Joseph.

*Patricia Grace Henry*

*October 23, 2003*

*Extreme prematurity*

*Parents: Lloyd and Tricia Henry*

*Little brother: Joseph*



### Victoria,

We love you and miss you very much.

Love,

Mommy, Daddy, and Nicole



*In loving memory of Victoria Kulick  
Stillborn October 4, 2004, unknown cause  
Parents: David and Yelena Kulick and big sister Nicole*

**Happy 8th birthday to our sweet Schuyler**

We love you and miss you so much.

Love,  
Daddy, Mommy,  
Ashton, Alexa & Benjamin

*Timothy "Schuyler" Morren II*  
September 28—December 23, 1997

*SIDS*

Parents: Tim and Pam Morren  
Siblings: Ashton, Alexa, and Benjamin

**Dearest Aiden,**

You are getting to be such a big boy now. Mommy and Daddy can't believe you are three years old already. We miss you each and every day. You are always in our hearts, dear one. Happy third birthday, sweet one!

Love,  
Mommy and Daddy

*Aiden Xavier Sohn*  
Stillborn October 13, 2002  
HELLP Syndrome  
Parents: Doug and Angelique Sohn  
Big Brother: Joshua  
Little Brother: Sebastian

**Dear Jordan,**

We miss you so much, and can't believe you would be two years old! We thank God every day for your brief life. You have taught us the true meaning of life, love, family and friendship. We know that you have been watching over your little sister Lauren and taking care of her every day. I can't wait to tell her all about you and how you have changed all of our lives. She is so lucky to have you as her special guardian angel. We will love you forever and never forget you.

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy,  
Baibie and Lauren



In memory of *Jordan Claire James*  
September 29, 2003 - October 15, 2003  
Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome  
Parents: John and Julie James  
Big sister: Baibie  
Little sister: Lauren

**David Atkins Stephens**

Our sweet little boy,  
Can it really be true?  
We can hardly believe  
You would be turning two!

We love you so dearly  
And miss you so much.  
If only you could have  
Had more time with us.

Instead you're with Jesus;  
And for that we are glad.  
Though our hearts are broken,  
You will never be sad.

So today we will think of you  
With tears of joy.  
We love you, Sweet David.  
Happy Birthday, our boy.

You are always and forever here in our hearts. We miss you so very much and can hardly wait for the day when we will see you again. Happy birthday, little David. We love you.

Always,  
Mom and Dad

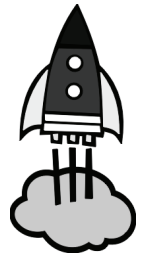
*David Atkins Stephens*  
October 23, 2003  
Omphalocele  
Parents: Rob and Melissa Stephens

**Happy Birthday Garrett!**

We love you and miss you very much. It is hard to believe that you will be 6 YEARS OLD!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Little Sister Samantha

*Garrett Anthony Mayer*  
October 12—December 18, 1999  
Tetralogy of Fallot  
Parents: Tony and April Mayer  
Little sister: Samantha

**Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday Logan!!!!**

Not a day goes by that I don't think of you and wish you were here with us. Sometimes the grief I feel is unbearable, but other times, I feel so incredibly privileged to have a son waiting for us in Heaven.

You are loved and you are missed.

~Mommy and Daddy  
along with big brother Landry  
and little brother Hudson



*Logan Wayne Fish*  
September 17, 2002—September 17, 2002,  
Thanatophoric Dwarfism  
Parents: David & Brittney Fish and brothers Landry & Hudson

## Keepsake Resources

### **Memory Baby Book**

850 Marion Rd.  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
(717) 375-2426  
Contact: Barb Eby

*Makes sixty-page baby books available for parents who have suffered early infant loss.*

### **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.*

### **Angel Babies in Heaven**

(843) 871-3071

http://www.galaxymall.com/children/  
angelbabies/

*Offers hand-painted memorial stepping stones to honor babies gone too soon.*

### **My Heart's Missing Link**

P.O. Box 0992, Allen Park, MI 48101  
www.myheartsmissinglink.com

*Offers heart-shaped pendants with a birthstone and a "missing link" to help remember loved ones who now live in heaven and your heart.*

### **Perinatal Loss Certificate of Life**

http://www.tearsoup.com/pl/  
certificate%20of%20life.htm

*Makes hand-calligraphied certificates acknowledging your baby's life.*

### **Angels in Heaven Ministries**

www.angelsinheaven.org

*Offers framed poems, cards, and audio tapes relating to infant loss.*

### **Once Upon a Family™**

www.onceuponafamily.net  
Contact: Amy Gill  
(214) 725-6116

*Offers special pieces to keep memorabilia safe. Donates a percentage of sales of the Baby Keepsake Box, Tiny Treasures Box, and Memory Trunk made to M.E.N.D. members back to M.E.N.D.*

### **Angel Lady**

www.angelady.net

*Artist Ethel Pontsler offers custom artwork of deceased loved ones based on photographs.*

### **Keri's Kreations**

221 W. Hillview St.  
Winslow, AZ 86047  
(928) 289-0715

*A book of remembrance for parents who have lost children through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.*

### **Elena's Inspiration—The Shining Light Fund**

www.elenasinspiration.com/  
shining\_light\_fund.htm

*Offers Mother's Bracelets free of charge to women who have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.*

### **For You Lauren, Certificates**

Pamela Palmer

For You Lauren, certificates  
P.O. Box 1534

Inglewood, CA 90308  
pypalmer1@yahoo.com

*Creates certificates to recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate the births of stillborn and miscarried babies.*

### **Angel Teddy Bear Foundation**

www.angelteddybears.org

kim@angelteddybears.org or (274) 531-0960  
*Nonprofit organization that delivers teddy bears to hospitals for parents who have lost a baby*

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*"The Lord's loved ones are precious to him; it grieves him when they die." Psalm 116:15*

There are places I go in the depth of my soul, that I find so difficult to ponder, I retreat from that place almost as quickly as I entered. I believe everyone has those compartments within us that actually help us cope when life has delivered a blow too hard for us to process, so in God's grace and infinite mercy, He allows us to store it for a while. Then when we are more equipped, He may ask us to go there again, not alone, but in Him to work through what ends up to be, after all the layers are peeled back, His sovereignty.

In my humble opinion, parents should never have to suffer the loss of a child. But they do. The first parents ever created, Adam and Eve suffered the heartache of one child's loss of life and the heartache of knowing their other child took that life.

It is the hardest thing for my heart to wrestle with God over. I, personally, have never suffered a loss of this magnitude, but was privileged to walk that road with my sister-in-law Kim, a little over a year ago. I feel I entered a secret club held only for those who have ever ushered a little one into the arms of the angels as they pass from this life into heaven. The sound of Kim's cries over her dead son lying in our arms still echoes in the depth of my soul. I still long to hold little John and wish he had lived more than three days. But God had His sovereign plan, and although it was only three days, it was a lifetime. A lifetime, pre-ordained before the dawn of time, to be just three days.

Romans 8:26-28 says "the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

I take great comfort in knowing my relationship with Christ secures my prayers that I am not even able to put into words. The groans of my grief are miraculously interpreted by the Holy Spirit and prayed on my behalf in accordance with God's will. That is amazing grace. What a gentle God we have who loves us so much, to give us such a fascinating gift. I especially cling to the promise that God uses all things (even little John's death) for the good of those who love Him, (that's me and all who have trusted Christ as Lord) who have been called according to His purpose.

I have a little wooden box in my desk at home. This box holds a tissue I saved the saddest tears I have ever cried on when little John died. Psalm 56:8 says "You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each on in your book." We never grieve alone. God grieves every tear with us.

"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). I wouldn't have done it, but I am so glad He did.

*By Michelle Henderson  
Written in memory of John Lyndell Greenlee,  
son of Kim and John Greenlee  
December 5—8, 2003*

## Understanding the Causes of Neonatal Loss

by Michelle McHone, BBA

In our July/August issue (<http://www.mend.org/newsletters/2005jul-aug.pdf>), Michelle explained her reasons for researching causes of death commonly listed in our newsletter, so that we may all have a better understanding of the anomalies that left us all here, together, left behind.

In Part Two of her three-part article, Michelle outlines some of the causes that lead to fetal demise. Disorders are listed alphabetically.

**Anencephaly**— A neural tube defect involving incomplete development of the brain, spinal cord, and/or their protective coverings. Anencephaly occurs when the “cephalic” or head end of the neural tube fails to close, resulting in an absence of a major portion of the brain skull and scalp. Commonly occurs during the third or fourth week of fetal development. The AFP test can indicate this condition. (April 28, 2005 [www.mywebmd.com/hw/health\\_guide\\_atoz](http://www.mywebmd.com/hw/health_guide_atoz))

**Antiphospholipid Antibodies**— Although it is unknown exactly how the antiphospholipid antibody syndrome adversely affects pregnancy, one theory is that it may cause blood clots. These blood clots, which can be microscopic, may occur in the blood vessels of the placenta. The placenta provides nourishment to the baby and any interruption in this process can be harmful to the pregnancy. The antiphospholipid syndrome may increase the risk of miscarriage, poor fetal growth, pre-eclampsia (high blood pressure during pregnancy), and stillbirth. (Sara Marder, M.D. “The Antiphospholipid Syndrome” Vol. 1 No. 4, April 28, 2005 [www.hygeia.com](http://www.hygeia.com))

**Blighted Ovum**— A blighted ovum is considered to be a form of spontaneous miscarriage and is characterized through ultrasound by the absence of an embryo (anembryonic pregnancy). Blighted ovum, like other first trimester miscarriages, are associated with a high incidence of chromosomal abnormalities. In this case, the embryo fails to form. (April 28, 2005 [www.health-nexus.com/blighted\\_ovum.htm](http://www.health-nexus.com/blighted_ovum.htm))

**Complete Placental Abruption**— Placental abruption is defined as separation of the maternal surface of the placenta from the uterus before delivery of the baby. Many times a blood clot will form behind or under the placenta causing separation. Unfortunately, placental abruption often occurs without advance notice. The most common symptom of abruption is painful vaginal bleeding. Some of the bleeding of placental abruption usually escapes through the cervix, resulting in recognizable external hemorrhage. Less commonly, the blood does not escape externally but is retained between the detached maternal surface of the placenta and the uterus, resulting in a concealed hemorrhage, commonly referred to as “Complete Placental Abruption”. (David M. Lima, M.D. “Placental Causes of Fetal Loss” Vol. 1 No. 7, April 28, 2005 [www.hygeia.com](http://www.hygeia.com))(April 28, 2005 [www.folsomeobgyn.com](http://www.folsomeobgyn.com))

**Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia**— CDH is a birth defect in which the diaphragm does not completely form, allowing some of the contents of the abdomen to protrude into the chest and hinder the normal growth of lung tissue. (April 28, 2005 [www.shands.org](http://www.shands.org))

### Cord Accidents

**Vasa previa** is an uncommon cord abnormality. This complication occurs when the umbilical cord inserts abnormally in the fetal membranes of the placenta instead of in the center of the placenta. The abnormal cord placement results in fetal blood vessels that run through the membranes being unprotected by the umbilical cord. Vasa previa occurs when these unprotected fetal blood vessels cross the cervix, sometimes rupturing when the membranes do, causing life-threatening bleeding in the baby. Even if the fetal blood vessels don't rupture, the baby may suffer from lack of oxygen due to pressure on the blood vessel. (April 28, 2005 [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com))

**Cord Knots** are defined as when a baby is born with one or more knots in the umbilical cord. Some knots form during delivery when a baby with a nuchal loop is pulled through the loop. Others form during pregnancy when the baby moves around. Knots occur most often when the umbilical cord is too long, and in identical-twin pregnancies that share a single amniotic sac, when the babies' cords become entangled. (April 28, 2005 [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com))

**Coiled Cord** occurs when the baby moves around in a way that causes the cord to become too tightly coiled, reducing blood flow or causing asphyxiation. This is sometimes referred to as a “cord accident.” Sometimes babies with tightly coiled cords begin to move less. (April 28, 2005 [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com))

**True Knot**— Results when the umbilical cord is tied in a complete, true, knot. Tight knots affect circulation and can compress umbilical vessels or cause hemorrhaging on the fetal side of the knot (April 28, 2005 [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com))

**Velamentous Cord Insertion**— This is when the cord inserts into the membranes and not the placental disk. The vessels travel unprotected through the membranes to the placenta. Velamentous insertion means that these veins travel across the amniotic membranes before they come together into the umbilical cord. This puts the baby at risk because compression or tearing of the vessels can disrupt blood flow to and from the baby. (April 28, 2005 [http://medlib.med.utah.edu/reprogen/Pathology/vela\\_cord\\_insertion.html](http://medlib.med.utah.edu/reprogen/Pathology/vela_cord_insertion.html))

### Dysplasia

**Campomelic Dysplasia**— Campomelic syndrome is a rare congenital disorder in which multiple anomalies are present. It is characterized by bowing and angular shape of the long bones of the legs, especially the tibia; multiple minor anomalies of the face; cleft palate; other skeletal anomalies such as abnormalities of the shoulder and pelvic area and eleven pairs of ribs instead of the usual twelve; underdevelopment of the trachea; developmental delay in some cases and incomplete development of genitalia in males such that they appear to be females. (April 28, 2005 [www.bchealthguide.org](http://www.bchealthguide.org))

**Skeletal Dysplasia**— Dwarfism is a commonly used term for disproportionately short stature, although a more medically appropriate term for this disorder is skeletal dysplasia. Short stature is defined as height that is 3 or more standard deviations below the mean height for age. If short stature is proportional, the condition may be due to endocrine or metabolic disorders or chromosomal or non-skeletal dysplasia genetic defects. In general, patients with disproportionately short stature have skeletal dysplasia (osteochondrodysplasia). Skeletal dysplasias are characterized by abnormalities of cartilage and bone growth resulting in abnormal shape and size of the skeleton and disproportion of the long bones, spine, and head. (Harold Chen, M.D. “Skeletal Dysplasia Article” par. 1 April 28, 2005 [www.emedicine.com/ped/topic625.htm](http://www.emedicine.com/ped/topic625.htm))

**Thanatophoric Dysplasia**— Infants with this condition have disproportionately short arms and legs with extra folds of skin. Other signs of the disorder include a narrow chest, small ribs, underdeveloped lungs, and an enlarged head with a large forehead and prominent, wide-spaced eyes. Infants with type 1 thanatophoric dysplasia also have curved thigh bones and flattened bones of the spine (platyspondyly). An unusual head shape called a cloverleaf skull is seen with type 2 thanatophoric dysplasia. (April 22, 2005 <http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov>)

Continued on page 9

**Support Groups****ARKANSAS**

♥ *M.E.N.D.* – *NW Arkansas Support Group*  
First Tuesday of every month, 7-8:30 p.m.  
The Jones Center for Families, Room 114  
922 East Emma Avenue, Springdale, AR 72765  
479-524-3500, april@mend.org, Contact April Moreton

**ARIZONA**

♥ *Arizona SIDS Alliance*  
PO Box 85001-1111, Phoenix, AZ 85001, 1-800-597-7437

♥ *Mothers in Sympathy Support (M.I.S.S.)*  
P.O. Box 5333, Peoria, AZ 85385, (623) 979-1000

**CALIFORNIA**

♥ *Helping After Neonatal Death*

PO Box 341, Los Gatos, CA 95031-0341  
www.handonline.org, e-mail info@handonline.org  
(408) 995-6102, toll free (888) 908-HAND

Meetings in counties of Alameda, Contra Costa,  
Santa Clara, and parts of the Central Valley - call for info

♥ *Good Mourning Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support*

3389 Via Dona, Lompoc, CA 93436  
(805) 733-5225, ctmontel@best1.net  
601 East Ocean Ave Suite 6, Lompoc, CA 93436

♥ *HAND of Peninsula*

Sequoia Health and Wellness Services  
702 Marshall St., Redwood City, CA  
Celia Hartnett: (650) 367-6993

♥ *Mothers in Sympathy Support (M.I.S.S.)*

\**Merced Chapter (Central California)*

Kim Lotz: kim@missfoundation.org

\**Arcadia Chapter*

Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:00, Church of the Good  
Shepherd, 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007

Kristin Jared: (626) 963-9120, kristin@missfoundation.org

**GEORGIA**

♥ *M.E.N.D.* - *Georgia*

Meets 2nd Monday at 7:00, McDonough Women's Club  
199 Turner St., McDonough, GA 30253

Director: Marie Stockdale

Marie@mend.org, (770) 954-1115

**ILLINOIS**

♥ *Healing Hearts of Rockford*

c/o Rockford Memorial Hospital  
Perinatal Outreach—Dept. of Maternal - Fetal Medicine  
2400 N. Rockton Ave., Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 971-6359

**INDIANA**

♥ *Healing Hearts*

219 S. Logan St., South Bend, IN 46615  
(574) 282-2147, www.healing-hearts-of-indiana.com

**KANSAS**

♥ *M.E.N.D.* - *Kansas*

Meets the 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.  
at Cora Miller Hall/Newman Division of Nursing,  
Room 1007, 1127 Chestnut, Emporia, KS 66801

Director: Stephanie Metzger

Stephanie@mend.org, (620) 343-6357

**MARYLAND**

♥ *Forget Me Not*

Meets every 3rd Thursday of each month 7-9pm  
Woodstream Church  
9800 Lottsford Road, Mitchellville, MD 20721  
(301) 918-3894 or (301) 306-0898, fmnsupport@aol.com

♥ *Precious in His Sight*

Support for expectant mothers and couples given an  
adverse prenatal diagnosis and chooses to carry to term.  
Mitchellville, MD  
(301) 918-3894, adverseprenatal@aol.com

**MASSACHUSETTES**

♥ *P.A.R.E.N.T. (Parents & Relatives*

*Enduring NeoNatal Tragedy)*  
Contact: Trish McClean: (508) 427-3028

Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.  
at Good Samaritan Hospital, 235 N. Pearl St  
Brockton, MA, Community Conference Room, 1st floor

♥ *A Ripple in Time*

Meets 1st Monday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Theresa of Lisieux  
Parish Hall, Room 6, Boston Rd., Billerica, MA  
Contact Donna McDonnell, 978-663-5477

♥ *HOPE*

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at Baldwin Park I,  
Woburn, MA, 781-273-2624

Contact Rindy Heubner, dheub1028@aol.com

**NEW JERSEY**

♥ *UNITE, Inc.*

Has groups in Turnersville, Trenton, and at Princeton.  
Call (215) 728-3777 for more information.

♥ *MISS*

502 Montgomery Ave., Somers Point, NJ 08244  
(609) 601-0563, www.missfoundation.org

Kathy@missfoundation.org, Contact: Kathy Evans

♥ *MIDS (Miscarriage, Infant Death & Stillbirth*

*Support Group, Inc.)* Contact: Janet Tischler

180 Jillian Blvd., Parsippany, NJ 07054-1605

(973) 884-0061, mids1982@yahoo.com

www.midsinc.org

**NEW YORK**

♥ *GAPS (Guardian Angel Perinatal Support Group)*

*A SHARE Group*

Meets on the first Friday of each month, year-round. 7:30

pm - 9:30 pm, St Kilian Parish Center (church basement)

485 Conklin Street, Farmingdale, New York 11735

Martha Weiss (516) 249-8589, martyk9@optonline.net

**PENNSYLVANIA**

♥ *UNITE, Inc.*

Has various groups across the state. Call (215) 728-3777.

**TEXAS**

♥ *M.E.N.D.*

PO Box 1007, Coppell, TX 75019

(972) 506-9000, http://www.mend.org

Contact: Rebekah Mitchell, Rebekah@mend.org

Meetings are held at Suggs Law Firm, 1522 W. Airport

Freeway, Suite 200, Irving, TX 75062

2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

♥ *M.E.N.D.* - *Houston*

Meets the 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

South Montgomery County Community Center

2235 Lake Robbins Dr., The Woodlands, TX 77380

Jaimie Crump, Jaimie@mend.org, (281) 374-8528

♥ *Mikela's Miracles SIDS Connection*

Mike & Chrissy Lipscomb

www.mikelasmiracles.org

2601 Thistle Ln, Rowlett TX 75089

1-866-286-SIDS toll free, 972-463-9243 local

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 p.m. at Reinhardt Bible Church

2302 Northeast Pkwy, Garland, TX, dinner provided.

♥ *Healing Matters I*

*Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Early Infant Death*

*Through the First Year of Life*

4th Monday of every month, 7:30pm

Plano Medical Center, Classrooms I & II

3901 W. 15th Street, Plano TX

Contact: Ginny Robinson: (972) 519-1588

♥ *Caring Hearts*

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month 7:00pm

Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, Fogelson Forum, ground

floor, Class C. Call 214-345-2613

Contact: Brooke Arnold, brookearnold@texashealth.org

♥ *Bereavement Services/RTS*

Methodist Charlton Medical Center

3500 W. Wheatland, Dallas, TX 75237

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

For info on meeting place call (214) 947-7127

♥ *Resolve Through Sharing Denton*

119 N Elm St., Denton, TX

2nd Monday of every month at 7:00p.m.

Contact: Tracy Morris: 940-566-5666

♥ *Glory Babies*

www.childrenareagift.com

(903) 939-1597, glorybabies@childrenareagift.com

Meets 3rd Tuesdays at 6:30

Grace Community Counseling and Training Center

1305 Baxter Ave., Tyler, TX

♥ *Bereaved Parents of North Texas, Inc.*

3rd Monday of every month 7:15p.m.

First UMC, 201 S. Locust, Denton, TX

Cole Chapel Lounge

♥ *TAPS (Tiny Angel Parents Share)*

North Hills Hospital, Grapevine Hwy & Hwy 820

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Lorin Koemel: (817) 595-0833, koemel@hotmail.com

♥ *SHARE Of The Mid-Cities—Home of the original*

*© Christmas Box Angel*

Harris Methodist HEB Hospital, Bedford, TX

Beverly A. Wallach, RN, CBE, Coordinator

1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m. 972-601-1676,

fax: 866-307-4163, share\_rts@yahoo.com

♥ *Angels Away*

c/o CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care

333 N. Santa Rosa Street, San Antonio, TX 78207

Third Thurs., 7 p.m.,

Contact Peggy Hubor (210) 704-2818

♥ *Alliance for Infant Survival, Inc.*

4351 Booth Calloway, Ste. 310

North Richland Hills, Texas 76180

(817) 222-0469, Fax (817) 590-0060, 1-800-650-7437

www.infantsurvival.org, info@infantsurvival.org

Sandi Wiggins, Juliet Holden, 1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.

♥ *The Pregnancy Loss Support Group of Austin*

South Austin Hospital, 901 Ben White Blvd.

Austin, TX 78704, (512) 282-4123

Meets 1st Sunday at 2:00 in hospital auditorium

Contact: Pat Eblisizer

♥ *HOPES (Helping Other Parents Endure Sadness)*

P.O. Box 103, Valley View, TX 76272

(940) 668-2642, hopesoftexas@yahoo.com

3rd Tuesday. 7:00 PM,

Gainesville Chamber of Commerce

101 S. Culberson St., Gainesville, TX 76240

♥ *COPES Angels*

*(Comforting Other Parents Experiencing Sorrow)*

Meeting at Driscoll Children's Hospital

3533 S Alameda, Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Meeting on the basement floor in private dining room

of cafeteria first and third Mondays, 6:30 PM

Contact Corina Benevidas, MS, SWA, (361) 694-4626

**VIRGINIA**

♥ *Empty Arms Support Group*

Sentara Women's Health Source

801 Volvo Pkwy, Ste. 120, Chesapeake, VA 23320

2nd & 4th Monday, 7-8:30

Ann Prescott: 757-545-2667, ahprnmsed@yahoo.com

♥ *The Perinatal Loss Support Group at Harbourview*

(Located at Women's Imaging Ctr. Reception Area)

Harbour View Dr., Suffolk, VA 23435

(757) 673-5800, Contact: Terry Zawacki

(757) 398-4832 or Gayle Deas: (757) 398-4857

Held on the 3rd Thursday of every month

♥ *MISS—Perinatal and Infant Loss*

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Forest and Patterson Ave., Richmond, VA

3rd Monday, 7-8:30 p.m., parlor

Contact Twyla Powell, twyla@missfoundation.org

**WISCONSIN**

♥ *Resolve Through Sharing*

St. Michael Hospital, 2400 W. Villard

Milwaukee, WI 53209—Meets 7p 1st Wednesday

www.coperesources.net/iri/fox01yggq.htm

(414) 527-8164, (414) 527-8350—Support group info

**AUSTRALIA**

♥ *Murraylands Lutheran Stillborn*

*Infant Support Service*

11 Ida St., Murray Bridge, South Australia 5253

Lynne Schulz: (08) 85324627 or (08) 85324897

**CANADA**

♥ *Morning Light Ministry*

St. Mary Star of the Sea Church

11 Peter St. South, Mississauga, Ontario L5H-2G1

(416) 765-2155, morninglightministry@rogers.com

http://ca.geocities.com/morninglightministry

@rogers.com

♥ *Perinatal Bereavement Services Ontario*

6060 Hwy. 7 E., Markham, Ontario L3P 3A9

Tel: (905) 472-1807 or 1-888-301-PBSO

www.pbso.ca, pbsores@pbso.ca



**Understanding the Causes ... (continued from page 7)**

**Fetal Acrania-** Acrania is a malformation in which there is an absence of the flat skull bones covering the brain. The diagnosis of acrania can be established sonographically even in the first trimester if a large mass of brain tissue covered only by a thin membrane is detected. (Weissman, A. Diukman, R. Auslender, R. "Fetal acrania: five new cases and review of the literature" J Clin Ultrasound. 1997 Nov-Dec;25(9):511-4 www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

**HELLP Syndrome-** HELLP syndrome is a variant of preeclampsia (toxemia) **H** (hemolysis, which is the breaking down of red blood cells), **EL** (elevated liver enzymes), and **LP** (low platelet count). HELLP Syndrome occurs in tandem with preeclampsia, but because HELLP Syndrome's symptoms may happen before preeclampsia's three findings (high blood pressure, protein in the urine, and swelling), they may be misdiagnosed as symptoms of gastritis, disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), acute hepatitis, gall bladder disease, and other conditions. (April 28, 2005 www.hometown.aol.com/hellp1995/hellpmedicalfacts.html)

**Hydrocephaly-** Hydrocephaly is an enlargement of the head caused by an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the cranium due to an imbalance between the production and absorption of CSF. This forces the ventricles to enlarge, which in turn exerts pressure on the surrounding brain tissue, causing the brain tissue to shrink and the head to enlarge. Congenital hydrocephaly usually develops by the twentieth week of gestation. (April 28, 2005 www.tdh.state.tx.us)

**Hypoplastic Left Ventricle (or Left Heart Syndrome)-** Hypoplastic left heart syndrome refers to a combination of poorly developed structures on the left side of the heart. These include: a very small (hypoplastic) left ventricle (lower chamber which normally pumps blood out to the body—with this syndrome it is too small to pump enough blood throughout the body); small aorta (major blood vessel from the left ventricle to the body); and aortic valve atresia (absence—this valve normally opens and closes to let blood flow from the left ventricle to the aorta. Stenosis obstructs most of the blood flow; atresia obstructs all of the blood flow). (April 28, 2005 www.thic.com/hypoleft.htm)

**Omphalocele-** An omphalocele is a congenital malformation in which variable amounts of abdominal contents protrude into the base of the umbilical cord. If the intestines fail to return into the abdomen by week 11, an omphalocele is present. There is a clear membrane through which the umbilical cord is inserted. The sac may contain a loop of bowel. If the sac ruptures the contents can move into the abdominal wall. (April 28, 2005 www.pedisurg.com/PtEduc/omphalocele.com) ♥

*In the next issue, Michelle's article will reach its conclusion as the explanation of causes of loss continues.*

We needed to hear Angel's name spoken as an acknowledgement of her life. It was healing for us more than anything else. However, many family members weren't comfortable talking about her and even suggested that it was abnormal for us to continue to mention her and "dwell" on her. Ridiculous. The truth is, one generation grieves very differently than the next. It was and is very healthy for us to speak about Angel when we feel led to, and it continues to bring me great joy when friends and family mention her name to me. To keep her memory alive, I talk to my first-born daughter about her little sister, and little brother will know about Angel when he is old enough to understand. Basically, Angel is very much a part of our family and always will be. We have her picture up with other family photos, and I had a special print framed in honor of Angel. I've decided that God guides us in ways to heal and maintain our babies' memories. If we listen to our hearts, we will do the things that are best for us in healing and keeping those memories alive. Never be afraid of what others will think. You are your child's parent, and only you know how to do what is right for you.

*By Jennifer Brimmage  
In memory of Angel Hope,  
June 8, 2002, Spina Bifida  
and remembering Precious,  
miscarried December 23, 2002  
Parents: Ashley and Jennifer Brimmage  
Siblings: Lindy and Mark*

**Subsequent Births**

**Leighton and Lisa Durham,  
along with Leighton and Olivia**  
of Dallas, Texas,  
announce the arrival of  
Suzanna Marie,  
born June 22, 2005,  
weighing 6 lb., 15 oz.,  
and measuring 19 1/2 inches long.  
The Durham family lovingly remembers  
Faith Elizabeth,  
stillborn September 25, 1999,  
Triploidy.

**Dawn and John Haley,  
together with proud siblings  
Amelia and David**  
of Chicago, Illinois,  
joyfully announce the arrival of  
Rachael Ava,  
born May 8, 2005,  
weighing 9 lb., 6 oz.,  
and measuring 21 inches long.  
The Haley family lovingly remembers  
John Robert,  
September 9 - 11, 2000,  
Vasa Previa/Velamentous insertion,  
and Baby Haley,  
miscarried May 1999,  
and Baby Little,  
January 2001,  
ectopic pregnancy.

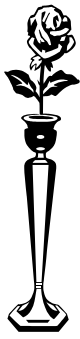
**Mary and Lynn Steen**  
of Plano, Texas,  
joyfully announce the arrival of their twins,  
John Morgan and William Gregory,  
born July 1, 2005.  
John weighed 7 lb., 8 oz.,  
and measured 20 1/2 inches long.  
Will weighed 6 lb., 13 oz.,  
and measured 19 1/2 inches long.  
The Steen family lovingly remembers  
Chrissie,  
miscarried May 3, 2000,  
ectopic pregnancy.

**Sherri and Randy Rudeen  
along with big sisters Julie and Sara**  
of Flower Mound, Texas,  
joyfully announce two more  
Rudeens in the world!  
Jordyn Leigh,  
weighing 4 lb., 6 oz.,  
and Sydney Leigh,  
weighing 5 lb., 4 oz.,  
were born June 13, 2005.  
The Rudeens lovingly remember  
their first set of twins,  
Alexis Leigh and Nicole Leigh,  
stillborn March 11, 2002,  
unknown cause.



Mark your calendars now for M.E.N.D.'s  
Christmas Candlelight Ceremony, December 6, 2005





**James Jackson Henvey**  
Stillborn July 4, 2001  
Tetralogy of Fallot  
Parents: Chris and Renee Henvey  
Little brother: Evan  
Given by grandparents  
Glenda and Larry McLeskey

**Baby Basham I**  
Miscarried January 25, 2003

**Baby Basham II**  
Miscarried May 2, 2003  
Given by parents  
Kirby and Rita Basham  
and brother Bryce

**Kaylyn Rial Busker**  
**Cole Michael Busker**  
**Hannah Elizabeth Busker**  
Stillborn December 10, 2004  
Ecoli Infection  
Given by parents  
Kim and Michael Busker  
and big sister Allison

**Angelina Hope Connors**  
Stillborn September 16, 2000  
**Mia Gabriella Connors**  
April 13 - April 14, 2002  
Given by mommy Patricia Connors

**Mark Charles Loeffler**  
Stillborn 36 years ago  
**Baby Loeffler**  
Miscarried  
Given by mom Margo Loeffler

**Beloved Baby**  
Given by grandmother  
Margo Loeffler

## 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 page 2 of this newsletter for more information regarding where to send your donations and what information to include.

**Thank you so much!**

**Alexis and Nicole Rudeen**  
Stillborn March 11, 2002  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents Randy and Sherri Rudeen  
and sisters Julie, Sara, Jordyn, and Sydney

**Logan David Iliff**  
Stillborn May 5, 2000  
Placental Abruption

**Little Darlin'**  
Miscarried March 4, 2004  
Given by parents Joseph and Samantha Iliff  
and brother Blake

**Christian Allen Scott**  
June 1, 2005  
Renal Agenesis  
Parents: Scotty and Mary Scott  
Siblings: Lenny, Will, and Ariel  
Given by Patrick McKenna

**Jordan Cierra Wright**  
Stillborn November 13, 2001  
Cord Accident  
Given by Parents David and Reba Wright  
and little sister Ariana

**Jackson David Crowe**  
August 22 - September 9, 1998  
Congenital heart defect/heart failure  
Given by parents Marie and David Crowe  
and siblings Hannah and Andrew

**Riley Marshall Sharpless**  
Stillborn 3, 2001  
Placental Abruption  
Given by parents Lisa and Ken Sharpless  
and siblings Reid, Tyler, Cameron,  
and Caroline

**Abigail Crump**  
Stillborn July 1, 2003  
Trisomy 18  
Parents: Jaimie and Gerald Crump  
Little sister: Cameron  
Given by Sue Steele

**Abigail Crump**  
Stillborn July 1, 2003  
Trisomy 18  
Parents: Jaimie and Gerald Crump  
Little sister: Cameron  
Given by cousin Margo Loeffler

**Abigail Crump**  
Stillborn July 1, 2003  
Parents: Jaimie and Gerald Crump  
Little sister: Cameron  
Given by friends Mike and Tanna Cornwell

**Zachary Paul Higgs**  
August 7, 2004  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents Carrie and John Higgs

**Jonathan Daniel Mitchell**  
Stillborn June 24, 1995  
Cord Accident  
**Baby Mitchell**  
Miscarried December, 2001  
Parents: Byron and Rebekah Mitchell  
Big brother: Byron, Jr.  
Given by grandparents Dennis and Sue Brewer

**Jonathan Daniel Mitchell**  
Stillborn June 24, 1995  
Cord Accident  
**Baby Mitchell**  
Miscarried December, 2001  
Parents: Byron and Rebekah Mitchell  
Big brother: Byron, Jr.  
Given by Dentistry of Las Colinas

**Kyle Charles Walton**  
November 19, 1998  
Group B Strep & lack of proper nourishment  
from placenta  
Given by parents Kristen and Jason Walton  
and siblings Jessica, Laura, and Joshua

**Andrew Louis Walton**  
March 4—April 24, 2005  
Complications due to a heart defect  
Parents: Sandra and Matthew Walton  
Big sister: Lea  
Given by Aunt Kristen and Uncle Jason Walton  
and cousins Jessica, Laura, and Joshua

**Catherine Mary Martin**  
Stillborn December 15, 2001

**Baby Martin I**  
Miscarried June 14, 2002

**Baby Martin II**  
Miscarried September, 2002  
Blighted Ovum  
Parents: Nancy and Glenn Martin  
Little brother: Alexander Lee  
Given by Barron Vending

**Ross Donoho Kennedy III**  
October 29, 2000  
Cord Accident  
Given by parents Nicole and Ross Kennedy

**Baby Jordan Tschoepe**  
Miscarried August 11, 1989  
**Spencer Charles Tschoepe**  
Stillborn July 24, 2000  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents Mandy and Ernie Tschoepe  
and little sisters Clara and Kathleen

**Mindy and Maggie Smith**  
Stillborn November 4, 1997  
Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome  
and Polyhydramnios  
Given by parents Karla and Scott Smith  
and little siblings Travis and Julia

**Carter Patrick Outen**

Stillborn November 6, 2000  
Unknown Cause

**Baby Outen**

Miscarried April 3, 2001

**Baby Outen II**

Miscarried October 5, 2001  
Given by parents Shannon and Chris Outen and little sister Erin

**Garrett Anthony Mayer**

October 12 - December 18, 1999  
Tetralogy of Fallot  
Given by parents April and Anthony Mayer and little sister Samantha

**Garrett Anthony Mayer**

October 12 - December 18, 1999  
Tetralogy of Fallot  
Parents: April and Anthony Mayer  
Little sister: Samantha  
Given by Tofel Construction of Tucson, Arizona

**Kelly Lynne Turner**

September 22 - September 23, 1997  
Autosomal Recessive  
Polycystic Kidney Disease  
Given by parents John and Cheryl Turner and siblings Matthew and John

**Sydney Lynne Brown**

May 18, 2000  
Cord problem and other unknown conditions

**Ashley MacKenzie Brown**

May 18, 2001  
Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome  
Given by parents Brian and Marilyn Brown and little brother Samuel Cole

**John Robert Haley**

September 9 - September 11, 2000  
Vasa Previa/Velamentous Insertion  
Given by parents John and Dawn Haley and siblings Amelia, David, and Rachael

**John Charles "Jack" Wolf, IV**

May 5 - June 9, 2005  
Brittle Bone Disease  
Parents: John and Paige Wolf  
Given by Russ and Rosemary Massey

**Sarah Ann King**

Stillborn June 22, 1995  
Unknown Cause  
Parents: David and Lori King  
Siblings: Brooks, Kaylee and Brady  
Given by David H. King Insurance Agency

**Bryce Elizabeth Spaniel**

September 2 - 8, 2000  
Brain Bleed  
Given by parents Kelly and Tommy Spaniel and twin sister Shelby and Abby and Griffin

**Mercedes Ruth Spigener**

Stillborn September 21, 1995  
Intramembranous Insertion of Umbilical Cord

**Twin Blossoms Spigener**

Miscarried July 1996/August 1996

**Baby Spigener**

Miscarried February 2004  
Parents: Jana and Grant Spigener  
Brothers: Wyatt, Ford, and Porter  
Given by grandparents Barry and Sheryln Spigener

**Mercedes Ruth Spigener**

Stillborn September 21, 1995  
Intramembranous Insertion of Umbilical Cord

**Twin Blossoms Spigener**

Miscarried July 1996/August 1996

**Baby Spigener**

Miscarried February 2004  
Parents: Jana and Grant Spigener  
Brothers: Wyatt, Ford, and Porter  
Given by Spigener Enterprises, Inc.

**Mercedes Ruth Spigener**

Stillborn September 21, 1995  
Intramembranous Insertion of Umbilical Cord

**Twin Blossoms Spigener**

Miscarried July 1996/August 1996

**Baby Spigener**

Miscarried February 2004  
Parents: Jana and Grant Spigener  
Brothers: Wyatt, Ford, and Porter  
Given by Deborah and Barry McFarlane

**Joseph Charles Libby**

May 26, 1999  
Cord Accident  
Given by parents Wim and Sharlene Libby and siblings Will, John, and Mary Grace

**Savannah Kate Stanley**

January 3, 2004  
Prematurity/Incompetent Cervix  
Parents: Calli and Joel Stanley  
Big brother: Colton  
Given by LJ Stanley & Assoc. dba IB Roof Systems

**Baby Matthews I**

Miscarried April 11, 2001

**Zachary Neal Matthews**

Stillborn February 24, 2002  
Triploidy

**Baby Matthews II**

Miscarried January 2003  
Given by parents Nick and Marsha Matthews and twin siblings Katherine and John

**Jordan Claire James**

September 29 - October 15, 2003  
Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome  
Given by parents John and Julie James and sisters Ballie and Lauren

**Michelle Grace Stockdale**

August 22 - September 16, 2002  
Ebstein's Anomaly  
Parents: Marie and Joe Stockdale  
Little siblings: Caleb and Audrey  
Given by Virtue, LLC d.b.a. Shanes Rib Shack

**Michelle Grace Stockdale**

August 22 - September 16, 2002  
Ebstein's Anomaly  
Parents: Marie and Joe Stockdale  
Little siblings: Caleb and Audrey  
Given by aunt and uncle Kay and Don Mixon

**Michelle Grace Stockdale**

August 22 - September 16, 2002  
Ebstein's Anomaly  
Parents: Marie and Joe Stockdale  
Little siblings: Caleb and Audrey  
Given by Frank and Kay Haynes

**Laiken Riley Madison Kale**

September 15, 2002  
HELLP Syndrome,  
Pulmonary Failure  
Given by parents Rick and Alysha Kale

**Laiken Riley Madison Kale**

September 15, 2002  
HELLP Syndrome,  
Pulmonary Failure  
Parents: Rick and Alysha Kale  
Siblings: Arianna, Jarod, and Gavin  
Given by grandparents David and Patricia Hilbner

M.E.N.D. would like to recognize the following sponsors for their help in establishing M.E.N.D.'s new Georgia chapter. Thank you for your generous donations.

Shane's Rib Shack  
Joe and Marie Stockdale  
Don and Susan Kay Mixon  
Frank and Kay Haynes

**M.E.N.D. Fundraisers**

*As a non-profit organization, M.E.N.D. 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.*

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**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**. Reward cards can also be used at Randalls and Simon David stores.

Shannon Outen, a M.E.N.D. member, operates **Oh! For Keepsakes**, which offers photographic keepsakes and quilts. For every order that is placed in which the purchaser mentions M.E.N.D., Shannon will donate \$2 to M.E.N.D. Visit her business at [www.ohforkeepsakes.com](http://www.ohforkeepsakes.com).

**Glenn Martin** is looking for M.E.N.D. families willing to grant space for small gumball machines in order to raise funds for M.E.N.D. If you have a retail business or connections to a high traffic location, Glenn will place, stock, and service the equipment and give M.E.N.D. 35 percent of the proceeds. His business has most of its route in the Grapevine and Southlake areas and could travel further into the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex for a high traffic location. Glenn can be contacted at (817) 874-5366 or [glmartin@attg.net](mailto:glmartin@attg.net).

M.E.N.D. can now earn funds through **i.think inc.**, an online marketing research firm. You can help by signing up as a survey panel member and designating us as the recipient of your fee. Every time you complete a survey M.E.N.D. will be automatically credited. Go to the website at <http://www.ithink.inc.com> and choose "Sign up to become an i.think inc. panel member." Fill out the sign-up survey. Under the "Funds for Charity" section, select M.E.N.D. from the list of names. Once you have completed the sign-up survey, including a valid email address, you'll be contacted with an Internet address and password for specific surveys for you to take part in. At the end of the survey, press the "Submit" button, and M.E.N.D. will be automatically credited as the recipient of all money you have earned.

Bob Nordberg is owner of [www.buildatee.com](http://www.buildatee.com) in San Antonio. BuildATee.com is dedicated to providing customers with quality customized shirts, ballcaps, athletic wear, and gift items. Ten percent of online sales at BuildATee.com will be donated to M.E.N.D.

**Little Beads & Macaroni & Cheese**, owned by M.E.N.D. member Marilyn Brown, offers custom jewelry. Her keepsake angel bracelets are \$20 each, and ten percent of each angel bracelet sale will be donated to M.E.N.D. Marilyn can be reached at 817/996-1920 or [msbrown16@hotmail.com](mailto:msbrown16@hotmail.com).

Tiffany Chalk is a consultant with **Arbonne International**, offering pure Swiss skin care, color, nutrition and aromatherapy. Tiffany will donate twenty percent of all sales by M.E.N.D. members back to M.E.N.D. To find out more, call 302-658-3775 or visit [www.arbonne.com](http://www.arbonne.com). Use Tiffany's consultant ID #15111516 to shop online. Tiffany can also be reached at [gr8skin@hotmail.com](mailto:gr8skin@hotmail.com).

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