



# M. E. N. D.

Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death

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## Holidays

Our son Jonathan was stillborn in the summer of 1995. This was before most people knew how to navigate the World Wide Web, or even had an email address. In fact, only one other person I knew had a computer in their home. Certainly social networking such as Facebook and blogs were unimaginable. Not long ago, talking on landline phones, handwritten letters or actually speaking in person were basically the only ways to communicate with others and express ourselves.

Writing a long letter and including it in Christmas cards was not uncommon several years ago. Every vacation, accomplishment, birth and death that had transpired over the year was typically included in these holiday letters—an entire year summed up in one article. For some odd reason, I could not wait to write my 1995 letter so I could tell everyone on our Christmas card list exactly what had happened to our baby boy. I knew they had heard he was stillborn, and many had even attended his funeral. But, I was sure they had many details mixed up and confused that I wanted to straighten out. Plus, I just wanted to tell his story.

I explained my being on bed rest, my weeks of hospitalization, and then the shock of his dying as a result of a cord accident. I announced his weight, his length and how he looked like his big brother. And I pointedly told our family and friends that despite our loss, we were okay and doing well.

Recently I found stored on my computer the Mitchell holiday letter of 1996—the following year. I surprisingly read where I recanted being okay and doing well. I admitted to having had a very difficult year following Jonathan's stillbirth, despite the blessings of a wonderful family and our delightful living son, who was then five. I went on to recognize that I was sure some reading the letter were probably a bit uncomfortable with my mention of Jonathan again, 1.5 years after his death, but that we would *always* remember and acknowledge him and he would *always* be a part of our family.

I'm pretty proud of myself for unveiling my true emotions to all those people. For me, that was very brave. I am considered by those close to me as tough and strong, so to confess I was not doing well was a big step. I eventually let down my guard a little further, and openly told members of my family how hard the holidays were for me. I explained how even though Byron and I should love buying Santa gifts for our living son, it was pure torture to go into Toys R Us and shop for only one child, instead of two. How sad I felt placing just one son on Santa's lap at the mall, instead of two. And how difficult it was pretending to be overly excited on Christmas morning, when deep down I was agonizing that I should have two little boys running to see what was left under the tree, and not only one.

Sixteen years later, I find I am much more open and honest about my emotions of Jonathan and the little baby we miscarried during the holidays of 2001. But I wonder how many of you are hiding your feelings, especially during this time of year? Have you led your family to believe you are okay and doing well, when in reality you're about to collapse in sorrow? Maybe the thought of keeping your usual holiday traditions causes you to go into a panic, but you cannot seem to break the news to your immediate family or in-laws that you are just going to have to create a "new normal" for this year and maybe even a few years.

First, perhaps you need to admit to yourself that you really are not okay or doing well. I think I REALLY thought I was okay and doing well six months later as I trudged through the holidays. It took some retrospection to realize I was definitely not okay and doing well the year before. I feel if I had taken some time to honestly assess myself that first Thanksgiving and Christmas, then boldly confessed my emotions, it would have been a much different season, and maybe even first year.

*Continued on page 3...*

*Nota Español:* El artículo de Rebekah Mitchell aparece en cada emisión de nuestro boletín para la audiencia latina.  
Para ver el artículo de este mes en español, por favor vea la pagina numero 13.

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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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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international  
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## Stay in Touch

Stay in touch with M.E.N.D. by joining a chapter on Facebook. Through this social networking site, thoughts, feelings, quotes, songs or other forms of support and encouragement can be shared. New members are able to introduce themselves, members are able to share feelings or memories of babies and reminders are sent about monthly meetings and other events.

To find a chapter's page, go to [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org) and click on the Facebook logo to find a list of M.E.N.D. chapters. These are private groups, so a group administrator will grant permission to join once the request has been received.



Find M.E.N.D.  
on Facebook

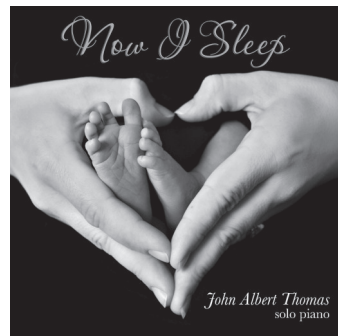
## Resource Review

### *Now I Sleep*

By John Albert Thomas, solo pianist  
[www.nowisleepproject.org](http://www.nowisleepproject.org)

*Now I Sleep* is a collection of twelve beautifully soft piano pieces, perfect for reminiscing, to add to a slideshow of your baby or even to play during a remembrance service. Ten of these pieces were written in memory of babies who have died, whose stories are briefly included with the CD.

The CD sells for \$15 and can be ordered from [www.nowisleepproject.org](http://www.nowisleepproject.org), or you can send a check payable to JAT Enterprises, P.O. Box 184, Arlington, TN 38002.



♥ Review by Rebekah Mitchell, M.E.N.D.  
President/Founder

M.E.N.D. has a complete list of books, websites, organizations, and music resources available online at [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org).

If you would like to submit a review of books, music, websites or other resources dealing with infant loss, please email them to our newsletter editor Jennifer Harrison at [jennifer@mend.org](mailto:jennifer@mend.org).

*"Holidays"**Continued from page 1...*

If I have described you-one whom others think is okay and doing well but you are not-then I encourage you to find someone close to you in whom you can confide. Ask that person to be your messenger to the rest of your family and friends. Do not be afraid to admit dreading the holidays, or even being fearful of what those days might hold for you. If those around you are aware of your innermost feelings, hopefully they will cater to your needs more sensitively. Most importantly, better than Facebook, letter writing, and talking on the phone, there is the Lord. He is always listening, He is always there to calm our fears and anxieties, and His comfort makes us genuinely okay and well. And never forget that He is our Wonderful Counselor, our Mighty God, our Everlasting Father and our Prince of Peace.

♥ *Rebekah Mitchell, M.E.N.D. President/Founder  
Mommy to Jonathan Daniel and Baby Mitchell*

## *Dr Delphinium Gives Back*

Many thanks to Charles Ingram and Dr Delphinium Designs in Dallas. The upscale floral shop and design studio made M.E.N.D. their charitable cause during the month of September. A very special and unique floral arrangement was created just for M.E.N.D. (all purple of course), and Dr Delphinium Designs donated \$5 to M.E.N.D. for every arrangement sold. Additionally, the design center created a flyer advertising M.E.N.D. that was placed on numerous arrangements that were delivered to residents all over the Dallas area. Thanks, Dr D, for giving back!

*January/February Topic*

Creating a Legacy for Your Child—  
Don't Waste Your Grief  
Deadline: November 30, 2011

*March/April Topic*

Growing Families Differently--  
Adoption, Embryos, Foster  
Deadline: January 31, 2012

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



# Birthday Tributes

## Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, America Ladybug!

Our beautiful blonde-headed ladybug, you had your daddy's hands and your mommy's nose. We will always love you.

*America Ladybug*  
*Stillborn December 12, 2009*  
*Parents: Carina and Brandon Weatherford*



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Gabriella!

You will always be in our hearts and a part of our family. We miss you and love you, our angel. Until we meet again.

*Gabriella Eve Chapman*  
*December 19, 2010*  
*Unknown cause*  
*Parents: Thad and Nicole Chapman*  
*Sibling: Dominic Chapman*



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Aiden!

It is so very hard to believe that you have been gone a year now. Your daddy and I were looking forward to seeing you turn one in January, but instead you are in heaven. I do hope you have a good birthday and lots of cake and good friends around. Daddy and Mommy miss you so much, and I know we will see each other again someday. We love you oh so very much!

*Aiden William Grimshaw*  
*Stillborn November 19, 2010*  
*Blood clot*  
*Parents: Greg and Natalie Grimshaw*



## Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Keegan!

Keegan, we miss you still each and every day. We celebrated your 5<sup>th</sup> birthday in heaven this year. Continue to watch over your sisters, and know that we love you so very much.

*Keegan Marshall Tatum*  
*November 11, 2006*  
*Tetralogy of Fallot*  
*Parents: Brian and Danielle Tatum*  
*Siblings: Abigail and Aubrey Kate Tatum*



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Kaylee!

My beautiful angel, Mommy and Daddy love you and miss you so much...you are forever in our hearts.

*Kaylee Marie Jackson*  
*Miscarried December 26, 2010*  
*Parents: Shatavia Davis and Steven Jackson, Jr.*



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Abigeal!

Abigeal, we will miss you each and every day. We will always love you. Hope to see you soon in heaven one day and continue to hug and cuddle you.

*Abigeal Haggard*  
*July 29, 2009-November 13, 2010*  
*Viral pneumonia*  
*Parents: Lorra and Jerod Haggard*  
*Sibling: Madalynn Haggard*



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Nathaniel!

Nathaniel, my precious angel, it has been one year since you were born. Not a day goes by that we don't miss you. Today you would have been blowing out the candle on your cake, but only God knows why He took you back home so soon. I know you're happy there. You're probably running around having a great time. I also know all the angels are having a great time today simply because it's your birthday. Your brother, Devin, misses you deeply; every night before going to sleep he looks up and says, "Night night, baby," and sends you a kiss. I love to see that, because I know you're watching over him. We would love to hold you and give you a great big hug and a million kisses. We know you're in a great place and will always be safe there, so that makes us happy and gives us strength to keep on going. We cannot wait till the day we meet again, so till then we will live each day like it's the last.

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday my "Gift of God."  
 Mommy, Daddy and Devin

*Nathaniel T. Cervantes*  
*October 30, 2010*  
*Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC)*  
*Parents: Juan Cervantas and Leydy Vargas*  
*Sibling: Devin Mathew Cervantes*



**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Isaiah!**

To my baby boy, Isaiah, you were taken away too soon for us. Sadly, we never really got to know you, but you were quite the handsome boy when the doctor handed you to me. I loved on you for two hours before I let them take you to rest.

My heart aches every minute for you. I will never forget you. Your brothers and sister love you, and they miss you, too. Stay with Grampy and Mama and Papa up there, and you'll have all the loving you need. I will forever miss you, baby boy! I love you!

*Isaiah Houston Todd*  
*Stillborn November 13, 2010*  
*Parent: Shelby Todd*  
*Siblings: Cody Todd, Zachary Harken*  
*and Joshua Harken*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Brycian!**

We were only able to hold you for a short time, but in that time, we fell in love with you more than you will ever know. We all love you so much and were so excited about having you, but God needed you to be with Him. Your daddy and I miss you and love you with all of our hearts and think about you every day. We love you, baby boy. Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday!

*Brycian Craig Martinez*  
*November 1, 2010*  
*Undeveloped lungs*  
*Parents: Stormie Cooper and Robert Martinez*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Kaiden!**

Mama's angel Kaiden

*Kaiden Boyd*  
*November 1, 2010*  
*PROM 21 weeks*  
*Parents: Marcus and Chan Boyd*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Samiyah!**

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday in heaven! We love you!

*Samiyah Brown*  
*December 3, 2010*  
*Premature birth*  
*Parents: Taseen and Quaneisha Brown*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Walker!**

Mommie and Daddy miss you very much and love you.

*Walker Francis Tish*  
*November 4, 2010*  
*Incompetent cervix*  
*Parents: Kascie and Michelle Tish*

**Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Ashley!**

Happy 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, sweet angel.  
 Sending you much love and kisses.

*Ashley Renee Dedear*  
*October 29-November 1, 1999*  
*Extreme prematurity*  
*Parents: Tim and Cindy Dedear*  
*Siblings: Laura (twin) and Katherine Dedear*

**Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Magali-Thierry!**

I saw your heart as a beating spot of brilliant light on the ultrasound and knew the life I held within me was a most precious gift from God. I already loved you with a depth that hardly seemed possible at 13 weeks. You were part of our family, a family of five. It did not matter that we didn't know whether you were going to be a sister or brother to our two wonderful boys, Stephane and Gregory. You were planned with love and the knowledge that you would complete our family. You see, my angel, how quickly your tiny and vigorous life filled us with joy? That your light faded and died within me before I could look into your eyes filled me with a grief that to this day I have not been able to overcome. I am hoping that this message will somehow reach you, so that you can know how dearly you were loved. I love you still as much as then, and one day hope to join you so we can be together again as one—mother and child.

*Magali-Thierry de Roussan*  
*Miscarried November 11, 1991*  
*Parents: Jacques and Jane de Roussan*  
*Siblings: Stephane and Gregory de Roussan*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Elizabeth!**

We think about our children daily who have celebrated many days, months or years in heaven. We miss you so much!!

We know heaven has to be a more exciting place to hold your 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, Elizabeth. We love you so much!!

*Elizabeth Ruth Daubert*  
*Stillborn full-term October 25, 2010*  
*Unknown cause*  
*Also remembering:*  
*Joseph Charles Daubert or Victoria Ruth Daubert*  
*Miscarriage March 24, 2007 (5 weeks)*  
*Parents: Tom and Lynne Daubert*  
*Sister: Naomi Fern Daubert*



**Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Chloe!**

We wish you a very happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, Chloe! It seems like only yesterday that I held you in my arms. Your sweet face still gives me such peace. We love you!

*Chloe Madison Kring  
September 29, 2006*

*Blood clot in the umbilical cord  
Parents: Greg and Sherri Kring  
Sibling: Lily Kring*

**Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Sierra!**

In loving memory of our angel. We miss you terribly but rejoice knowing we will see you again one day.

*Sierra Hopkins*

*Miscarried December 1991*

*Parents: John and Tracey Hopkins*

*Siblings: Tyler, Travis, PJ and Parker Hopkins*

**Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Madilynn!**

Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday to our beautiful angel! Madilynn, we think about you every day and how different our lives would be if you were here with us, but we know Jesus is taking better care of you than even we could. Give your Papaw, Memaw, Grandma and Grandpa Kelley, and cousin Kaylee a big hug and kiss for us! We're sure they are spoiling you for us! Mommy and Daddy miss and love you so much, baby girl. We look forward to the day when we join you in heaven and can hold you in our arms once again! Until then, we will never forget your beautiful face.

Love,  
Mommy and Daddy

*Madilynn Isabell Kelley  
Stillborn December 3, 2009  
Cord accident*

*Parents: Jeremiah and Cherish Kelley*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Blessing!**

We know your party in heaven will be so full of love and joy. We know that Jesus will be there holding you in His big, strong arms. Yet, we miss you, precious darling. You have a little brother or sister on the way down here, and Jonathan still talks about you. Please give cousin Jeffy special hugs from us and tell him we miss him lots.

We love you and miss you always,  
Mommy, Daddy and Jonathan

*Blessing Baby Names  
September 10, 2010*

*Unknown cause*

*Parents: Brad and Rachel Names*

*Brother: Jonathan Names*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Jonah!**

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, our little man! We can hardly believe a whole year has gone by since we lost you, but you are still very much here with us. We feel you and your love surrounding us all the time. Your big sister runs around the house screaming "Brubby!" We know you must be looking down on her. We thank you, our son, for everything you have taught us and the joy that you continue to bring us. We hope you have a wonderful first heavenly birthday. We can only imagine what it would be like to have birthday cake with the King of Kings!

We love you and miss you, our little miracle, and we can hardly wait until the day we can hold you again!

Happy Birthday, Baby!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy, Sara-Grace,  
Nannah, Mimi and Poppie

*Jonah Allen Charles McCartha  
December 31, 2010*

*Blood clot in cord*

*Parents: Ben and Salli McCartha*

*Sister: Sara-Grace McCartha*

**Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Ian!**

Our sweet boy! Five years is a long time to go without seeing your precious face. I grieved anew as friends sent their little ones to kindergarten. I know that you have all the knowledge you will ever need right there with our Father, but I still long to hold you and kiss you! We will forever remember you and hold you in our hearts.

All our love,  
Mom, Dad, Calvin, Jordan, Gavin and Aaron

*Ian Wesley Giger  
August 3-November 5, 2006  
SIDS*

*Also remembering:*

*Baby Giger*

*February 2007*

*Ectopic pregnancy*

*Parents: William and Noel Giger*

*Siblings: Calvin, Jordan, Gavin and Aaron Giger*

**Happy 29<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Steven!**

A life of a loving angel with wings.

*Steven Michael Bass  
November 20-21, 1982  
Group B Streptococcal  
Parents: Steven and Teresa Bass  
Sibling: Christina Bass*



### Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Hannah!

Sweet baby girl,

It has been five years since losing you to Jesus' arms. How can that be? Mama and Daddy miss you, darlin'. We look forward to seeing your precious face one day in heaven, holding you in our arms. Until then, happy heavenly birthday. I pray the angels sing a sweet tune on this special day. We love you baby girl.

XOXO

Mama and Daddy

*Hannah Ruth Rotello  
Miscarried November 18, 2006*

*Also remembering:*

*Sarah Elisabeth Rotello  
May 30, 2002*

*Jacob Asher Rotello  
May 7, 2003*

*Parents: Paul and Angela Rotello*

*Brother: Jackson Rotello*



### Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Cole, Kaylyn and Hannah!

Wishing our beautiful angels a special 7<sup>th</sup> birthday! We love you and wish we could be celebrating your birthday together as a family. Sending lots of hugs, kisses and love to you always!

All our love,

Mom, Dad, Ally, Chris and Hailey

In loving memory of Cole, Kaylyn and Hannah Busker,  
December 10, 2004

*Cole, Kaylyn and Hannah Busker  
Stillborn December 10, 2004*

*Ecoli infection*

*Parents: Mike and Kim Busker*

*Siblings: Ally, Chris and Hailey*



### Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, Trinady!

Happy Birthday, Miss Trinady! You are turning three years old this year! I cannot believe it has been that long since I held you in my arms. I am happy to tell you that you are going to be a big sister in April! Alexah is so excited about the new baby. She wishes you were here with her to share the joy! We love and miss you with our whole hearts! Happy birthday, my baby angel. We will see you again soon! Love you so much!

Mommy, Alexah, Jon and the new baby

*Trinady Lynn Vance  
November 7—December 12, 2008*

*Medulloblastoma (cancerous brain tumor)*

*Parent: Shannon Vance*

*Sibling: Alexah Fite Vance*



### Happy 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Mercedes Ruth!

Sweet 16...

For my Mercedes Ruth

Sweet 16...It's not what I imagined it to be.

Sweet 16...Maybe I'll cry for awhile today, at least on the inside.

Sweet 16...What would life be like if circumstances hadn't turned out this way?

Sweet 16...I'm thinking about all the things I've missed with you.

Sweet 16...It's more bittersweet than other years because our Mammoie is celebrating with you in heaven this year.

Sweet 16...God is good, and I'm thankful for the blessings He's given to me.

Sweet 16...I rejoice that He once sent you here, although your stay was never intended to be.

Sweet 16...I remember so clearly as if it was yesterday.

Sweet 16...I am sincerely touched by those who remember, too.

Sweet 16...There's a notable ache in my heart, and I miss you.

Sweet 16...Reality soon beckons me to dry my tears, and I can't help but smile.

Sixteen years later, I'm grateful for the love that I had for you then...

Still remains.

Sweet 16...No doubt, it's a wonderful day!

Always remembering,

MOM

Written September 21, 2011

*Mercedes Ruth Spigener*

*September 21, 1995*

*Intramembraneous insertion of umbilical cord*

*Parents: Grant and Jana Spigener*

*Siblings: Wyatt, Ford, Porter, Calvin*

*and Sadie Marie Spigener*



### Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Scarlett!

Five years ago you came into our lives, and though God had different plans for you, you are still in our hearts every day. We love you and miss you.

Your Mama, Dada and Little Brother Ben

*Scarlett Jean Lovejoy*

*Stillborn November 24, 2006*

*Unknown cause*

*Parents: Jeff and Emily Lovejoy*

*Brother: Ben Lovejoy*



### Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Abby!

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> angel birthday! Not a day goes by that we don't miss you and think of you. Alex talks about you all the time. He knows you live in heaven with God and do all kinds of fun things up there.

I am so proud to be your mommy. You taught me so much about faith, prayer, friendship and strength. Love you more than stars in the sky, sand on the beach or waves in the ocean!

Always ours,  
Mommy, Daddy and big brother Alex

*Abby Grace*

*November 14, 2010*

*Hydrops, Turners, Cystic Hygroma*

*Parents: Gillian Nelson and Jesse Lebenske*

*Brother: Alex*



### Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Caley!

Been thinking about your turning four, baby girl, most of this year, and now that I reflect it, it seems that if you were here, I would be thinking about you still being three. If you hadn't left our arms, I would be soaking up my time with you, but instead, I dread the future and live in the past. Happy thoughts carry me when I think of what you are doing in heaven, but sadness when I think of the reminders that come and go through the calendar.

With all our love, Caley, happy birthday.

Love,  
Mommy and Daddy

*Caley Brianna Joyce*

*November 12-16, 2007*

*Preemie from severe preeclampsia with NEC*

*Parents: Jon and Jennifer Joyce*



### Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Benjamin and Jacob!

Boys, you are so special to your mommy and daddy. We miss you so much, but we speak of you all the time. I love decorating your graveside and spending time thanking the Lord for blessing us with you guys. Every day I pass your pictures and have only fond memories of the joy you both brought me. Your little brother, Thomas, loves you too! All of your extended family misses you, and we all can't wait to be reunited with you in heaven. Give Jesus a kiss from us! You will always be in our hearts!

Love you both so much and miss you every day,  
Mom, Dad, Thomas and all your extended family

*Benjamin Lucas Bennett*

*November 8-10, 2009*

*Jacob Jerry Bennett*

*November 8, 2009*

*Twin to twin transfusion*

*Parents: Paul and Katrinia Bennett*

*Brother: Thomas Bennett*



### Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, Anna!

To our sweet baby girl Anna,

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday! We wish so badly you could be here to play with your baby brother and that we could watch the two of you grow up together. Elliot sleeps in the bedroom that was once yours. Often when I am in his room, I know you are there with us and that you are watching over your baby brother. We show him your picture and have started to tell him about you. I know that if you were here today, you would have light brown curls just like your daddy and your baby brother. I imagine you would be petite and full of energy. Just like your past two birthdays, we will go to the arboretum to sit under your beautiful tree this November 1 and think of you as we do every day.

We love you always,  
Mommy, Daddy and little brother Elliot

*Anna Jacqueline Radack*

*November 1, 2008*

*Prematurity due to severe preeclampsia, HELLP Syndrome and Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome*

*Also remembering:*

*Baby Radack (Elliot's twin)*

*September 1, 2009*

*Parents: Jeff and Jill Radack*

*Brother: Elliot Radack*



### Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Sweetie Pie!

It seemed God let thee flutter from His gentle clasp,

Then fearful He had let thee win

Too far beyond Him to be gathered in,

Snatched thee, o'ereager, with ungentle grasp.

*From his poem "My Butterfly" by Robert Frost*

Kavya was that butterfly we could never clasp. She slipped away from our grasp all too soon, but her memory will remain with us forever.

Her twin siblings, Jacob and Kyra, are with us now to ease the pain, but Kavya, we love you and always will.

A million hugs and kisses from your Ammama, Mor, Achen, your little sister Kyra, and little brother Jacob, Daisey and Appu, too.

*Kavya Marie Kurishungal*

*December 17-31, 2009*

*Complications from Omphalocele*

*Parents: Pravin and Tina Kurishungal*

*Siblings: Kyra and Jacob Kurishungal*





### Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, Ella!

Our sweet baby girl,

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday in heaven! We can't believe it has been three years since you came into our lives. Not a day goes by that we don't think about you and miss you. We wonder what you would have been like as a 3-year-old. Probably active and silly like your little brother, Brody. This year Brody will get to celebrate your birthday for the first time. Look for three pink balloons. We love you so much!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy and Brody

*Ella Grace Ketch*  
*December 15-16, 2008*  
*Severe preeclampsia/prematurity*  
*Also remembering:*  
*Baby Ketch*  
*Miscarried March 2008*  
*Parents: Robbie and Celise Ketch*  
*Brother: Brody Ketch*



### Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Janelle!

It is hard to believe that five years have passed since you were sent to heaven. This birthday is such a big birthday. You would be transitioning from preschooler to being a school-aged child. When I think of you, I have an image of a brunette (with cute bows), blue-eyed little girl. I imagine us playing dolls, Barbies, dress-up and doing hair, but at the same time, wanting to play Legos, Star Wars, trains, ball and wrestle with your brothers. Our hearts still ache for those things we will never experience with you. But we know that God has bigger plans and purpose for your being with Him and not with us. We miss you and love you. We will celebrate your birthday with cake and balloons! We know that you will have a heavenly celebration!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Will, Andrew and Isaac

*Janelle Marie Gibson*  
*November 17, 2006*  
*Possible cause-placental blood clot*  
*Also remembering:*  
*Gabriel Gibson*  
*October 31, 2007*  
*Ectopic pregnancy*  
*Parents: Scott and Jodie Gibson*  
*Siblings: Will, Andrew and Isaac Gibson*



### Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Merrick!

"An angel in the book of life wrote down my baby's birth. And whispered as she closed the book, 'too beautiful for earth.'"

Author unknown

We love you and miss you, Peanut!

*Merrick Lloyd Evans II*  
*December 30, 2009*  
*Unknown-preterm labor (20 weeks)*  
*Parents: Merrick Evans and Eugené Rhodes*  
*Siblings: Jahzara, Sahana and King Evans*



### Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Rylie Grace!

Six years old! What a big girl you are getting to be! I wonder, is there kindergarten in heaven? Are you learning to read books and write your name? Do you like to color and draw like your little sister? I wish you could be here with us so we could share all those things with you. We all miss you very much. Please know how much we love you, our sweet baby girl. We can't wait to see you again. We will cherish you in our hearts forever and ever. Have a wonderful 6<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrating with Jesus!

Loving you always,  
Momma, Daddy, Blake and Landry

*Rylie Grace Addison*  
*Stillborn November 21, 2005*  
*Also remembering:*  
*Baby Addison*  
*Miscarried December 22, 2004*  
*Parents: Blaine and Shannon Addison*  
*Siblings: Blake and Landry Addison*



### Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Kenneth!

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> birthday to our baby boy! What a big boy you would be. The years pass and time goes on, but there isn't a single day that I don't think about you. I think about the person you would be today. What kind of personality would you have? Are you feisty like me or more calm like your daddy? You looked like your daddy but had my nose. We both have curly hair, so I'm sure you would have a head full of curls. I wish I could see for myself!

There is going to be a day where you are in my arms again, and then I can answer all of these questions for myself.

You are missed...you are loved...you are never forgotten!

Lots of hugs and kisses for you on your fourth heavenly birthday!

Mommy and Daddy

*Kenneth Bernard Weddington*  
*November 7, 2007*  
*Unknown cause*  
*Parents: Louisa Garza and Kenneth Weddington*



**Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Hope!**

Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Little Pink Bundle!

We can hardly believe it was six years ago that you dazzled our world with your arrival. Your life has inspired and impacted many families. I see the school buses roar down our street and think of you. As of this year, you would be a kindergartener. Your little siblings, Ian and Janie, love to see your pictures and talk about you often. Daddy and I lovingly remember your spunky, brave personality. We look forward to holding your hand again in heaven, sweet Hope.

Love,  
Mama

Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Hope! I can't believe it's been six years ago that you were born! You were our first little pink grandbundle. We miss you and love you.

Love,  
Grammy, Teepa, GrandMimi,  
Uncle Ryan and Aunt Kasey

*Hope Kirkpatrick*

*November 5-8, 2005*

*Amniotic band syndrome*

*Parents: Kirk and Aly Kirkpatrick*

*Siblings: Ian and Janie Kirkpatrick*

**Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Baby Girl!**

Urgr8lylvvd!!! To the moon and back!!

Always. Forever.

*Baby Girl McNeil*

*Miscarried December 31, 2009*

*Parents: Meredith and Brendon McNeil*

*Sisters: Kloey and Lauren McNeil*

**Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Parker and Riley!**

Happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday to our precious sons. You are our perfect angels, and we thank God every day for the time we spent together. We will love you always.

Mommy, Daddy and Annalise

*Parker Logan Davis*

*Riley Carter Davis*

*November 14, 2006*

*Prematurity*

*Parents: Rob and Cheryl Davis*

*Sister: Annalise Davis*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Samuel!**

This is your 1<sup>st</sup> birthday on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, and what a special day it is! We always think of you and always will. Your mom says you looked like me, and I say you looked like her, but I'm sure you have your own opinion. You can tell us about it when we see each other again. You will always be our firstborn son. We love you so much!

Your mom and dad

*Samuel Adan Contreras*

*November 11, 2010*

*Cord accident*

*Parents: Alfredo and Mercedes Contreras*

*Sibling: Isaiah Contreras (due November 12, 2011)*

**Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Joshua and Jeromy!**

Boys,

It is hard to believe that you would be 15 years old. I have to admit that this year has been really tough for me, especially since school started back. I realize that you would have been in high school now and probably playing freshman football. You would have gone to your first homecoming game, and I would have made two gorgeous mums for your dates. I would be enrolling you in drivers school, and Dad and I would be making financial plans to buy a car for you guys to drive. I try so hard not to miss a moment with your brothers lives, because each year that passes, I know how much I have missed raising you. Not a day goes by that I don't think of you! Not a year goes by that I don't wonder what great young men you would be. I live vicariously through the lives of your brothers....I guess that will have to be enough!

Happy birthday in heaven!

Love,  
Mom

*Joshua Barsanti*

*Jeromy Barsanti*

*November 21, 1996*

*Stillbirth due to anencephaly*

*Parents: Randy and DaLana Barsanti*

*Siblings: Taylor, Collin, Harrison and Riley Barsanti*

**Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Logan!**

Happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, sweet boy! We miss you so much and can't wait until the day we get to see and hold you again. Sending big hugs up to you. We love you!

*Logan Brewer*

*December 18-22, 2006*

*Prematurity*

*Parents: David and Heather Brewer*

*Sibling: Little brother Landon Brewer*



**Happy 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Caleb!**

Sweet Caleb,

It does not seem possible that you would be turning eight years old! You are missed so much...mostly as I watch Madison with your cousins, and inevitably there is a picture where there's a gap in the stair step of kids-the gap you should be filling. Your short life has left a huge legacy. Daddy and I are ministering to other families in your memory through our chapter, speaking to parents and healthcare providers, and through Daddy's new book. Six short hours and a lifetime of impact.

We love you and miss you! Hug your little sister for us and know we miss you both!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy and Maddie

*Caleb Scott Fann  
December 1, 2003  
PROM*

*Also remembering:*

*Baby August Fann*

*Miscarried August 13, 2004*

*Parents: Jonathan and Heather Fann*

*Sister: Madison Grace Fann*

**Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Serenity!**

Two years have flown by, my sweet little girl, and we continue to think about you. We really miss you, and I often wonder what my life would be like right now if you were here. It's getting close to midnight and I am sitting in my rocking chair writing this, and I wonder if you were here with me, would you wake up and curl up with me in my chair? I would love to be treasuring those moments, but instead, I treasure the memories I have of you in my heart.

I have a new necklace that I wear for you, called the Reunion Heart. It has a little hole in the heart, and here is why:

God lets this tender hole remain  
Reminding me we'll meet again,  
And one day all the pain will cease  
When He restores this missing piece.

Someday I will see you in heaven, but until then, continue watching down on us.

Love,  
Mommy and Daddy

*Serenity Harrison*

*Miscarried December 3, 2009*

*Parents: Curtis and Jennifer Harrison*

*Brother: Leviticus Aaron, due December 2*

**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Aiden!**

To our sweet Aiden,

On your birthday, Mommy and Daddy want you to know how much you are loved—today and every day. We miss you more than words could ever express and can't wait to see you again one day.

“Our joys will be greater, our love will be deeper, our lives will be fuller...because of you.”

Love you forever and always, baby boy!  
Mommy and Daddy

*Aiden Jackson*

*Stillborn November 2, 2010*

*Also remembering:*

*Baby Jackson 1*

*July 2009*

*Baby Jackson 2*

*February 2010*

*Parents: Nygel and Natasha Jackson*

**Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Elizabeth!**

We can't believe it has been ten years since your birth! Time goes by so quickly, yet some days it seems like yesterday that you were with us. We hope you have a wonderful birthday!

We love you and miss you!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy, Graceanne and Jillian

*Elizabeth Ellen Cox*

*October 25, 2001*

*Polycystic kidney disease*

*Parents: Scott and Kathryn Cox*

*Sisters: Graceanne and Jillian Cox*

**Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Cece!**

Lots of hugs and kisses are being sent for your special day.

*Celeste Kimberly Reid*

*December 7-8, 2004*

*Neonatal Hemochromatosis*

*Also remembering:*

*Connor Boston Reid*

*April 27, 2006*

*Trisomy 13*

*Parents: Andie Boston and Skip Reid*

*Sibling: Allyson Kate*



## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Hannah!

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> birthday to our little butterfly. We wonder what you would be doing right now, what you would look like. We love you and can't wait until that heavenly day when we are reunited and get to hold you in our arms again. I miss you so much it still hurts, but I have finally started to see the beauty in things again. Thank you for helping me to love and appreciate the small things in this life.

It isn't letting go  
it's going on.  
It isn't only shadows  
and it isn't only dawn.  
It isn't getting through it  
it's letting it come through me,  
not living in the darkness  
though the darkness I can see.  
It's living with the sorrow  
but finding memories sweet.  
It's knowing that it takes  
both sides to make it all complete.  
It's soaking up the sunshine  
along with the rain.  
It's learning to let laughter  
live side by side with pain.  
It's knowing that the years  
won't change a love that's real  
or take away the joy you brought  
or the sorrow that I feel.  
It's knowing tears and laughter  
can live on the same face  
and your impression on my heart  
can never be erased.

*Hannah Marie Tolman  
November 13, 2007  
Preeclampsia from prothrombin clotting  
mutation and MTHFR mutation  
Parents: Todd and Teresa Tolman  
Siblings: Ashley, Zackary and Jacob*



## Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees  
around the world below  
with tiny lights like heaven's stars  
reflecting on the snow.

The sight is so spectacular,  
please wipe away that tear  
for I am spending  
Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs  
that people hold so dear  
but the sound of music can't compare  
with the Christmas choir up here.

I have no words to tell you  
of the joy their voices bring  
for it is beyond description  
to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me,  
I see the pain inside your heart  
for I am spending  
Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I can't tell you of the splendor  
or the peace here in this place  
Can you just imagine  
Christmas with our Savior face to face

I'll ask him to lift your spirit  
as I tell him of your love  
so then pray for one another  
as you lift your eyes above.

Please let your hearts be joyful  
and let your spirit sing  
for I am spending Christmas in Heaven  
and I'm walking with the King.

~ by Wanda Bencke  
© Copyright 1999  
[www.christmasinheaven.net](http://www.christmasinheaven.net)  
retrieved October 9, 2011

## Temporadas Navideñas

Nuestro hijo, Jonathan, nació mortinato en el verano del año 1995. Esto fue antes de que mucha gente supiera de cómo navegar por el internet, o incluso antes de que tuvieran una dirección de correo electrónico. Y de hecho, entre mis conocidos sólo una persona además de mi tenía una computadora en su casa. Las redes sociales sin duda, tales como Facebook y blogs, eran inimaginables. No hace mucho tiempo que hablábamos por teléfonos fijos, escribíamos cartas a mano o hablar persona a persona, eran básicamente las únicas formas de poder comunicarse y expresarse unos con otros.

Hace varios años no era común escribir una larga carta e incluirla en las tarjetas Navideñas. Prácticamente se resumía todo en estas cartas ya que se incluía, detalles de alguna vacación, las metas cumplidas, los nacimientos y muertes que habían trascendido durante todo el año etc. Por alguna extraña razón, esperaba ansiosamente poder escribir mi carta de 1995 para que pudiera decirles a todos en nuestra lista de tarjetas Navideñas exactamente lo que había sucedido con nuestro bebé. Sabía que habían escuchado que nació mortinato, y muchos incluso asistieron a su funeral. Pero estaba segura de que tenían muchos detalles mezclados y confundidos que yo deseaba corregir. Además, sólo quería contar su historia.

Explicué el tiempo que estuve en reposo, mis semanas de hospitalización y el impacto de su muerte por un accidente con el cordón umbilical. Anuncié su peso, su largo, y cómo él se parecía a su hermano mayor. Además le enfatice a nuestra familia y amigos que a pesar de nuestra pérdida, estábamos bien.

Recientemente encontré guardada en mi computadora la carta de navidad de la "Familia Mitchell" del año 1996, un año después de la muerte de mi hijo. Sorprendentemente, leí donde retracte que estábamos bien y que todo iba bien. Admití haber tenido un año muy difícil después de la muerte de Jonathan, a pesar de las bendiciones de una familia maravillosa y de nuestro hijo vivo, que tenía entonces solo 5 años de edad. Procedí con explicar que yo estaba segura que algunos leyendo esta carta estarían un poco incómodos con mi mención de Jonathan nuevamente, un año y medio después de su muerte, pero que él sería siempre recordado, reconocido y que él siempre sería parte de nuestra familia.

Estoy bastante orgullosa de mí misma por revelar mis verdaderas emociones a todas aquellas personas. Para mí, fue algo muy valiente. Soy considerada por personas cercanas a mí como dura y fuerte, y para poder confesar que no estaba pasándola muy bien, fue un gran paso. Poco a poco baje mi guardia un poco más y sinceramente les platiqué a los miembros de mi familia lo difícil que fue la temporada Navideña. A pesar de que Byron y yo deberíamos de haber estado contentos de estar comprando regalos de Santa para

nuestro hijo vivo, fue una tortura tener que ir a Toys R Us y comprar regalos sólo para un niño o de lo triste que me sentí de sentar solo a un hijo en el regazo de Santa en el centro comercial, en lugar de dos. Y lo difícil que fue pretender estar exageradamente alegre la mañana de Navidad, cuando realmente en el fondo estaba agonizando porque debería de tener dos niños corriendo a ver los regalos que había dejado bajo el árbol, y no sólo a uno.

Dieciséis años más tarde, me encuentro mucho más abierta y honesta acerca mis emociones de Jonathan y el pequeño bebé que perdimos debido a un aborto involuntario durante las temporadas Navideñas del año 2001. ¿Pero me pregunto cuántos de ustedes están escondiendo sus sentimientos, especialmente durante esta época del año? ¿Le han hecho creer a su familia que todo está bien, cuando en realidad está a punto de desplomarse en tristeza? Tal vez la idea de mantener las tradiciones Navideñas le hace entrar en pánico, pero no se atreve a darle la noticia a su familia cercana o suegros, que sólo va a tener que crear una "nueva normalidad" para este año y tal vez unos cuantos años más.

En primer lugar, quizás necesita admitir a usted misma que realmente no está bien y que no le está yendo bien. Creo que REALMENTE pensé que estaba bien y que me iba a ir bien los siguientes seis meses, mientras trataba pasar la época Navideña. Tomo un poco de retrospectiva el darme cuenta que definitivamente no estaba bien ni me estaba yendo bien el año anterior. Yo siento que si hubiera tomado algún tiempo para evaluarme honestamente ese primer Día de Gracia y Navidad, y luego confesado audazmente mis emociones, hubiera sido una temporada y quizás un primer año muy diferente.

Si te he descrito a ti en esta historia, que eres una de esas personas que otros piensan que está bien y que te va bien pero no, entonces les aconsejo encontrar a alguien cercano a usted en quien pueda confiar. Pídale a esa persona que sea su mensajera para el resto de su familia y amigos. No tenga miedo de admitir que esta temiendo la temporada navideña, o incluso admitir que esta temerosa de lo que podrían contener esos días. Si aquellos que la rodean son conscientes de sus sentimientos más íntimos, esperemos que atiendan sus necesidades con más sensibilidad. Y lo más importante, mejor que Facebook, escritura de cartas o hablar por teléfono, está el Señor nuestro Dios. Él siempre está escuchando, Él siempre está ahí para calmar nuestros temores y ansiedades y nos conforta para que estemos y la pasemos realmente bien. Él es nuestro consejero maravilloso, nuestro poderoso Dios, nuestro padre eterno y nuestro Príncipe de la paz.

♥ *Rebekah Mitchell, Presidente y Fundadora  
Mamá de Jonathan Daniel y Mitchell bebé Mitchell*

## In Loving Memory



### **Courtney Lea Abare**

December 15, 2008

Placental abruption

Given by parents Kim and Julie Abare  
and big brother Bailey

### **Brandon Isaiah Alfaro**

October 19, 2007—February 7, 2008

Spinal muscular atrophy

Parent: Jennifer Alfaro

Sibling: Ethan Noel

Given by grandparents  
Diana and Tim Seynaeve

### **Matthew Ryan Bass**

#### **Mason Michael Bass**

April 10, 2008

Prematurity

#### **Baby Bass**

Miscarried November 2009

Given by parents

Chad Bass and Leah Robilotto-Bass

### **Cole, Kaylyn and Hannah Busker**

Stillborn December 10, 2004

E. coli infection

Given by parents Kim and Mike Busker  
and Allison, Chris and Hailey

### **Samuel Adan Contreras**

Stillborn November 11, 2010

Cord accident

Parents: Alfredo and Mercedes Contreras

Given by Gina Armendariz

### **Elizabeth Ellen Cox**

October 25, 2001

Polycystic kidney disease

Given by parents Scott and Kathryn Cox  
and sisters Graceanne and Jillian

### **Abigail Grace Crump**

July 1, 2003

Trisomy 18

Given by parents Gerald and Jaimie Crump  
and little sisters Cami and Karli

### **Aidan Shaw Vander Cruyssen**

October 2—December 3, 2005

Kidney disease

Given by Mommy Shane Meyer  
and sibling Cameron Shaw

### **Riley and Parker Davis**

November 14, 2006

Prematurity

Given by parents Rob and Cheryl Davis  
and little sister Annalise

### **Brooke Sophia Daily**

March 11, 2010

Vasa previa

Gifts given by

Parents Jeremy and Lisa Daily

and big sister Sarah

Uncle Kollin and Aunt Jennifer Green

Bank of America Employee Giving

Corey and René Dittamore

Robert Schorr

Donald Jeske and Britt Bandel

Rick and Arlene Parent

Burton Jr. and Patty Schorr

Scott and Ana Morgan

Chet and Barbara Knobe

David Dilley and Lessia Goad

John and Suzanne Shadley

Gerd and Harold Hedlund

John and Jenny Zoubra

### **Cambren Edward Fisk**

Stillborn June 28, 2010

Cord accident

Given by parents Meredith and Darren Fisk  
and sibling Madison

### **James Forner**

Stillborn January 5, 2007

Unknown cause

#### **Baby Forner I**

Miscarried May, 2007

#### **Baby Forner II**

Miscarried June, 2007

Gifts given by

Parents T.J. and Jenn Forner

and siblings Annabelle, Jackson and

Hailey

Great-Grandma Doreen Peacock

Grandparents Tom and Cheryl Forner

### **Mackenzie Noelle Frederickson**

Stillborn June 17, 2009

Unknown cause

#### **Baby Skyler Frederickson**

January 2, 2010

Ectopic pregnancy

Given by parents

Mike and Ashley Frederickson

and little sister Paisley

### **Luke Frieberger**

Given by Matthew and Jana Allen

### **Samuel Mark Hintz**

October 29, 2008

Unknown cause

Gifts given by:

Parents Gregory and Sara Hintz

Uncle Mark and Aunt Jane Neumann

Chris and Mary Stockton

Myrtle Nowotnik

Charles and Karen Weddig

Wally and Ann Neumann

Uncle Theron and Aunt Beth Dodson

David and Connie Nason

Amy and Keith Buett

### **Olivia Grace Hunt**

February 8-10, 2000

Possible LQTS

Given by parents Richard and Stacy Hunt

and siblings Mason, Cameron

And Addison

### **Baby Ilgenfritz**

Miscarried August 30, 2007

#### **Henry Ian Ilgenfritz**

May 5, 2008

Cord accident

Given by parents Rhonda and Jody Ilgenfritz

### **Luke Noe Johnson**

July 26, 2010

Unknown cause

#### **Hope Johnson**

Miscarried October 30, 2009

#### **Faith Johnson**

Miscarried September 2, 2011

Given by parents Merle and James Johnson

### **Clay Daniel Johnson**

Summer 2011

Cord accident

Parents: Chris and Sarah Johnson

Siblings: Nathan, Samuel and Micah

Given by John and Suzanne Shadley

#### 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!**

**Tatum Olivia Johnson**

February 21, 2009

Unknown cause

Given by parents

Bryan and Stephanie Johnson  
and siblings Tyler, Brody and Emory**Michael David Klubnik****Jake Thomas Klubnik**

September 7, 2010

Infection

**Baby Klubnik**

Miscarried June 8, 2010

Gifts given by

Parents: Jon and Tiffany Klubnik  
Christopher and Allison Legrand**Baby Krocka**

Miscarried June 24, 2011

Parents: Krissy and Scott Krocka

Given by grandparents

Burton Jr. and Patty Schorr

**Baby Girl Krymkiewiez**

Miscarried June 13, 2008

**Emma Krymkiewiez**

May 5, 2009

Neonatal hemochromatosis

Given by parents Ana Ayon

and Hernan Krymkiewiez  
and little sister Isabella**Kavya Marie Kurishinal**

December 17-31, 2009

Omphalocele

Given by parents Tina Christensen

and Pravin Kurishinal

**Kennady Ann League**

January 17, 2007

Unknown cause

Parents: Jason and Jeanelle League

Given by Grammie Andi Gorder

**Emmaline Ila Legg**

July 29, 2010

Placental abruption

**Baby Legg 1**

Miscarried 1999

**Baby Legg 2**

Miscarried 2009

**Baby Legg 3**

Miscarried April 13, 2011

Gifts given by

Parents Ami and Jimmy Legg and  
siblings McKinley and Madeline  
Ellan Brenan**Joseph Charles Libby**

Stillborn May 26, 1999

Cord accident

Given by parents Wim and Sharlene Libby  
and siblings Will, John and Mary Grace**Jackson Glen Light****Tyler Ray Light**

February 23, 2009

Placental abruption

Given by Mommy Diana Light

and sibling Brayden Christopher

**Scarlett Jean Lovejoy**

Stillborn November 24, 2006

Gifts given by

Parents Jeff and Emily Lovejoy  
and little brother Benjamin  
Ben Whit**Andrew Mallette**

March 21, 2008

CMV

Gifts given by

Parents Michael and Nicole Mallette  
Grandparents  
Todd and Kathy Rutherford**Baby Girl McNeil**

Miscarried December 31, 2009

Parents: Brandon and Meredith McNeil

Siblings: Kloey and Lauren

Given by grandparents

Henry and Nancy Middlebrook

**Miranda Micaela Medrano**

October 1, 2008

Prematurity

Given by parents

Jose and Marvelia Medrano

**Jonathan Daniel Mitchell**

Stillborn June 24, 1995

Cord accident

**Baby Mitchell**

Miscarried December 2001

Parents: Byron and Rebekah Mitchell

Sibling: Big brother Byron, Jr.

Given by

Grandparents Dennis and Sue Brewer

**Bay Miltenberger, Jr.**

Stillborn December 9, 1998

Preterm labor

Given by parents

Bay and Paula Miltenberger  
and siblings Bryce, James and Brady**Ashley Nicole Muirhead**

Stillborn January 15, 2007

Unknown cause

**Baby Muirhead 1**

Miscarried October 2005

**Baby Muirhead 2**

Miscarried November 2010

Given by parents

Craig and Daphne Muirhead  
and sibling Brooke Ann**Andrew Pittman**

March 23, 2010

Cord accident

Parents: Melody and Kindale Pittman

Siblings: Kaylee Drew Pittman

Gifts given by

Linnie and Lou Ann Sandel  
Great, Great-Aunt Sue Sandel  
Raymond and Lynette Vogt  
Lewton Family**Eli Payton**

July 25, 2011

Unknown cause

**Meili Payton**

July 28, 2011

Unknown cause

Given by parents Ryan and Ashley Payton  
and brother Maximus**Casey Rice**

Given by Mommy Faith Rice

**Laura Olivia Riha**

May 12, 2010

Heart issues

Given by parents Jesse and Olivia Riha  
and sisters Evelyn and Amanda**Desi Elise Rodgers**

August 2, 2011

Complications with umbilical cord

**Baby Rodgers**

Miscarried October 15, 2009

Parents: Derrick and Megan Rodgers

Siblings: Davin

Given by Custom Fire Protection

(Grandparents Jim and Fonda Goode)

**Wyatt Paul Schroeder**

October 14, 2010

Placental abruption

Parents: Justin and Ashlea Schroeder

Siblings: Jacob and baby sister on the way

Gifts given by

James Schroeder, CPA  
Clarence and Bernice Gaskamp  
Kathy Loflin

## *M.E.N.D. Goes Green With eWaste*

On Saturday, September 10, 2011, M.E.N.D. offered a unique fundraising opportunity to the community. The recycle company, eWaste Disposal, set up a drop-off station in Irving, Texas, to collect any electronics that plugged in or used a battery. People brought truck loads of old computers, printers, yard equipment, lamps and kitchen items. For us personally, it was a great opportunity to clean out our closets and garages and have a safe place to dispose of things that were taking up space. And for M.E.N.D. it was a good awareness opportunity, and we made some money in the process. Thank you eWaste Disposal for supporting M.E.N.D.!

*Pictured from left to right: Amber Zuckerman, Brandee Dill, Rebekah Mitchell and Byron Mitchell*



*"In Loving Memory"*  
Continued from page 15

***Rylan Elizabeth Slate***

October 17 – 20, 2008  
Unknown cause  
Parents: Daniel and Kristah Slate  
Siblings: Camden, Everett, Anna Claire and Owen  
Given by Valesco Specialty Products

***Mindy and Maggie Smith***

Stillborn November 4, 1997  
Twin to twin transfusion syndrome and polyhydramnios  
Given by parents Scott and Karla Smith and siblings Travis and Julia

***David Alejandro Velazquez, Jr.***

Stillborn February 5, 2010  
Unknown cause  
Gifts given by  
Parents David and Samantha Valazquez and sisters Trinity and Victoria Rose  
Karen S Thomason, DC  
Meed Computer Help  
(Grandfather Tomas Limon)

***Alivia Elizabeth Grace Walker***

Stillborn July 24, 2006  
Incompetent cervix  
Given by parents Robert and Liz Walker and little brother Jaxson

***Christian Graham Wells***

July 11, 2010  
Unknown cause  
Parents: Glen and Mitzi Wells  
Sibling: Big brother Michael  
Gifts Given by  
G.W Air Services (parents)  
Tim and Patricia Eagle

***Baby Wheeler***

Miscarried March, 2009

***Michael Noah Wheeler***

Stillborn January 27, 2010  
Unknown cause  
Given by parents  
Larissa and Jim Wheeler  
and little sister due December, 2011

***Mercy Elizabeth Whitfield***

September 8-21, 2011  
Trisomy 13  
Parents: Allison D'Auteuil and Rodney Whitfield  
Siblings: Grace and Justice  
Given by Edward Hill

***Shauna Elisabeth Winebrenner***

April 12, 2003  
Trisomy 18  
Parents: Sarah and Tim Winebrenner  
Siblings: Saul and Ella Elisabeth  
Given by Uncle Nathan  
and Aunt Lisa Hanks

***Adrian Joseph "AJ" Zuckerman***

Stillborn March 30, 2007  
Cord accident  
Parents: Al and Amber Zuckerman  
Brothers: Eli and Alexander  
Gifts given by  
Brian and Amy Schultz  
Regina Pointer

***Gifts of Support***

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Milk and Honey Bakery  
Second Baptist Church, Springfield, MO  
West Conroe Baptist Church  
Lonny and Laura Fisher  
Wayne and Susan Fender  
Noel and Pam Bennett  
Eric and Jill Marshall

***Legacy Giving***

Losing a child has changed each of our lives forever. We appreciate all financial support of the services our organization gives to bereaved parents—no matter the size of the contribution. However, some of you may have the capacity and desire to give a lifelong gift to M.E.N.D.

If you're interested in creating a legacy gift or endowment in honor of your baby, M.E.N.D. would be happy to assist you in gathering the necessary information to remember our organization in your will or trust. For more information about legacy giving, please contact Rebekah Mitchell at [rebekah@mend.org](mailto:rebekah@mend.org).



## Christmas Peace

It's Christmas time again.  
Just as in years past.  
Candy, cookies and cinnamon rolls are made.  
Lights are on the tree,  
decorations all around.  
Presents are bought,  
and Christmas music is playing.

Only something is missing.  
No new baby to hold,  
Or sing soft carols to.  
No "Baby's First Christmas"  
ornaments, bibs or sleepers.  
Dreams miscarried months ago.  
Now, an aching, empty place in my heart.

Still, there is a baby's birth to celebrate.  
God's son, born long ago.  
He shares my pain,  
and understands my tears.  
Through Him,  
I can find a sense of peace and hope  
this Christmas season.

*By Janet Cloutier  
Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc.  
www.irisremembers.com,  
Retrieved October 9, 2011*

## One Year

Father this pain revisited  
Is as hard as the first  
For a mother's arms left empty  
Long for that living birth.  
We're haunted with shadowy dreams -  
Left longing for something more.  
Reaching out across time and distance  
All the way to heaven's shore.  
They say time changes loss  
and memories seem to dim -  
But a mother's arms left empty  
Never seems to forget them.  
Our hearts are left longing  
of what might have been  
And we are left dreaming  
of seeing them again.  
Father this pain revisited  
Is as hard as the first  
So hold me as I weep again  
over this loss of birth.

The poem was written by Abbie in loving memory of  
Caleb Levi Riddle, November 2, 2010,  
due to a subchorionic hemorrhage.

♥ *Brent and Abbie Riddle,  
Parents to Caleb Levi  
M.E.N.D.—Texarkana*

## Artist's Corner



This painting was done by Maria Berra, a friend of Natalie Grimshaw. Natalie sent Maria all the pictures, ultrasounds and a letter she wrote to Baby Aiden. Maria was able to take this collection and paint this beautiful collage as a memory of Aiden William Grimshaw.

♥ *Submitted by Natalie Grimshaw,  
Mommy to Aiden William Grimshaw,  
Stillborn November 19, 2010,  
Blood clot  
M.E.N.D.—Irving, Texas*

*If you have artwork in memory of your baby and would like  
it to be published in a M.E.N.D. newsletter, please send it  
to [jennifer@mend.org](mailto:jennifer@mend.org).*





M.E.N.D.

*Chapter Corner**Chapter Meeting Information***M.E.N.D.—Houston**Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 p.m.Northwest Medical and Professional Building  
17117 Cali Dr, Suite 112, Houston, TX 77090

Director: Jaimie Crump

jaimie@mend.org, (281) 374-8528

**Subsequent pregnancy group** meetsbi-monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7:30 p.m.,

led by Kristah Slate

(kristah\_slate@yahoo.com).

**Daddy's group** meets quarterly on the 3<sup>rd</sup>

Thursday at 7:30 p.m.,

led by Tim Winebrenner

(swinebrenner2004@yahoo.com).

**M.E.N.D.—Texarkana**Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehab Hospital

2400 St. Michael Drive

Texarkana, TX 75503

Director: Monica Davis

monica@mend.org, (903) 490-1210

**M.E.N.D.—Tulsa**Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Canyon Crossing

1651 E Old North Rd.

Sand Springs, Oklahoma 74063

Director: Lisa Daily

lisa@mend.org, (918) 694-4325 (HEAL)

**M.E.N.D.—SW Missouri**Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Project H.O.P.E.

1419 S. Enterprise

Springfield, Missouri 65804

Director: Heather Fann

heather@mend.org, (417) 818-0489

**M.E.N.D.—Bryan/College Station**Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Hawthorn Suites

1010 University Drive East

College Station, Texas 77840

Director: Jennie Drude

jennie@mend.org, (979) 220-7851

M.E.N.D. Chapter Updates*Houston*

We were blessed with a gorgeous day for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual M.E.N.D.—Houston Walk to Remember. We welcomed over 600 guests from all over the Houston area and beyond at Champion Forest Baptist Church. A special thanks to the church and all the men and women who helped make this event a blessing to many. We are looking forward to our Christmas Ceremony on December 3. For more information about the ceremony or our chapter, please contact me at [jaimie@mend.org](mailto:jaimie@mend.org).

*Jaimie Crump**Texarkana*

M.E.N.D.—Texarkana has had several new families join our support group in the recent months. We anticipate how God is going to minister through our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Candlelight Ceremony. The ceremony will be Saturday, December 3, at Beech Street First Baptist Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, at 6:30 p.m. For more information about the ceremony or M.E.N.D., please contact [monica@mend.org](mailto:monica@mend.org), 903-490-1210, or find us on Facebook at [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org).

*Monica Davis**Tulsa*

M.E.N.D.—Tulsa is truly blessed to have such a successful letter campaign for this year's fundraiser. Thank you to all who participated. We had several subsequent births over the past several months. Congratulations on your precious little miracles!

*Lisa Daily**SW Missouri*

M.E.N.D.—SW Missouri continues to grow closer together as a community. Our members wanted an opportunity to honor their babies during Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, so in October, a group gathered for a casual picnic breakfast and balloon release. Thanks to all the volunteers and families who made this possible. We are anxiously planning our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas Candlelight Ceremony on Thursday, December 8, at 7 p.m. at Elfindale Chapel in Springfield. RSVPs are requested by email to me at [heather@mend.org](mailto:heather@mend.org). We hope you will join us!

*Heather Fann**Bryan/College Station*

M.E.N.D.—Bryan/College Station had a wonderful time remembering our babies at the Walk to Remember in Houston. Thank you to everyone who helped set up or take down and also thank you to Jaimie Crump for hosting us. We are looking forward to the annual Christmas ceremony in December.

*Jennie Drude**Amarillo*

Our Amarillo chapter continues to grow with new families that have suffered loss. We are planning our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wrapping for M.E.N.D. for December 3, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Southwest Church of Christ.

*Becky Anderson*

*NW Washington*

M.E.N.D.—NW Washington continues to have a consistent average of 9-12 in attendance each month. Our quilt square fundraiser has been a very touching success. The squares are at the seamstress with a goal of having it completed and on display for the first time at our first Christmas Candlelight Ceremony on December 12, 2011.

We have placed donation jars in several places for our “Let Your Change Make a Change” fundraiser. We have opened a Facebook page for our chapter as well. Visit [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org) to join our chapter.

*Susan Crow*

*Hot Springs*

M.E.N.D.—Hot Springs is growing each month. We have our first fundraiser in November and are preparing for our first Walk to Remember in 2012.

*Amy Humphries*

**M.E.N.D.—Amarillo**

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
First United Bank of the Colonies/  
Lonestar Room  
One First United Bank Parkway  
45<sup>th</sup> and Soncy  
Amarillo, Texas  
Director: Becky Anderson  
[becky@mend.org](mailto:becky@mend.org), (806) 570-4344

**M.E.N.D.—NW Washington**

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:30 p.m.  
Harrison Medical Center/Iris Room  
1800 Myhre Rd.  
Silverdale, Washington  
Director: Susan Crow  
[susan@mend.org](mailto:susan@mend.org), (360) 516-8617

**M.E.N.D.—Hot Springs, Arkansas**

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7 p.m.  
National Park Medical Center/Maurice Room  
1910 Malvern Avenue  
Hot Springs, AR  
Director: Amy Humphries  
[amy@mend.org](mailto:amy@mend.org), (501) 620-9930

*Looking Ahead*

*December 3*

● M.E.N.D.—  
Houston, TX  
Christmas Ceremony

*December 6*

● M.E.N.D.—  
Irving, TX  
Christmas Ceremony

*December 8*

● M.E.N.D.—  
SW Missouri  
Christmas Ceremony  
in Springfield, MO

*December 12*

● M.E.N.D.—  
NW Washington  
Christmas Ceremony

M.E.N.D. *Support Group Meetings in the Dallas Metroplex*

Join us for a time of sharing experiences.

**M.E.N.D. main chapter meetings**

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

**Daddies group**

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of  
March, June, Sept. and Dec.,  
from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

*A time for dads to meet together and  
discuss topics relevant to them as fa-  
thers. Our moms and dads meet together  
for introductions before dividing into two  
groups for discussion.*

**Food and Fellowship**

*A time to relax and meet with other  
M.E.N.D. parents in a social setting*  
Contact Brittney Fish:  
[brittney@mend.org](mailto:brittney@mend.org)

**Subsequent pregnancy group**

meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday  
from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Led by Liz Walker:  
[liz@mend.org](mailto:liz@mend.org)

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

**M.E.N.D.ing Mommies**

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of  
every month at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Marilyn Brown:  
[Marilyn@mend.org](mailto:Marilyn@mend.org).

*M.E.N.D.ing Mommies is a group of  
M.E.N.D. moms (and grandmothers)  
who create and sew tiny gowns, caps,  
and blankets that are donated to area  
hospitals for little babies that die.*

**Infertility group**

meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday  
at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Cheryl Davis for meeting  
location and information at  
[Cheryl@mend.org](mailto:Cheryl@mend.org)

*For families experiencing  
infertility after a loss.*

**Mommies AND daddies are both  
welcome at all M.E.N.D. meetings.  
Unless otherwise noted, all support  
group meetings are held at:**

**Wells Fargo Bank  
800 W. Airport Freeway  
Irving, TX 75062**

(Located in the Crystals Pizza parking  
lot, between MacArthur and O'Connor)  
Meetings will be in the bank board room,  
located on the first floor.  
For more information,  
call (972) 506-9000.



## *Subsequent Births*

**Jesus and Marisela Castillo**  
of Irving, Texas,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Tomas Eduardo Castillo Lares,  
born September 18, 2011,  
measuring 6 lb., 6 oz.,  
and 19 1/2 inches long.

The Castillo family lovingly  
remembers twins

Tomas Andres Castillo Lares,  
stillborn January 11, 2010,  
and Isabela Castillo Lares  
stillborn January 18, 2010,  
preterm birth

**Greg and Sara Hintz**

along with big siblings

Louis, Caleb, Anna and Elijah,  
of Coweta, Oklahoma,  
joyfully announce the adoption of  
Hope Jubilee,  
born February 19, 2009,  
forever a Hintz, August 23, 2010,  
and joyfully announce the arrival of  
Levi Ryan,  
born March 14, 2011,  
measuring 6 lb., 8 oz.,  
and 19 3/4 inches long.

The Hintz family lovingly remembers

Samuel Mark,  
stillborn October 30, 2008,  
cord accident,  
and Baby Joel,  
stillborn July 3, 2009,  
unknown cause,  
and Baby Taylor,  
miscarried February 2010

**Melody and Kindale Pittman**

of College Station, Texas,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Kaylee Drew Pittman,  
born August 11, 2011,  
measuring 5 lb., and 13 oz.,  
and 19 1/4 inches long.

The Pittmans lovingly remember

Andrew Pittman,  
March 23, 2010,  
cord accident

**Terence and Margot Griffin**

along with big brother Kaleb,  
of Owasso, Oklahoma,  
joyfully announce the arrival of  
Trevyn Kai Austin Griffin,  
born March 22, 2011,  
measuring 2 lb., 2.2 oz.,  
and 13 inches long.

The Griffin family lovingly remembers  
Sir Kameron Malachi Griffin,  
July 3, 2010

**Randy and Cortney Dobbins**

of Galena Park, Texas,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Cynlee Leian Dobbins,  
on September 12, 2011,  
measuring 5 lb., 3 oz.,  
and 17 3/4 inches long.

The Dobbins lovingly remembers  
Westin Dobbins,  
stillborn August 8, 2010,  
due to an incompetent cervix

**Ricky and Kate Wells**

of Cypress, Texas,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Kaleb,  
born August 1, 2011,  
measuring 9 lb., 11 oz.,  
and 21 inches long.

The Wells family lovingly remembers  
Kristopher,  
November 10, 2009,  
Cystic Hygroma/Fetal Hydrops

**Michele and Doug Wilson**

along with big brother Gabe,  
of Owasso, Oklahoma,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Sadie Faith,  
born August 26, 2011,  
measuring 9 lb., 7 oz.,  
and 21 inches long.

The Wilson family lovingly remembers

Baby Wilson I,  
miscarried January 2007,  
and Baby Wilson II,  
miscarried June 2007

**Cory and Melissa Thomas**

along with brothers Hunter and Rip,  
of Maud, Texas,  
joyfully announce the arrival of  
Rylan Colt,  
born April 22, 2011,  
measuring 10lb., 9oz.,  
and 22 inches long.

The Thomas family lovingly remembers  
Braley Lake,  
stillborn February 2, 2007,  
unknown cause

**Lindsay and Barry Ford**

along with big sister Hailey,

of McKinney, Texas,  
joyfully announce the arrival of  
Hope Katherine,  
born September 21, 2011,  
measuring 6 lb., 5oz.,  
and 20 inches long.

The Fords lovingly remember  
Emily Rose,  
September 28 - October 10, 2010,  
myocarditis

**Phil and Katie Goodson**

along with brothers Bennett and Paxen,  
of Tulsa, Oklahoma,  
joyfully announce the arrival of  
Isaac Tate Goodson,  
born August 25, 2011,  
measuring 7 lb., 9 oz.,  
and 20 1/2 inches long.

The Goodsons lovingly remember  
Daniel Joseph Goodson,  
miscarried July 4, 2005,  
Taylor Goodson,  
miscarried April 6, 2010,  
and Baby Goodson III,  
miscarried July 4, 2010

**Grant and Brandy Rossi**

of Sapulpa, Oklahoma,

joyfully announce the arrival of  
Foster Anthony,  
born September 20, 2011,  
measuring 4 lb., .06 oz.,  
and 15 1/2 inches long.

The Rossi family lovingly remembers  
Baby Rossi,  
miscarried September 21, 2009,  
unknown cause,  
and Baby Donovan,  
stillborn August 27, 2010,  
unknown cause

**Nicole and Peter Szajek**  
 along with big sister Isabella  
 of Highland Village, Texas,  
 joyfully announce the birth of

Juliette Olivia,

born September 30, 2011,  
 measuring 6 lbs 15 oz,  
 and 19 1/2 inches.

The Szajeks lovingly remember

Nicholas Jan,

stillborn December 6, 2008,  
 and baby Szajek,  
 miscarried July, 2009

**Tina Christensen and  
 Pravin Kurishingal**  
 of Rockwall, Texas,  
 joyfully announce the arrival of twins

Kyra and Jacob,

born July 18, 2011,  
 both measuring nearly 6 lb.,  
 and each 18 inches long.

The family lovingly remembers

Kavya Marie,

December 17-31, 2009,  
 complications from an omphalocele

**Mike and Kim Busker**

along with big sister Ally,  
 of Frisco, Texas,

joyfully announce the adoption of  
 Chris (age 4) and Hailey (age 3) Busker.

The Buskers lovingly remember  
 Cole, Kaylyn, and Hannah Busker  
 December 10, 2004,

Ecoli infection

**Gary Boche and Shirley Starr**

along with big brother Jacob,  
 of Houston, Texas,

joyfully announce the arrival of

Riley Sean Boche,

born September 7, 2011,  
 measuring 6 lb.,  
 and 18 3/4 inches long.

The family lovingly remembers

Rachel Ann,

stillborn on October 29, 2009,  
 due to an incompetent cervix,  
 and Casey Dean,

stillborn on August 7, 2010,  
 due to an incompetent cervix

## To a Subsequent Child

Hello, little Stranger,  
 Nine scary months we shared,  
 Every kick and wiggle from you,  
 Every cramp and pain from me.

Each passing day, I hoped,  
 And longed to keep you safe,  
 I thought that when we met,  
 I'd know you... but I don't.

I knew what time you hiccupped,  
 The steadiness of your heart,  
 But you... here in my arms,  
 I thought I'd never feel.

Hello, Little Stranger,  
 You stare right through my soul,  
 Am I... who you expected,  
 Floating in darkness... safe and warm?

Never thought... of your dark eyes,  
 or your perfect tiny ears,  
 Your face is so familiar,  
 Yet very much your own.

Little Stranger... many babies,  
 Never-to-be-known,  
 Have passed this way before,  
 To clear a path for you.

Hello, Little Stranger,  
 How very special are you,  
 This moment shared, your life begins,  
 Shattered dreams, now fulfilled.

*Miscarriage poetry by Catherine McDiarmid-Watt  
 In memory of her 11 babies lost.*

*www.borntolove.com*

*Retrieved October 9, 2011*

## Walk To Remember Update

The M.E.N.D. 15<sup>th</sup> annual Walk to Remember was held on October 1, 2011, at Calvary Church in Irving, Texas, with a record breaking crowd of 1,000 people, remembering more than 250 babies. The Lord could not have blessed us with a more beautiful day as 1,300 balloons soared to the sky representing little lives entering into heaven. Allyson Smith, RN, MSN, FNP-C and missionary to rural Ethiopia, and also a former M.E.N.D. board of directors member, was the inspirational speaker who challenged us to seek the Lord as to how our experience of losing a baby could be used for His glory.

♥ *Rebekah Mitchell,*  
M.E.N.D.—*Founder and President*



To view the DFW Walk Slideshow,  
scan the image or visit [www.mend.org](http://www.mend.org).



M.E.N.D.—**Dallas:** Families watching the 1,300 balloons released. (Photo by Brittney Fish)



M.E.N.D.—**Dallas:** Andie Boston and daughter Ally remembering Celeste Kimberly Reid and Boston Reid (Photo by Brittney Fish)



M.E.N.D.—**Houston:** Cami Crump writing a sweet message to her sister, Abigail Grace Crump. (Photo by: Rosemary Massey)

We were blessed with a gorgeous day for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual M.E.N.D.—Houston Walk to Remember. We welcomed more than 600 guests from all over the Houston area and beyond. Thank you, Champion Forest Baptist Church, for your hospitality and the use of your grounds. I want to thank the women and men who made the Walk possible by donating their time and talents:

Gerald Crump, Randy Crye, Brandy Wilson, Tim and Sarah Winebrenner, Amy McDaniel, Mitzi and Glen Wells, Jennie Drude, Merle and James Johnson, Jeanelle League, Janie Lewis, Nicole Mallette, Shane Meyer, Chiara Ott, Nichole Rowan, Poli Shachov, Kristah Slate, Greg and Stephanie Miller, Chad Bass and Leah Robilotto-Bass, Randy and Cortney Dobbins.

I also want to thank Rebecca Mutz for taking a weekend away from her family in Colorado to share what God has taught her through the loss of her four babies.



M.E.N.D.—**Houston:** Guest speaker, Rebecca Mutz, remembering Molly Ann Mutz, Micah William Mutz, Baby Mutz 5 and Baby Mutz 6. (Photo by: Nicole Mallette)

♥ *Jaimie Crump,*  
M.E.N.D.—*Houston Chapter Director*

M.E.N.D.—**Dallas**: 1,300 balloons soaring to the sky in remembrance of the little lives in heaven. (Photo by Brittney Fish)



M.E.N.D.—**Houston**: Chad Bass and Leah Robilotto-Bass remembering Matthew Ryan, Mason Michael and Baby Bass. (Photo by: Nicole Mallette)

## Walk To Remember Sponsors Dallas

Steve and Becky Carter  
Bridget and David Binion  
Rebekah and Byron Mitchell  
Inspired Creations by CEO  
Ripley's Palace of Wax  
Liz and Robert Walker  
Melissa and Brian Webb  
Hawaiian Nail Bar  
My Forever Child  
Larissa and Jim Wheeler  
Rachael McClelland  
Norma Jordan  
Fort Worth Zoo  
Precious Moments  
The Havens Spa  
Walt and Susan Beaver  
Dallas Stars  
Uncle Julio's  
Abbe Mandel

Rosa's Café Tortilla Factory  
Marcia and Dudley Calhoun  
Panera Bread  
Dixie's  
Target  
Cheryl and Tom Forner  
Rocky and Joyce Haddock  
Paula and Bay Miltenberger  
Monica and Chris Gregory  
Flying Fish Restaurant  
Credit Union of Texas  
Nicole and Brett Zaitoon  
Spring Creek BBQ  
D'Signs by Diana  
String Bean Restaurant  
Six Flags Over Texas  
Golden Corral  
McAlister's Deli  
Jen and T.J. Forner

Doreen Peacock  
Mavericks Sports Grill  
Black-Eyed Pea  
Nataly Grau  
Texas Rangers  
Main Street Sign & Graphics  
Amber and Al Zuckerman  
Lone Star Park  
Lowe's  
Chuy's  
Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen  
Dr Delphinium Designs, Charles Ingram  
Dentistry of Las Colinas /  
Byron L. Mitchell, D.D.S.  
Gold Canyon Candle Co. / Noel Giger  
Julianne and Christopher Rompel  
Rob and Cheryl Davis  
Studio Movie Grill  
Dallas Zoo

## Houston

Ana Ayon and Hernan Krymkiewiez  
Rhonda & Jody Ilgenfritz  
John & Tiffany Klubnik  
G.W. Air Services (Glen & Mitzi Wells)  
Karen S. Thomason, D.C.  
Chad Bass & Leah Robilotto-Bass  
Diana and Tim Seynaeve

Craig & Daphne Muirhead  
Mike & Ashley Frederickson  
Meed Computer Help (Tomas Limon)  
David & Samantha Velezquez  
Todd & Kathy Rutherford  
Michael & Nicole Mallette,  
Custom Fire Protection  
(Jim & Fonda Goode)

Shane Meyer  
Nathan and Lisa Hanks  
Champion Forest Baptist Church  
The Avery Grace Kargel Memorial  
Taylor'd Gifts & Creations  
Milk & Honey Bakery

M.E.N.D. Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death  
 P.O. Box 631566, Irving, TX 75063  
 USA  
 (972) 506-9000  
*Return Service Requested*

Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 DeSoto, TX 75115  
 Permit No. 614

*“... that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God” (2 Corinthians 1:4)*

**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.*

- **Kroger grocery stores** donate a percentage of all purchases of those shoppers in Texas and Louisiana who have their Kroger Plus Card linked to M.E.N.D. To link your card, contact Rebekah (rebekah@mend.org) to obtain the Kroger Customer Letter. You must only present this letter one time to link your card to M.E.N.D.
- **Tom Thumb** also has a program in Texas that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you have a Tom Thumb Reward Card, please contact Rebekah (rebekah@mend.org) to obtain the Customer Letter. You must only present this letter one time to link your card to M.E.N.D. Reward cards can also be used at Randalls and Simon David stores.
- **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 in the Grapevine, Southlake, or metroplex area, Glenn will place, stock, and service the equipment and give M.E.N.D. 35 percent of the proceeds. 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. Just go to the Web site 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.
- **Little Beads and Macaroni and 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 [mbsbrown16@hotmail.com](mailto:mbsbrown16@hotmail.com).
- **IBM** employees may now make charitable donations to M.E.N.D. through automatic payroll deductions. Choose Charity Code 0M562 from the *IBM Employee/Retiree Approved Charity List*.
- **GoodSearch.com** is a search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Powered by Yahoo!, it is used like any other search engine. To earn money for M.E.N.D. using Goodsearch.com, go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and designate M.E.N.D. as your charity of choice.
- **Ebay** has a charitable giving program that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you sell items on Ebay and would like to designate a percentage of your revenue to M.E.N.D., visit [www.missionfish.org](http://www.missionfish.org) to find out how.
- **Igive.com** will donate a penny a search and a portion of each purchase made through their website to M.E.N.D. Sign up today! M.E.N.D.’s cause number is 52025.



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