Spring and summer are my two favorite seasons. I love the warm weather of spring and even enjoy the scorching Texas heat during the summer months. Those of you who live in the north and other cold states and countries, I just don’t know how you survive! I often say that Lewisville, Texas, is as far north as I go! However, along with the metamorphosis of brown lawns evolving into various hues of green and the bare trees miraculously growing leaves of all shapes and sizes, our hearts experience a change as well. Relieved to have survived the Christmas holidays and glad to be in a state of emotional recovery, we realize that two more very painful holidays are lurking around the corner that threaten to once again bring us down.

Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are the two most difficult Sundays of the year for newly grieving parents. What are meant to be days of honor are instead days of sorrow, especially for parents who lost their only children and do not have living children at home. Moms and dads wonder if they will or even should be acknowledged, ponder about attending family lunches, and further question if they will be able to get themselves out of bed at all. No one except those of us who have lost a child can comprehend the magnitude of these mental dilemmas and feelings of isolation.

In last year’s issue on this same subject, we printed the results of a very informal survey I conducted among many of our support group families (see the May/June 2002 newsletter on our Web site at http://www.mend.org/news_online.asp). The main focus of the questionnaire was how churches and clergy deal with these two Sundays. Sadly many parents responded that while infertile parents are sometimes mentioned and prayed for, rarely are parents who have lost a child, and therefore attending church is just too painful to endure. For weeks following the release of this newsletter, I was overwhelmed with the responses I had from our subscribers who excitedly reported that they gave copies of the survey article to their pastors and noticed a tremendous difference in their Sunday services! All across the country ministers, including mine, gently and lovingly made their congregations aware of the unique sorrow many couples deal with on Mother’s Day and Father’s Day and for the first time had a special time of prayer for them. Even though there was a twinge of pain knowing I was one of the moms my pastor was requesting divine peace for, I mentally cheered him on for the petition!

To further spread infant loss awareness, I encourage you to do as many of our readers did last year and send your pastor a copy of our 2002 May/June issue that can be printed off the Internet. Oftentimes churches are innocently unaware of the variety of hurts that fill the pews, and what may seem to be apathy is simply a lack of education. My pastor was very grateful for the reminder, and I’m sure yours will be, too.

My prayers will be with all you on May 11 and June 15, and I hope those around you will bestow upon you the honor and love you rightly deserve. Keep in mind that even if you do not have living children at home, you are still a parent, and these days do belong to you.

Rebekah Mitchell
Daddy Do You Know
by Dianna Wills for her husband Greg
In memory of Olivia (8/10/01)

Daddy do you know
How very much mommy loves you so?
She talks about you all the time
She says there’s no one better.
Mommy tells me to just wait and see
The kind of daddy that you will be.

Daddy do you know
I dream of sitting on your lap?
I can hear your voice—you make me laugh.
Everyone says that you’re so loud,
Soften your voice, tone it down.
But they don’t know that’s who you are,
So full of life and teasing.
Just you wait it won’t be long
Until you get to meet me.

Daddy do you know
I’m getting bigger every day?
It’s getting very crowded.
I kick and squirm with much protest,
I know that mommy’s doing her best.
She gives me hugs to let me know
She’s making room for me to grow.
I hear her say I’ll be BIG like you
It won’t be long Daddy—I’m excited, are you?

Daddy do you know
I hear a voice, it isn’t yours?
It’s calling me back to heaven.
Don’t be too sad; they need me there.
I’ll try to be brave; I’m just like you,
Daddy’s girl through and through.
So don’t tell mommy she’ll just worry.
I’m going to go now; I’ll be real quiet;
There’s no hurry.
Take care of my mommy, I know she’ll be sad.
You’ll need to be strong
You can do it, you’re my dad.

Daddy do you know
Why they wanted me here?
I learned from you what I needed.
I’m so full of life, there’s so much to do
I have BIG shoes to fill
That’s why God sent me you.
You’ll be so proud Dad, just wait and see.
I’ve become the daughter you’d want me to be.
Although I know you and mommy are sad,
I send all my love to you, my mommy and my dad.

Daddy do you know
I’ll see you again?
I can’t tell you why, I can’t tell you when.
But one thing I can tell so you never forget …

Daddy do you know
I love you?

Mother’s Day Ideas for Bereaved Moms
♥ Get out special keepsakes that remind you of your baby and keep them displayed during the day.
♥ Tie a ribbon on your mailbox in place of the card you would have received from your child.
♥ Wear a pink or blue carnation to church.
♥ Avoid restaurants if you think it may be too painful to see other mothers being honored by their children. Instead, go on a picnic with your spouse and talk about your child.
♥ Write about your feelings in a journal.
♥ Do something special for yourself, like a shopping trip or allowing yourself to settle in with a good book.

Father’s Day Ideas for Bereaved Dads
♥ Take a long walk or go fishing. Allow yourself a little time alone to cry if you need to.
♥ Talk with your wife about your feelings. Make sure you focus some conversation on you and not just on how you can help her.
♥ Build a picture frame or memory box for your baby’s picture or memorabilia.
♥ Build a garden in memory of your child.
♥ Write a poem or story about your baby.
♥ Think of at least one commitment or responsibility you can give up. Vow to spend the extra time doing something nice for yourself or someone else as a tribute to your child.
The Unseen Gaps in a Family
Loni Vander Stel

As I look around the dinner table, I know what a blessed mother I am. I always wanted a large family and many times am in awe at how good God has been to me. When we are out as a family, we receive comments so often of what a beautiful family we have. But I see the gaps in our family. Gaps where, yes, even though we have nine living children, I see empty spaces. Some of the spaces have questions like...would that have been a boy or a girl? With my miscarriages (three total), I may not have had the baby that followed, but there are still the gaps: the missing of an irreplaceable, individual child here on earth. I have the peace to know that my babies are in heaven and that someday my family will all be complete there, but until then all my tears won't be wiped away.

But there is even a bigger "known" gap...one that was almost filled here on earth but was quickly snatched away. We lost a baby at 36 weeks gestation because of a placental abruption. Angela Hope died before she was born. After my emergency c-section, I held this beautiful baby that was so peaceful, so perfect, but oh, so silent.

It's been over four years since we said hello and good-bye to her. How did we cope? One day, one tear, one memory and one day at a time - holding on to God, my husband, my children and family and friends who continue to remember with us. Though I believe speaking of miscarriages and stillbirths is much easier to talk about openly today than it was some twenty years ago, it is still a silent subject. There is still a majority who do not want to talk about a loss for fear of hurting the people who experienced it. The silence hurts more. If a mother, brother or best friend dies we don't forget that person. Our babies are etched forever in our minds and forever loved in our hearts. We want others to remember the existence of these precious children, by name if possible.

With Mother's Day here, remember the moms who have empty arms, who ache for the baby they should be holding. Remember the moms who don't have any living children. They are mothers. And, remember other mothers like me who on this Mother's Day notice "the gap" - the missing homemade card or one less hug. The first Mother's Day after a loss is particularly hard and is not a "happy" Mother's Day. This Mother's Day, remember a mom who is hurting and who wants to remember a baby or child that Jesus holds, not her.

©Loni Vander Stel
April, 2002

M.E.N.D. Support Group Meetings

Join us in a time of sharing experiences.

Our daddies group
meets the 2nd Thursday of March, June, September, and December from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
This is a special time for daddies to get together and discuss concerns unique to them as fathers. Our moms and dads meet together for introductions before dividing into two groups for discussion.

All support group meetings are held at:
1159 Cottonwood Lane, Suite 150
Irving, Texas (Las Colinas) 75038
(Playgroups meet at various locations around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.)
Birthday Tributes to Our Special Babies

To our son Benjamin in remembrance of your 4th birthday
We love you for all eternity.
Mommy, Daddy, Samantha and Kailey

There is not a single day that goes by that we don’t think of you and what might have been, could have been and should have been. As we light a candle in memory of you and what would have been your 4th birthday here on Earth, we also know that you are with God rejoicing with your heavenly family and all your loved ones that have come before you. In that and only that we can have Peace…

Dearest Landon,

It is hard to believe that it has been two years since we gazed upon you and held you for a very short time. Your mommy, daddy, brothers, and sisters all miss you so very much. Sometimes it seems too long to wait to have the chance to hold you once again. To look into your eyes, run our fingers through your hair, tickle you, and all the other things mommies and daddies do, will have to wait. You took a piece of each of our hearts with you, and someday, when we are all together as a family with you for the very first time, you may ask if we want that piece back. Our answer is a resounding no, as we wish for you to carry a piece of each of us with you always. It is the one piece of each of us that is already in the most wonderful of all places, in heaven with God the Father, Jesus, and all of your family that has already made their final journey. A perfect place.

We do wish and wonder what it might have been like if you were with us today. We would be celebrating your 2nd birthday party at our house with all the relatives, or maybe you would have picked Chuckie-Cheese. There would have been gifts, friends and family, and we would have let you make a mess of your cake and ice cream. Lest we forget the one thing we miss the most, memories to share. There would have been many pictures taken of you so that we might try and stop the hands of time, even if only for a brief moment. I know you would be walking, talking, and wondering about the big world all around. You would have had so many questions to ask us, always being content with the answers we provided, knowing that mommy and daddy had all the right answers. We would be taking you to feed the ducks at the park on sunny weekends, and hold you close at night during thunderstorms. We would know your favorite toy, bedtime book, and favorite tickle spot.

With all this said, we are so proud you are our son, and we know that you are in a place void of wrongdoing, anger, pain, and sorrow. I know not of any parent that could ask for a more perfect place for their child to grow in. In that and only that we can have Peace... In loving memory of Benjamin Thomas Mori
May 13, 1999
Stillborn at 38 weeks
Cause of death unknown
Parents: James and Tracy Mori
Big Sister: Samantha Jean
Baby Sister: Kaily Madison

Happy 2nd Birthday, Jason!

We love you and miss you every second of the day!

Jason Allen Hoover II
March 5, 2001
Unknown cause
Parents: Nicole Alonzo and Jason Hoover
Big Brother: Jacob
Little Sister: Jascine Allyson Nicole

Happy 5th Birthday
Tristen Wayne Livermore

We can’t believe five years have already passed. We love you and miss you.

Love,
Mommy
and little sister Valerie

Remembering Tristen Wayne
Stillborn 5/5/98
Cord accident
Mom: Cindy Livermore
Sister: Valerie

Jonathan,

Happy 8th birthday! It’s unimaginable that you would be 8 years old, probably would have just completed first grade and loving all kinds of sports like your big brother. We think about you and miss you every day!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy, and Little B

Remembering Baby Mitchell

In memory of Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord accident
Parents: Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
Big brother: Byron, Jr.
Remembering Baby Mitchell
Miscarried December 2001
Happy Birthday, Sarah!
Lots of love,
Mom, Dad, Brooks, Kaylee, and Brady

Sarah Ann King
Stillborn June 22, 1995
Unknown cause
Parents: David and Lori King
Siblings: Brooks, Kaylee, and Brady

Happy 2nd Birthday, my little dove!

Maria, you are playing with angels but we wish you were physically here with us. Mother’s Day is bittersweet for us since this is your birthday. How our lives have changed and how much we have grown since you came into our lives. Hugs and kisses...

We miss you!
SHMILY – See How Much I Love You!
Mommy, Daddy and Big Sister Dalila

Maria Kettrey
May 10, 2001
Complications from Amniocentesis
Parents: Billy and Claudia Kettrey
Big sister: Dalila

Happy 4th Birthday, Joseph!
You’ve made our lives so much sweeter.

Joseph Charles Libby
Stillborn May 26, 1999, due to a cord accident
Parents: Wim and Sharlene Libby
Siblings: Will, John, and Mary Grace
**A Mother’s Crown**

Heaven lit up with His mighty presence,
As all the angels looked down,
Today the Lord was placing the jewels
In all the mothers' crowns.

As He held up a golden crown
As all the mothers looked on,
He said in His gentle voice,
"I just want to explain each stone."

He held the first gem in His hand,
But the radiance couldn't match His own.
For He was the light of Heaven
Reflecting off each of the stones.

"The first gem," He said, "is an emerald,
And it's for endurance alone,
For all the nights you waited up
For your children to come home.

"For all the nights by their bedside
You stayed till the fever went down,
For nursing every little wound,
I add this emerald to your crown."

"A ruby, I'll place by the emerald,
For leading your child in the right way,
For if you hadn't taught them about Me,
They wouldn't be here with you today.

"For always being right there
Thru all life's important events,
I give you a sapphire stone
For the time and love you spent."

"For untangling the strings that held them
When they grew up and left home,
I give you this one for courage."
Then the Lord added an amethyst stone.

"I'll place a stone of garnet," He said,
"For all the times you spent on your knees,
When you asked Me to take care of your children,
And them for having faith in Me."

"I have a pearl for every little sacrifice
That you made without them knowing,
For all the times you went without
To keep them happy, healthy, and growing."

"And last of all I have a diamond,
The greatest of all gems,
For those mothers who lost their children
When they came home to heaven before them."

"This is the most precious sacrifice,
So I give the most precious stone,
For I know just how you felt,
I too lost a child of My own."

After the Lord placed the last jewel in,
He said, "Heaven is now complete,
For every mother has her crown of jewels,
And all her children are at her feet."
**Helpful Reading …**

*A Deepler Shade of Grace*
by Bernadette Keagy.

*Emoty Arms: Emotional Support for Those Who Have Suffered a Mncarriage Stillbirth, or Tubal Pregnancy*
by Pam Vredevelt.
Multnomah Press, Sisters, OR, 1984

*Emoty Cradle, Broken Heart – Surviving the Death of Your Baby*
by Deborah L. David, PhD.

*Free to Grieve*
by Maureen Rank.
Bethany House Publishers
6820 Auto Club Rd.
Minneapolis, MN 55438

*Grieving the Child I Never Knew: A devotional companion for comfort in the loss of your unborn or newly born child*
by Kathe Winnenberg
Zondervan Publishing House

*Heaven's Not a Crying Place*
by Joey O’Connor.
To order, visit his website at http://www.joeyo.com/
or e-mail joey@joeyo.com

*I Can't Find A Heartbeat: Hope and Help for Those Who Have Lost an Unborn Child*
by Melissa Sexson Hanson
Review and Herald Publishing Association

*I'll Hold You in Heaven*
by Jack Haford.
Regal Books
Ventura, CA

*In a Heartbeat*
by Dawn Seigrist Waltman
The B & B Media Group, Inc.
109 S. Main St.
Corsicana, TX 75110
www.bbmedia.com
1-800-927-0517, ext. 106

*In Search of Hope*
by Susan R. Lowe
AmErica House
www.publishameric.com

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

*Losing You Too Soon: Finding Hope After Miscarriage or the Loss of a Baby*
by Bernadette Keaggy
Harvest House Publishing

*Loss and Grief Recovery: Help Caring for Children with Disabilities, Chronic or Terminal Illness*
by Joyce Ashton with Dennis Ashton.
Baywood Publishing

*Morning Light – Miscarriage, Stillbirth and Early Infant Death from a Catholic Perspective*
by Bernadette Zambri.
To order, call 905-278-2058 (in Canada).

*The Rocking Horse Is Lonely – and Other Stories of Fathers’ Grief*
by James D. Nelson, Editor.
Pregnancy and Infant Loss Center,
1421 E. Wayzata Blvd., Suite 30,
Wayzata, MN 55391, 1994

*Silent Grief*
by Clara Hinton.
Published by New Leaf Press

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

*Surviving Grief by God’s Grace*
by Richard Battle
1st Books Library
www.1stbooks.com/bookview/9575
1-800-280-7715

*36 Hours with an Angel*
by Lindsay Roberts.
Richard and Lindsay Roberts Ministries,
P.O. Box 2187, Tulsa, OK 74171

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

*Unsung Lullabies: A Parent’s Guide to Healing After Childbearing Loss*
by Helping After Neonatal Death
P.O. Box 341, Los Gatos, CA 95031, 2000
Also available in Spanish

*When God Doesn’t Make Sense*
by Dr. James Dobson.
Published by Tyndale House Publishers,
Wheaton, IL, 1993

*When Hello Means Goodbye*
by Paul Schweibert, M.D., P., and Kirb.
Perinatal Loss, 2116 NE 18th Ave.,
Portland, OR 97212, 1986

*When Pregnancy Fails: Families Coping with Miscarriage, Stillbirth and Infant Death*
by Susan Borg and Judith Lasker.
Bantam Press, 1989

*Poetry …*

*Blossoms of My Heart*
by Jana Spigener
Heartblossoms Publications
817-271-6806
heartblossoms@msn.com

*SIDS …*

*The SIDS Survival Guide*
by Joey O'Connor.
To order, visit his website at http://www.joeyo.com/
or e-mail joey@joeyo.com

*Subsequent Pregnancy …*

*Another Baby? Maybe …*

*Thirty Questions on Pregnancy After Loss*
by Cherokee Ilse and Maribeth Wildre Doerr.
Contact Centering Corporation
www.centering.org
402-553-1200

*Pregnancy After a Loss – A Guide to Pregnancy After a Miscarriage, Stillbirth, or Infant Death*
by Carol Cirulli Lanham.
Berkley Books, A Division of Penguin Putnam, Inc., 375 Hudson St., New York, NY.
Call toll-free 1-877-853-3595.

*Still to Be Born*
by Paul Schweibert, M.D.
Perinatal Loss, 2116 NE 18th Ave.,
Portland, OR 97212, 1986

*Trying Again--A Guide to Pregnancy After Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Infant Loss*
by Ann Douglas and John R. Sussman, M.D.
http://www.having-a-baby.com/
tryingagain.htm

*For Children …*

*The Cherry Blossom Tree – A Grandfather Talks About Life & Death*
by Jan Godfrey.
Augsburg Fortress, 426 S. Fifth St., Box 1209,
Minneapolis, MN 55440, 1996

*Let’s Talk About Heaven*
by Debby Anderson.

*Molly’s Rosebush*
by Janice Cohn, D.S.W.
Albert Whitman & Company, Morton Grove, IL 1994

*Mommy, Please Don’t Cry – Tender Words for Broken Hearts*
by Linda DeV'maz.
Multnomah Publisher, Bend, OR
Contact www.multnomahbooks.com

*Someone I Love Died*
by Christine Harder Tangvald.

*Holiday Grieving …*

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

*A December Grief*
by Harold Ivan Smith.
Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
Kansas City, MO
Rebekah Hope Rosario  
Stillborn March 3, 2002  
Given by parents,  
Raymond and Melissa Rosario

Rianne Ellisa Scrivner  
March 4 - 7, 1997  
Severe Hydrocephaly  
Given by parents, Rae and Bill Scrivner  
and little sisters Chanie, Casidy,  
and Canlie

Katherine Elizabeth Kjolhede  
Stillborn May 10, 1999  
Unknown Cause  
Parents, Jim and Kristine Kjolhede  
Siblings, Jared and Savannah  
Given by Lake Highlands  
Women’s League

Oliva Grace Wayne  
Stillborn May 11, 1995

Jesse Wayne  
Miscarried April 20, 1996

Angel Wayne  
Miscarried July 22, 1998  
Given by parents,  
Richard and Jeanette Wayne  
and sisters Emmaline & Chloe

John Duke  
Stillborn December 22, 2001  
Parents, Mary Beth and Gary Duke  
Given by grandparents,  
Charles and Nancy Collins

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

Lauren Paige Grimes  
March 6, 1999  
Unknown Cause

Baby Angel Grimes  
Miscarried January 25, 2001  
Given by parents, John and Paula Grimes  
and sister Rileigh Renee

Daniel Patrick Stramel  
Stillborn October 1, 1999  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents, Joe and DeDe Stramel  
and siblings Payden and Kacey

Benjamin Thomas Mori  
Stillborn May 13, 1999, at 38 Weeks  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents, James and Tracy Mori  
and sisters Samantha Jean and Kailey Madison

Deanne Kathleen Klein  
November 19, 1998  
Lived for 4 1/2 hours  
Pre-term labor due to incompetent cervix

Michaela Deanne Klein  
Stillborn October 6, 1999  
Unknown Cause  
Given by parents, Tom and Anne Klein  
and siblings Melanie, Laura, Jacob & Quintin

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

A Father’s Strength  
By Paul D. McCutcheon  
For all fathers who have lost children

I sought just a little time alone,  
In hope of easing my grief,  
That covers me like a shroud  
Each morning as I wake.  
So, I find myself within your room,  
Concealed with locked doors of pain,  
To ask my Lord to come sit with me,  
And comfort my heart and soul.  
“Now, Dear God, I must speak with You,  
If You can hear my breaking voice  
Through my tears that flow like rain,  
Each day I hear my friends say,  
I must, for all concerned, stay strong,  
But Lord, can they not see within  
All the shattered dreams I hold?  
Each time I see a child at play,  
Or hear the crack of a baseball bat,  
I wonder, from the screams and shouts  
From an excited, cheering crowd,  
Could that have been my own child  
That made the home team proud?  
Is the player the reflection of my child  
Or the cheerleader who taunts the fans?  
Could it be I feel it once again  
When I see the look on strangers’ faces  
As they pamper someone’s newborn child  
And listen to the group that gathers  
To tell the father how proud he must be?  
While sitting here, peering out the window,  
Dreaming of all the things in view  
I think it could be my own child  
All dressed in tux and tails,  
Walking up to my neighbor’s front door  
To tell his first love,’Your chariot awaits.’  
Is it the one who humbly bears  
Or the one who will wear the bloom?  
So now, dear Lord, You know my thoughts,  
Of the dreams that burden my heart,  
When others expect once more to see  
The strength that comes from me.”

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In loving remembrance of  
Darren Scott McCutcheon 9/12/71—9/13/78  
Paul Aaron McCutcheon 2/5/74—9/13/78  
John Kevin McCutcheon 3/14/66 – 11/19/96

Once Upon a Family™ has a coordinated grouping of keepsakes called Childhood Cherished™ designed to keep memorabilia safe. Amy Gill, M.E.N.D.’s contact person for Once Upon a Family™ is donating 20 percent of sales of three special pieces (Baby Keepsake Box, Tiny Treasures Box, and Memory Trunk) of this collection back to M.E.N.D.

Contact Amy at 214-725-6116 or at texasgills@hotmail.com for more information.  
Visit www.onceuponafamily.net for more photos.
Subsequent Births


Christine and Chip Oxendine of Denton, Texas, joyfully announce the arrival of Emily Grace, born February 23, 2003, at 10:28 a.m. 7 lb., 4 oz., 20 inches long. The Oxendines lovingly remember Jacob Theodore, April 29, 2001, PROM.


Mark and Amy Donald, along with big sister Jenny of Flower Mound, Texas, announce with joy the birth of Thomas Hendrix, January 2, 2003, 6 lb., 8 oz. The Donalds lovingly remember their firstborn son, Charlie, stillborn November 10, 2001, unknown cause.


Jeffrey and Laurie Roiger of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, joyfully announce the safe arrival of Brayden Christopher, born December 11, 2001, 9 lb., 14 oz., 21 inches long, and Dylan Timothy, born March 2, 2003, 8 lb., 3 oz., 22 inches long, miraculously healthy with the cord wrapped twice and a true knot. The Roigers lovingly remember Kiana Bryn, stillborn January 10, 2000, due to a cord accident.

Matt and Dena Norton of McKinney, Texas, happily announce the arrival of Sydney Ellen, born February 23, 2003, at 5:07 a.m. and Allie Grace, born February 23, 2003, at 5:08 a.m. Sydney weighed 5 lb. and was 18 inches long while Allie weighed 5 lb., 4 oz. and measured 18 ¾ inches long. The Nortons carry in their hearts Nicholas Josh and Madison, stillborn August 31, 2001, due to an incompetent cervix.

Music Resources

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

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

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

Thought You’d Be Here
Words and music by Wes King
From his CD A Room Full of Stories, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

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

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

Glory Baby
Written by Nathan and Christy Nockels
Found on Watermark’s All Things New, can be purchased at Christian bookstores.

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

Mark your calendars now.

The 2003 Walk to Remember is scheduled for October 11 2:00 p.m.

Mother’s Day is a day of appreciation and respect. I can think of no mothers who deserve it more than those who had to give a child back.

~ Erma Bombeck
Organizations and Internet Support

**Pregnancy Loss & Grief Support**

The Adam and Michael Angel Mission  
P.O. Box 1031, Colleyville, TX 76034  
817-498-2660  
mike@adamandmichaelangel.org  
www.adamandmichaelangel.org

Bereaved Families of Ontario  
www.bereavedfamilies.net

CHERUBS-The Association of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Research, Advocacy, and Support  
e-mail: cherubs@gloryroad.net  
www.cherubs-cdhi.org  
P.O. Box 1150  
Creedmoor, NC 27522  
919-693-8158

Cristin’s Hope  
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Shores/1275/  
Footprint Ministry  
c/o Skip and Jerry Mudge  
P.O. Box 44153  
Charlotte, NC 28215  
http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/footprintministry/  
E-mail: sjmudge@ctc.net

GriefNet  
http://rivendell.org

H.A.N.D. (Houstan’s Aid in Neonatal Death)  
http://www.hern.org/~hand/

Helping After Neonatal Death (HAND)  
P.O. Box 341, Los Gatos, CA 95031-0341  
408-995-6102  
888-908-HAND  
www.bandonline.org  
e-mail: info@bandonline.org  
Support meetings in Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, and Central Valley counties—call for info.

Hygeia  
http://www.hygeia.org

The Memorial  
Biblical Prophecy Resource Center  
www.bprc.org/memorial/memorial.html

M.E.N.D.  
(Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death)  
P.O. Box 1007  
Coppell, TX 75019  
972-459-2396  
1-888-M.E.N.D.  
www.mendinghearts.org

Bereaved Parents Resource Center  
Support to infertile couples. Publishes a newsletter for a small fee.

M.I.S.S. (Mothers in Sympathy and Support)  
c/o Barb Van Hereweghe  
2982 S. Union St.  
Rochester, NY 14624  
716-594-4621  
800-716-SOFT (7638)  
e-mail: barbsoft@aol.com  
http://www.tribmony.org

Tom Golden’s Crisis, Grief & Healing  
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Lake/5142

SIDS Network  
P.O. Box 270, Ledyard, CT 06339  
800-560-1454  
http://sids-network.org  
e-mail: sidsnet@sids-network.org

Cribside  
c/o Bethany Christian Services  
300 First Capitol Dr.  
St. Charles, MO 63301-2893  
314-947-6164

SHARE  
St. Joseph Health Center  
300 First Capitol Dr.  
St. Charles, MO 63301-2893  
314-947-6164

S.O.F.T. (Support Organization for Trisomy 18, 13 & Related Disorders)  
c/o Barb Van Hereweghe  
2982 S. Union St.  
Rochester, NY 14624  
716-594-4621  
800-716-SOFT (7638)  
e-mail: barbsoft@aol.com  
http://www.trisomy.org

Tom Golden’s Crisis, Grief & Healing  
http://www.tribmony.org

UNITE, Inc. (Perinatal grief support)  
7600 Central Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19111-2499  
215-728-3777

Zoom  
http://www.premier.net/~zoom/

**Subsequent Pregnancy After a Loss**

Hopeful Women  
www.hopefulwomen.com

**Continuing a Pregnancy After Adverse Premature Birth**

A Child of Promise  
www.ccm-stl.org/acop

**Infertility**

Bereaved Parents Resource Center  
Support to infertile couples. Publishes a newsletter for a small fee.

Hannah’s Prayer  
Providing Christian Support for Fertility Challenges.  
Online newsletter available.  
P.O. Box 168, Hanford, CA 93232-0168  
775-852-9202  
http://www.hannah.org

INFID  
http://www.infid.org

Infertility  
http://www.fertilitythoughts.net

Journey to Jordan  
A ministry for families dealing with infertility and adoption. Publishes a newsletter for a small fee.  
4511 E. Gatewood Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85024-6938

Reproductive Medicine Program  
http://repro-med.net

Resolve  
http://www.resolve.org/

Sharing Stones  
Offers Christian hope, encouragement, and support to infertile couples. Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter.  
c/o Bethany Christian Services  
901 Eastern Avenue NE  
P.O. Box 294  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294  
http://www.bethany.org/step

**Multiple Loss**

CLIMB (Center for Loss in Multiple Birth)  
e-mail: climb@pobox.alaska.net

Limbo-L, List  
Loss in Multiple Birth Outreach  
For parents who have lost one or more children in a multiple birth situation.  
Contact Terry Callaghan at Terry45@hotmail.com  
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Lake/5142

The Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome Foundation  
411 Longbeach Parkway  
Bay Village, OH 44140  
440-899-8887  
http://www.tttsfoundation.org

Twinless Twins  
11220 St. Joe Rd.  
Ft. Wayne, IN 46835-9737  
219-627-5414

**SIDS**

SIDS Network  
P.O. Box 270, Ledyard, CT 06339  
800-560-1454  
http://sids-network.org  
e-mail: sidsnet@sids-network.org

Cot Life Society  
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Trail/5955

North Texas SIDS Alliance  
1401 Airport Freeway, Suite 118  
Bedford, Texas 76021  
metro (817)267-7955  
toll free in Texas only (800)650-SIDS  
http://www.northtxsids.org  
e-mail: info@northtxsids.org

**For Clergy**

National SIDS and Infant Death Program Support Center—Bereavement Guidelines  
www.sids-id-psc.org

**Spanish**

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

e-mail: carlare@geocities.com
**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 who have and use a Kroger Share Card back to M.E.N.D. To obtain your Share Card, contact Rebekah via one of the ways listed on the last page of this newsletter and let her know how many you need. This program is valid in Texas, but residents of other states may need to check with store managers to see if they participate.

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

Kathryn Padilla, a M.E.N.D. member, is an independent Mary Kay consultant who is donating 40 percent of all sales by M.E.N.D. if they are made by M.E.N.D. members. Members also get ten percent off their first online order. You can shop online at www.mymk.com/kpadilla1.

Kim Robinson, a Pampered Chef kitchen consultant and M.E.N.D. family member, is donating 40 percent of sales to M.E.N.D. members back to our organization. You can browse products at www.pamperedchef.com, then e-mail Kim at kimr@cheerful.com to place an order.

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

Cheryl Kilburg designs beautiful heart pendants as remembrances of loved ones who leave our hearts with a “missing link.” To see her work and order your own pendant, visit My Heart’s Missing Link at www.myheartsmissinglink.com. Cheryl will donate $10 for each gold item sold and $5 for each sterling silver item sold to M.E.N.D. members back to M.E.N.D.

Dana and Tracy Davis are independent representatives for VarTec Telecom/Excel Communications, a company that offers telephone service at competitive rates. Dana is donating 5 percent of her profits from sales to M.E.N.D. members back to M.E.N.D. You can call her at 214-360-1531, or call 1-877-EXCEL-4U and give global identification #9265706111.

Sandy Burnham, a Princess House Lifestyle consultant and M.E.N.D. member, will donate 10 percent of profit earned on your order back to M.E.N.D. Call (313) 792-9699 or email her at bburnham@metroshores.net to request a catalog or place an order.

Heather Sanfacon is an educational consultant with Discovery Toys and will donate 15 percent of profits from sales to M.E.N.D. friends and relatives back to M.E.N.D. For a catalogue or information, contact Heather at sanfacon75@netzero.com or 603-742-8123. Customers must mention M.E.N.D. in order for donations to be made.

Kevah Kreations has developed a special Infant Memory Scrapbook Kit to help families develop their babies’ memory scrapbooks. This is a very delicate and sensitive 20-piece kit that contains memory poems, die cuts, feathers and keepsakes. Cost is $5 plus $2 for shipping and handling. Info may be requested at Kevah955@cs.com or by calling 843-871-3071. All checks may be made payable to Kevah Kreations. Mention M.E.N.D. while ordering and a small percentage of the sale will be donated back to M.E.N.D.

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**Walk to Remember T-shirt Order Form**

Send your order to the address on the back of this page. Deadline is September 1 (no exceptions).

Name: ___________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________________
City : _____________________ State: _____ Zip: ____________
Phone: ____________________ E-mail address: _____________________
Monogram: (ex. Celia Jones Remembering Jason Alexander)

Please Circle Size: Adult L XL XXL
Price per T-shirt: $25.00 with monogram $15.00 without monogram
Sales Tax: $2.06 per monogrammed shirt, $1.24 per shirt without monogram
Check here if you will be picking up your t-shirt: __________
Check here if you would like your t-shirt shipped to you: ________ ($3 per order for S&H)
Make checks payable to M.E.N.D.

# of shirts _____ x $25.00 = ________
# of shirts _____ x $15.00 = ________
Sales Tax (7.25 %) =
Postage & Handling =
Total $_______________________
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 M.E.N.D.
P.O. Box 1007
Coppell, TX  75019
(972) 459-2396
1-888-695-M.E.N.D.
Fax (972) 459-2396
E-Mail: Rebekah@mend.org
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:

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

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

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

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