I was shocked last year at the May M.E.N.D. support group when so many of the ladies announced that they would not be attending church on Mother’s Day, and a few acknowledged that they would be staying home on Father’s Day as well. Sure, these two Sundays have been bittersweet for Byron and me since Jonathan’s stillbirth in 1995, but since we had a child prior to our loss, I guess I never quite realized the intense pain many couples feel on these commemorative days. I decided to conduct a very informal survey of several of our M.E.N.D. families and was quite surprised by the results.

My first question to the families was: Did you attend church on the first Mother’s and Father’s Days after your loss? The result was 50/50, and frankly after last year’s meeting, I thought the result of those staying home would have been a little higher. However, of the 50% who attended church, 20% regretted doing so. I asked that same group what their church plans were for this year. 64% said they plan to attend, 12% said they will not go, and 24% are still undecided.

I asked a group of families who have not yet experienced a Mother’s or Father’s Day after a loss if they intend to be present in church this year. Contrary to what the first group said, 85% of these newly bereaved families will attempt to attend church.

I next asked the families who have gone to church on these days if their pastors acknowledged that some people in the congregation may be deeply hurting due to the loss of a child. The astonishing answer was that only 35% said their ministers made mention of grieving parents. I next asked if they wished their pastors had acknowledged their losses, and only 15% said they were glad he did not because it would have been awkward and uncomfortable for them. 90% of this same group feels their pastor/church could and should improve the way the services are conducted on these two holidays.

Lastly I asked how they related to their extended families and how their family and friends treated them on Mother’s and Father’s Day. Sadly, 20% of the couples broke family traditions for the days and isolated themselves. Thankfully, 75% of the couples who lost their first child were recognized as parents, yet 100% of those polled desire to always be acknowledged as a parent to the child they lost.

The results of this survey are in no way intended to influence whether or not you attend church on these two Sundays. Instead, the purpose is to spread recognition of the hurt many families endure and to increase knowledge and insight to pastors of the intense pain many of their parishioners feel, encouraging clergy to perhaps amend their sermons and traditions. Additionally, I encourage you to feel free to declare your wishes to your church if you feel changes need to be made and express your gratitude to the ones who made you feel special on these days.

Regardless of what you decide to do on May 12 and June 16 of this year, remember that the Lord is your comforter and you ARE a parent!

Rebekah Mitchell
Empty Arms on Mother's Day
By Molly Woulfe
Times Features Writer
Originally printed in The Times of Northwest Indiana on May 12, 2001

Mothers -- and would-be mothers -- can find Mother's Day a strain, too. Ask a woman unable to conceive or carry a baby to term. Or a woman trying to survive the soul-shattering loss of a child.
Ask Linda Kojich of Hammond.
Linda, 37, was ecstatic when her firstborn arrived by Caesarean section Feb. 19, 1996. "I'm a mom!" she told her husband, Jonathan. "I'm a mom!" she told everyone in the recovery room.

Her mantra was to establish her new status. Because her arms were empty.
Jonathan Jr. was a husky 13-pound, 8-ouncer. He had time to give two yells before specialists whisked him to the neo-natal intensive care unit. While J.J. was developing in the womb, a cell had "hiccuped," a physician explained. The baby's intestines, liver and stomach formed outside his body.

Surgeons operated that same day to repair the defect, and a second time a week later to close his abdomen. The baby was transferred to Children's Memorial Hospital on Day 10. Then his kidneys began to fail. The couple never brought their son home. He died in their arms when he was 19 days old. His numb parents conducted a wake and funeral and buried him at Elmwood Cemetery.

To the National Center for Health Statistics, Jonathan Kojich, Jr., was a statistic, one of more than 28,000 U.S. infants who die in their first year of life. To his mother and father, he was the giddy center of their universe.

Her first Mother's Day was "very hard," Linda said wryly. "My mom was the only one who called to see how I was that day." John went to work that Sunday -- his way of dealing with grief. Linda, an operations manager at LaSalle Bank in Chicago, chose to keep busy by cutting the grass. Then her neighbors' children arrived next door laden with gifts. "I left the lawn mower right where it was and took off for Elmwood. I sat on a blanket (by J.J.'s grave) until they closed," she said.

Her friends rallied. Linda was "too scared" to attend a support group for bereaved parents, so a pal joined one, took notes and reported back to Linda that her crying jags were ultra-normal. Her friends took her out often, too, requesting seats in smoking sections of restaurants to spare her the sight of babies.

When Linda felt braver, she joined the Compassionate Friends support group and the Resolve Through Sharing program at The Community Hospital in Munster. Her mother, Marilyn Thompson of Hammond, went with her and "cried her eyes out, too," Linda said.

Martha, Linda's counselor, gave her some sound advice.
First, she was to give herself permission to cry, within limits. For example, she could sob for two hours, but not all day.
Second, the blond banker was to learn to identify emotional triggers that reduced her to tears -- like passing the diaper aisle in the grocery -- and decide coping strategies in advance.
Third, and most importantly, Linda and John were to give themselves time. Lots of it. "Nothing can make this easier or less awful than it is," Linda said.

The Kojich family's story ends on a happier note: The couple was blessed last year with a second son, Adam. The first time Linda went to Target to buy diapers, her mother accompanied her and snapped a picture of her daughter triumphantly holding a box of Huggies. She'd never had the chance to buy some for J.J.

"I was grinning like a fool," she said.

Adam, 14 months, is starting to take his first tentative steps. His parents are thrilled, but their joy is tinged with sadness. Every milestone he reaches reminds them of ones J.J. never did.

His mother often talks to her younger son about his elder brother so he grows up understanding their family is a little different. But a family nonetheless. "I can't help but think of things J.J. would be doing at this age," Linda said.

Her advice to others who know grieving mothers and fathers: acknowledge their parenthood on Mother's and Father's days. Eloquence is unnecessary.

"Unless you've been through it, you don't know what to say," said the mother of two, one living, one deceased. "But let them know you remember that baby, remember that child."

Her own mother did, and she'll be forever grateful. "I didn't know how great she was until I had Adam," Linda said. "Through everything with J.J., I was so self-centered. It was all about me and my pain and my grief. Then when I had Adam and I needed help -- 'It's 2 a.m. in the morning and I need help, help, help!' -- she was there."

"Now that I have Adam, she can be a grandmother to a living child. I'm so glad to have her in my life. On Adam's birthday, I told her I hope that someday Adam loves me as much as I love her."

Editor's note: Linda Kojich designed a website to celebrate her first child's brief life, with links to support groups for grieving parents. The address is http://home.talkcity.com/EmoticonBlvd/bobski/index.html.

This year's Walk to Remember will be Saturday, October 12, 2002, at 3:00 p.m.
The walk will be held at Andy Brown Park East, Coppell, Texas.
To make your reservation now, contact Rebekah Mitchell at (972) 459-2396 or rebekah@mend.org.
Support Group Meetings

Join us in a time of sharing experiences.

Regular M.E.N.D. meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of every month from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Mommies AND daddies are both welcome at all of our meetings.

Matters of Faith
Bible study meets every 3rd Thursday.
Please contact Jana Spigener at (817) 468-9963 or gaspigener@aol.com if interested.

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

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

Subsequent pregnancy group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
For families who are considering becoming pregnant or are currently pregnant after a loss.

Subsequent pregnancy birth class
For families who are near their due date with their subsequent pregnancy.
This one-night childbirth refresher meets once every three months and is conducted by one of our M.E.N.D. moms, Allyson Smith, R.N. The group requires a minimum of three participants to meet. For more information contact Allyson at ssmith@dallas.net or (972) 899-0405.

(Playgroups meet at various locations around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.)
Birthday Tributes to Our Special Babies

Happy 6th Birthday, our precious little Jonathan!

We love and miss you.
Love, Mommy, Daddy and Little B
Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
and big brother, Byron, Jr.

In memory of
Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident

Happy 7th Birthday, Happy 7th Birthday, Happy 7th Birthday, Happy 7th Birthday, our precious little Jonathan!

We love and miss you.
Love, Mommy, Daddy and Little B
Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
and big brother, Byron, Jr.

In memory of
Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident

Happy 1st Birthday, Little Dove!

You are in our daily thoughts and we know you are always with us. We gain comfort from knowing you are in company with the angels. We miss and love you so very much!

Mommy, Daddy, and Big Sister Dalila

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Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
and big brother, Byron, Jr.

In memory of
Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident
Happy 4th Birthday, Tristen!
You are deeply missed.
From Mommy and little sister
Valerie

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

Dearest little Colten,
The gifts were wrapped and tied with bows
Teddy bear and train
Your new baseball glove and baseball bat
Were waiting just the same
We know the joy that children bring
We also share their pain
‘Cause God kissed you softly on the cheek
And took you home again.
We only got to hold you for just a little while
The greatest gift was yours to us
Our little angel child …

Love,
Grandpa Ben and Grandma Vicki
Papa Gib and Nana Kathie

Happy 2nd Birthday!
Colten Benjamin Ballmer
Stillborn May 28, 2000
due to Umbilical Cord
Stenosis—Congenital

Happy First Birthday,
Precious Luke

It has been a year since you were born. Just 12 days to touch you, to talk to you, to sing to you, to gaze at your beauty. A lifetime so short that will last forever in our hearts.
We love you and miss you.

Mommy, Daddy,
Steven, and Olivia

Remembering Joseph Luke Woodford
June 6 – June 18, 2001
ACD (Lung Defect)
Parents: Vicki and Troy Woodford
Siblings: Steven and Olivia

To Our Son,
Happy First Birthday Griffin Caleb!

I wanted to write a poem or something that was quite catchy, but I just miss you too much. I keep having to wipe the tears away thinking of the things I wished to do with you, to play catch or run, to chase the dog or tease Mom. These things and many more will never come.

Griffin, on June 6th many proud Americans will remember back to a day on a beach where one last stand for freedom was made. For your mother and I, we will remember back to our own D-day, the day our child was delivered into the hands of our Lord.

As you look down upon us from your heavenly playground, know that we love you and miss you dearly.

With loving thoughts,
Your mommy and daddy

In memory of Griffin Caleb McIntosh
Stillborn 6-6-01 due to unknown causes
Parents: Matthew and Naomi McIntosh

To Our Son, Benjamin in remembrance of your 3rd 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 3rd birthday here on earth we also know that you are with God rejoicing with your heavenly family and all your loved ones who have come before you. 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: Kailey Madison

To our son Benjamin in remembrance of your 3rd birthday ...
We love you for all eternity.
Mommy, Daddy, Samantha and Kailey

In 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: Kailey Madison

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Mommy, Daddy,
Steven, and Olivia

Remembering Joseph Luke Woodford
June 6 – June 18, 2001
ACD (Lung Defect)
Parents: Vicki and Troy Woodford
Siblings: Steven and Olivia
**M.E.N.D.**

**Our time was so brief, we still quite don’t know why**

**Know that we long to be with you again**

And someday we will be, it’s just a matter of when

While we wait for that day, we’ll hold you in our hearts

And cling to that hope that we’ll soon never part.

Happy Birthday, little one, you’re a two-year old boy.

And still, each day, our hearts fill with pride and joy.

For you, our sweet son, we think you are great.

Happy Birthday Logan, from Mommy, Daddy, and baby Blake.

Logan David Iliff
May 5, 2000

Placental abruption at 38 weeks

Parents: Joseph and Samantha Iliff

Sibling: little brother Blake

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**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.

**M.E.N.D.** member Amy Allred is a **Creative Memories** consultant. Amy donates to M.E.N.D. 20 percent of all sales made by M.E.N.D. members. If you would like to place an order, her phone number is (972) 272-7249, and her e-mail address is theallreds@juno.com.

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

Tom Thumb also has a program in Texas that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you have a Tom Thumb Reward Card, please ask your Tom Thumb cashier to link your card with M.E.N.D. Our number is **6265**. If you are already linked to another organization, they will split a donation of one percent of your purchases between the organizations. It only takes about five minutes to get a Reward Card, and it can also be used at Randall’s 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. members. If you would like to place an order, her phone number is (972) 222-7474 or e-mail: atHOMEkjines@aol.com. You can visit the website 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.

**The Weaver’s Thread** is a book of poetry by Angelique Cooper-McGlotten honoring the five babies she lost. A percentage of the sale of this book will go to M.E.N.D. For more information, visit http://www.eofl.net.

Carol Martin of Flower Mound, Texas, is the owner of a business called **For Brittany**. She makes beautiful mommy bracelets that come in a variety of styles and/or you can design your own. You can see all of her bracelets on her web site at www.forbrittany.com. For every sale to M.E.N.D. families, she will donate 10% back to us, but you must remember to tell her you are from M.E.N.D.

Nikki Wynne, a M.E.N.D. member and an **AVON** Independent Sales Rep, is donating 15% of all AVON Orders made by M.E.N.D. members to M.E.N.D. Please contact Nikki whichever way is best for you, by phone 817-419-7508, by email at nikkitheaonlady@aol.com, or shop on-line at her website (use passcode: nikki) at http://www.youravon.com/nwynne/.

Kim Jines, Independent **Southern Living at HOME** Consultant, is a M.E.N.D. member who is donating 20 percent of all sales made by M.E.N.D. members. For a catalog, call: (972) 222-7474 or e-mail: atHOMEkjines@aol.com. You can visit the website at www.southernlivingathome.com.

April Mayer, a M.E.N.D. member, is an independent **Tupperware** consultant who is donating 10 percent of all sales made by M.E.N.D. members back to our organization. You can browse products at www.tupperware.com. If you would like to place an order, her phone number is (940) 365-9695, and her e-mail address aubrey-tupperware@att.net.

Sandy Burnham, a **Shaklee** independent distributor and M.E.N.D. member, is donating 10 percent of sales made by M.E.N.D. members back to M.E.N.D. Please visit www.shaklee.net/sandyburnham to place an order. Remember to tell her you are from M.E.N.D.

Kris Binsfeld is an independent consultant for **Tastefully Simple**, a company that provides open-and-consume and easy-to-prepare gourmet foods. Kris will donate 10% of all sales to anyone who mentions M.E.N.D. Feel free to browse the website at www.tastefullysimple.com. Please contact Kris by phone 320-548-3413 or email her at mrsstom@meltel.net.

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**Remembering Joseph**

On his 3rd birthday

We love you, little boy!

Joseph Charles Libby
May 26, 1999

Cord accident

Parents:

Wim and Sharlene Libby

Siblings: Will, John, and little Mary Grace
Acknowledged as a Mother

Mother's Day was just two and a half months after my precious little boy, Chandler, was stillborn. I just couldn't bring myself to go to church that day even though my husband was the pastor. I knew that they would be giving corsages to the youngest and oldest mothers present. I knew that I would definitely be the youngest mother there, but did others see me as a mother? I had no child on earth to prove it... Would I stand up as the youngest mother or would I not? I couldn't bring myself to do either one, so I just stayed home. My husband came home after church with a corsage. No, it wasn't the one for the youngest mother. It was the one given to the oldest mother present, a dear sweet woman named Mildred. When she was presented with the corsage for being the oldest mother there, everyone saw that she was already wearing a corsage given to her by her children. They asked her if she wanted to give it to the next oldest mother and she immediately spoke up and said, “NO! This corsage belongs to Amy!” My husband brought it home and I wore it on my T-shirt the rest of the day feeling like she acknowledged as a mother, although they may acknowledge that I am the baby, but I don’t think 3 years later, many friends will acknowledge me as a mother, although they may acknowledge that I am pregnant. I did not receive a Mother’s Day card from my mother-in-law [on my first Mother’s Day]. I don’t think everyone acknowledges me as a mother. I think everyone knew my first one was very hard because I had just delivered the baby, but I don’t think 3 years later, many friends will acknowledge me as a mother, although they may acknowledge that I am pregnant because I am ‘not’ a mother (I have not had a child since my loss) and because I don’t have my own mom to celebrate with.” ~ Jennifer Moore

“Even though our children are not living here with us, they are living in our hearts and are a part of us. We are still parents.” ~ Melanie Boyd

“My dad told me happy Mother's Day and I received a Mother’s Day card from my mother-in-law [on my first Mother’s Day]. I don't think everyone acknowledges me as a mother. I think everyone knew my first one was very hard because I had just delivered the baby, but I don't think 3 years later, many friends will acknowledge me as a mother, although they may acknowledge that I am pregnant because I am ‘not’ a mother (I have not had a child since my loss) and because I don't have my own mom to celebrate with.” ~ Jennifer Moore

“If the church is willing to help women make the right choice and give birth, why not recognize pregnancy loss?” ~ Claudia Delgado

"On Mother's Day I not only celebrate the lives of my living children, I rejoice in the life of my son.” ~ Kristen Walton

Amy Allred
Chandler's Mommy
Stillborn 3-4-99 due to neural tube defects

Grief Materials
Birth and Life
141 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 371-4445

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

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

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

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

M.E.N.D. Members Reflect on Mother's and Father's Day
"During our first year following Faith's death we attended church. I went for support from our church family. Everyone had been so kind about remembering and acknowledging her since she died in September. I was in my 7th month of pregnancy with our second child and most everyone made it clear that they were wishing me a happy Mother's Day for both the baby we lost and the one we were expecting." ~ Lisa Durham

"They are such tender days—and still are for me. Of course, it's always around David's birthday. My eyes see differently now and I tend to seek out the childless couples or those coping with loss to see how they are handling things. I still - and always will - appreciate friends and family remembering and remembering David." ~ Dianna Hatfield

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Amy Allred
Chandler's Mommy
Stillborn 3-4-99 due to neural tube defects

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**Organizations and Internet Support**

**Pregnancy Loss & Grief Support**

Angel Babies – Forever Loved
http://www.welcome.to/angels4ever.com

Antiphospholipid Syndrome
http://bometown.aol.com/AmAmail/Anti.html

Bereaved Families of Ontario
http://www.inforamp.net/~bf0/

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

Children and Grief
http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/eivitas/

Footprints Ministry
13611 Merton Woods Ln., Charlotte, NC 28273-9008

GriefNet
http://rivendell.org/index.html

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

Helping After Neonatal Death (HAND)
P.O. Box 341, Los Gatos, CA 95031-0341
408-995-6102

P.O. Box 341
Coppell, TX 75019
972-459-2396 / 1-888-M.E.N.D.

http://www.hern.org/~hand
http://rivendell.org/index.html

**Infertility**

Hannah’s Prayer
Providing Christian Support for Fertility Challenges. Online newsletter available.
P.O. Box 168, Hanford, CA 93222-0168
775-852-9202, http://www.hannah.org/

INCHD
http://www.inchd.org/

Infertility
http://www.fertilethoughts.net

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

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

Resolve
http://www.resolve.org/

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

**Multiple Loss**

CLIMB (Center for Loss in Multiple Birth)
e-mail: climb@pobox.alaska.net
http://www.climb-support.org

Limbo-L, List,
Loss in Multiple Birth Outreach
For parents who have lost one or more children in a multiple birth situation.
Contact Terry Callaghan at Terryc45@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Lake/5142

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

c/o Bethany Christian Services
901 Eastern Avenue NE
P.O. Box 294
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294
http://www.bethany.org/step/

http://www.sidsnetwork.org

c/o Bethany Christian Services
901 Eastern Avenue NE
P.O. Box 294
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294
http://www.bethany.org/step/

**Spanish**

Fundacion Esperanza
www.geocities.com/Heartland/Bluffs/7102/
e-mail: carlarh@ivillage.com
Helpful Reading ...

A Deeper Shade of Grace
by Bernadette Keaggy.

Empty Arms: Emotional Support for Those Who Have Suffered a Miscarriage Stillbirth, or Tubal Pregnancy
by Pam Vredevelt.

Empty 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 Kathie 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

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

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

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

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

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,

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

A Silent Sorrow
by Ingrid Kohn.
Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, Inc.,

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,

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.

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

Subsequent Pregnancy ...
Another Baby? Maybe ...
Thirty Questions on Pregnancy After Loss
by Sherroke 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.
To order directly, 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.

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.

Mommy, Please Don’t Cry – Tender Words for Broken Hearts
by Linda DeYmaz.
Multnomah Publisher, Bend, OR

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.
In Loving Memory

Kali Alyssa Brown
Stillborn April 12, 1996
Unknown Cause
Given by parents,
Nancy and Les Brown
and siblings Cody, Tyler,
and Alana

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

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

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

Lauren Paige Grimes
Stillborn March 6, 1999
Unknown Cause
Given by parents,
John and Paula Grimes
and big sister Rileigh

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident

Baby Mitchell
Miscarried December 2001
Parents, Rebekah and Byron Mitchell
Big brother, Byron, Jr.
Given by grandparents, Dennis and Sue Brewer

Maya Denise Ates
Stillborn January 6, 1998
Cord Accident
Given by parents, Tammie and Horace Ates
and siblings Erin and Brandon

Colten Benjamin Ballmer
Stillborn May 28, 2000
Umbilical Cord Stenosis - Congenital
Parents, Jamieson and Regan Ballmer
Given by grandparents, Gib and Kathie Menough

Christopher Reese Hall
May 25, 1999

Alexis Danielle Hall
May 27, 1999
Preterm Labor/Uterine Infection
Given by parents, Eric and Jan Hall
and little brother Camden Alexander

Baby M
Miscarried Oct. 15, 1999

Baby Boy Moreton
Miscarried March 17, 2000

Angel #3
Miscarried August 1, 2000
Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome
Given by parents, April and Sam Moreton
and little brother Asher

Logan David Iliff
Stillborn May 5, 2000
Placenta Abruption
Given by parents, Joe and Samantha Iliff
and little brother Blake

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

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

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

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

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

I’ll Meet You in the Morning
By Karen Ritchey
http://www.members.cnx.net/kritchey/
e-mail:  kritchey@cnx.net

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

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

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

Empty Arms
Words and music by Teri Curp
From her CD Look Ahead
Teri Curp Ministries
1413 NE Grand Avenue
Lee’s Summit, MO 64086
816-246-8374
tcsings@swbell.net
LaTonya Borsay and Kahlil Bell
of New York, New York,
proudly announce the arrival of their daughter
Yaania Yalayea
(means life in God's hands)
January 8, 2002.
She weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz.
LaTonya and Kahlil lovingly remember
Hanif Hashim,
stillborn January 17, 2001,
due to unknown cause.

Jeff and Elizabeth Caffey
of Arlington, Texas,
joyfully announce the birth of
Caroline Grace
November 6, 2001,
6 lbs., 14 oz., 18 1/4 inches long.
The Caffeys lovingly remember
Eleanor Jane,
stillborn February 8, 2000,
due to a cord accident.

Eric and Jan Hall
of Euless, Texas,
proudly announce the arrival of
Camden Alexander,
born March 9, 2002, at 8:27 a.m.,
8 lbs., 5 oz., 20 1/8 inches long.
The Halls lovingly remember
Christopher Reese,
May 25 1999,
and Alexis Danielle,
May 27, 1999,
due to preterm labor/uterine infection
and Baby Hall,
misscarried September 12, 2000,
and Baby Hall II,

Kelly and Tom Spaniel,
along with big sister Shelby Emerson
of Dallas, Texas,
proudly announce the arrival of
Abbey Elizabeth,
born March 11, 2002,
5 lbs., 14 oz., 18 inches long.
The Spaniel family lovingly remembers
Shelby's twin sister
Bryce Elizabeth,
September 2 - September 8, 2000,
brain bleed.

Danny and Jennifer Johnson
of Roanoke, Texas,
proudly announce the birth of
Logan Alexander,
March 19, 2002.
Logan weighed 6 lbs., 14 oz.
The Johnsons lovingly remember
Ethan Cole,
October 13, 2000,
heart problem.

Eric and Tangi Poindexter,
along with sister Kenley
of Ada, Oklahoma,
rejoice in the arrival of
Kole Garrett,
He weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz.,
and was 19 inches long.
The Poindexters remember with love
Eric Blaine,
January 14, 2001,
Trisomy 13.

Craig and Melanie Boyd
of Irving, Texas,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Samuel Garrett,
born April 4, 2002, at 6:41 p.m.,
7 lbs., 3 oz., 20 1/2 inches long.
The Boyds lovingly remember
their four babies in heaven:
Abigail Joy,
misscarried June 22, 1999,
Hannah Elizabeth,
misscarried October 21, 1999,
Michael Aaron,
stillborn April 23, 2000,
and Christian,
misscarried December 17, 2000.

Sunshine and Jeff Shirley
of Toppenish, Washington,
proudly announce the arrival of
Noah Ivan,
born March 12, 2002,
10 lbs., 6 1/2 oz., 21 3/4 inches long.
The Shirleys lovingly remember
Ivy Adrianna,
December 21, 2000,
placenta abruption.

Elaine and André Brown
of Arlington, Texas,
announce the arrival of
Eric Jeremiah,
born March 17, 2002,
6 lbs., 5 oz.
The Browns lovingly remember
André Demetrious, Jr.,
December 7, 2000,
placenta abruption.

A Mother's Day Wish from Heaven
By Jody Seilheimer
Shared by Danny and Susan Hale

Dear Mr. Hallmark,
I am writing to you from heaven, and though it must appear
A rather strange idea, I see everything from here.
I just popped in to visit your stores to find a card
A card of love for my mother as this day for her is hard.

There must be some mistake I thought, every card you could imagine
Except I could not find a card from a child who lives in heaven.
She is still a mother too, no matter where I reside
I had to leave, she understands, but oh the tears she's cried.

I thought that if I wrote you that you would come to know
That though I live in heaven now I still love my mother so.
She talks with me, and dreams with me; we still share laughter too,
Memories our way of speaking now, would you see what you could do?

My mother carries me in her heart, her tears she hides from sight.
She writes poems to honor me, sometimes far into the night
She plants flowers in my garden, there my living memory dwells
She writes to other grieving parents, trying to ease their pain as well.

So you see Mr. Hallmark, though I no longer live on earth
I must find a way to remind her of her wondrous worth
She needs to be honored and remembered too
Just as the children of earth will do.

Thank you Mr. Hallmark, I know you'll do your best
I have done all I can do; to you I'll leave the rest.
Find a way to tell her how much she means to me
Until I can do it for myself when she joins me in eternity.
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.

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).

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

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

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Return Service Requested

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