

- IRIS website <u>www.irisRemembers.com</u>
 Facebook (search Infants Remembered In
- Silence)
- Twitter (search IRISremembers)
- IRIS Blog (irisremembers.wordpress.com)
- Make sure we have your e-mail address!



IRIS Vídeo

As part of the Pepsi Refresh grant application IRIS produced a 3 minute video. This wonderful video can be found on the IRIS website, on YouTube (search Infants Remembered In Silence), and will be available on our Pepsi online application. Special thank you to those involved in the IRIS video including:

- IRIS Families that shared their picture
- The Kuschel Family
- The LaCanne Family
- Voice Actor & Music Composer
- Andy Sundwall
- VIPR Institute of Production & Recording Mpls
- SRR Student Run Records (IPR) Mpls.
- Steve Momcilovic Recording Engineer
- TLT Video Production Faribault
- Amber Warnemunde Creative Memories
- ֎ Jenna Edwards Movie Producer
- Stacy Chmelik IRIS
- Diana Sundwall IRIS

Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS) has applied for a **\$250,000 Pepsi Refresh Grant**! The application was uploaded to the Pepsi Refresh site on August 1st. We are currently waiting for the application approval to be e-mailed to us. Once approved, our application will appear on the Pepsi Refresh website for "**September**" voting. That is

where we will need your help!!!! Starting September 1st please ask all of your family, friends, coworkers, etc. to vote for IRIS ever day!

ero. To vote for IRIS ever day!

The Pepsi Refresh grants are given out monthly. There are 10 - \$5,000 grants, 10 - \$10,000 grants, 10 - \$25,000, and 2 -\$250,000 grants. Applicants choose a category/area of interest, the amount of funding that they are requesting, complete the online application that must be approved, and posted online for you to vote on daily. Voters are allowed 10 votes per day – with one vote per day per grant application.

If we receive the grant, the \$250,000 will be used to train 150 new IRIS Advocates from across the United States. Training will be free of charge and will include room and board, supplies, testing supplies, start up supplies, and hands on training for support groups, picture taking, sculptures, hand and foot prints, bathing, diapering, and clothing, etc. We estimate that 150 trained IRIS Advocates working with 10 bereaved mothers, in one year, 30,000 lives will be touched by IRIS.

Please support us with this very special opportunity and chance to assist other bereaved families who will need our help. How can you help?

2nd Annual IRIS Turkey Trot

THANKSGIVING MORNING November 25, 2010

- Who: Everyone is invited including IRIS supporters, families, friends, even your 4 legged friends!
 - What:2nd Annual IRIS Turkey Trot5K Timed Run, 5K Walk, and Kids Fun Run
 - When: Thanksgiving Morning November 25th
 - Where: Faribault Middle School 704 17th St. SW, Faribault MN

Faribault Middle School Gymnasium

7:30 a.m. Check-in and Registration 8:00 a.m. Kids Fun Run 8:30 a.m. 5K Timed Run and Walk

Entrance fees: 5K Timed Run or Walk By November 12 - \$20 After November 12 - \$25

> Kids Fun Run By November 12 - \$12 After November 12 - \$15

Online registration with PayPal payment at: <u>www.irisRemembers.com</u>

Create a Team Page on the IRIS website! You can tell you story, upload pictures, and collect donations!

All Runners/Walkers are guaranteed a Turkey Trot Tshirt if registered by Friday, November 12th. Entrants registered after Nov. 12th will not be guaranteed a shirt, please sign up early to guarantee your t-shirt!

This year the start and finish will be at the Faribault Middle School. Routes will be posted on the IRIS website. The Turkey Trot will be held regardless of the weather. Entry fees are non-refundable.

Contact Deanna at the IRIS office 507-334-4748 or E-mail trot@irisremembers.com for more info.

The 2009 IRIS Turkey Trot had over 500 Participants from all over the United States!

Come join us, you'll be home in time for Thanksgiving dinner!









Stepping Stones Author Unknown

Come, take my hand, the road is long We must travel by stepping-stones. No, you're not alone; I'll go with you. I know the road well; I've been there. Don't fear the darkness, I'll be with you. We must take one step at a time. But remember, we may have to stop awhile, It is a long way to the other side, And there are many obstacles. We have many stones to cross; some are bigger than others. Shock, denial, and anger to start. Then come guilt, despair and loneliness. It's a hard road to travel, but it must be done. It's the only way to reach the other side. Come; slip your hand in mine. What? Oh yes, it's strong. I've held so many hands like yours. Once, you see, I had to take someone's hand In order to take my first step. Oops! You've stumbled; go ahead cry, Don't be ashamed, I understand. Let's wait here awhile and get your breath. When you're stronger we'll go on, One step at a time. There's no need to hurry. Say, it's nice to hear your laugh. Yes, I agree, The memories you shared are good. Look, we're halfway there now. I can see the other side, It looks so warm and sunny. Oh, have you noticed; we're nearing the last stone And you're standing alone! And look, your hand, you've let go of mine! We've reached the other side. But wait, look back, someone is standing there. They are alone And want to cross the stepping-stones. I'd better go, they need my help. What? Are you sure? Why, yes, go ahead, I'll wait. You know the way; you've been there. Yes, I agree, it's your turn, To help someone else cross the stepping-stones.

Thank You For Your Kind Donation

- Thanks to all the volunteers that took advantage of the Disney Give a Day Get a Day Program. IRIS had over 40 people sign up! These volunteers did everything from working with teddy bears, copying and typing poems, making blankets and hats, to cleanup at Kinder Park and the IRIS Common Burial site! Be sure to check out the 1,000+ poems that are now on the IRIS website thanks to this group of wonderful people!
- Frankie Benson, Lucy Fuechtmann, Brenda McKeever, Anna Kincade, Sue Rau, Gayle Reineke for making all the precious blankets and hats.
- Thank you Alexandra for making the lady bug Valentine magnets that were sold at the Bake sale at our annual IRIS Breakfast.
- Women of Waseca Women's Federal Prison for their kind donation of baby blankets/hats.
- Thank you for the gifts in memory of Grace Kathryn Woitas - yarn, puffs, blankets, scrapbook paper, T-shirt, and onsies. From Kevin and Marisa Woitas (Dad & Mom), brothers Braeden and Jaxen, Grandma D'Rae, Grandma & Grandpa Woitas, Great Grandma and Grandpa Barrie, and Aunt Katie
- Thank you for the memorial gifts in memory of Kyle David Horman - bags of candy, scrapbooking items, yarn, vacuum bags and the box of labels from Barb and Dave Horman (Kyle's mom and dad).
- Thank you to Vanessa and Jon Zimprich for their wonderful donation of 1 year membership to Flickr – the IRIS website photo gallery in loving memory of Anthony Michael.
- Thank you to Carleton College for new furniture for our office.
- Thank you to Rita DeWerd and her home economics group for all of the hand painted boxes, and the Trotman Family for the beautiful hand crafted Shaker boxes. These boxes are given out to the bereaved families that IRIS works with as a very special keepsake.



Softball Tournament

2nd Annual "For the Love of Joshuah Softball Tournament" Saturday August 14, 2010

Adult, co-ed softball tournament. Proceeds benefit IRIS, Le Center Elementary School, and Joshuah Neubauer Memorial Fund. Registration fee after July 10th is \$175. The tournament is limited to10 teams. Tournament will be held rain or shine. Tournament payout based on 10 teams: 1st Place \$250, 2nd Place \$200, 3rd Place \$100 Concessions will be available. Send Team name, Manager/Coach name, mailing address, phone numbers, and e-mail address with registration fee to:

"For the Love of Joshuah Softball Tournament" 41531 237th Ave. LeCenter, MN 56057

> For more information contact: Angie at (507)357-4411 or Cris at (507)357-2244



A Father's Pain By Evan's Dad, Randy

A Part of me travels with you As your spirit travels forth. A perfect child in my heart forever You will never be forgotten. The short time that we shared A time so precious to me, You shall always be my beloved son From now through eternity. My cries of pain are silent An emptiness fills my soul, Evan, I'll always remember How your passing took its toll. Goodbyes are difficult to say May the angels care for you above, But even death can never break The bond of your Fathers Love



LaCanne's Marine 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament Saturday, August 21, 2010 Faribault Golf Club 1700 17th Street NW Faribault, MN 55021

8 a.m. and 1 p.m. tee times

Hole in one giveaway on all par threes! \$95 per player or \$380 per team. Includes cart, a meal served immediately following the golf tournament and music by Mr. Peabody.

Silent Auction until 9:00 p.m. Contact the IRIS office (507) 334-4748 or Nick LaCanne if you have items you, your family, or friends would like to donate to this silent auction.

<u>Mister Peabody</u> will be performing for the general public from 9:00 to Midnight in the Golf Club parking lot!

For more information or to register contact Nick LaCanne at (507) 210-6132 or visit him at LaCanne's Marine, 19860 Roberds Lake Blvd, Fariault Register early as space is filling up fast!





"A Little Life ... A Lasting Love."

In Duluth Minnesota there is a memorial bench positioned with a wonderful view of Lake Superior. The bench is a memorial for a baby who had only lived for a few months. For many, these few words hold endless emotions.

IRIS Calendar of Events



- 11 Midday Support Group 11am 1pm
- 14 For the Love of Joshuah Co-Ed Softball Tournament West Park, LeCenter 8am
- 21 LaCanne's Marine 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Faribault Golf & Country Club Tee times 8am & 1pm
- 24 Evening Support Group 7 8:30pm



- 8 Midday Support Group 11am 1pm
- 18 IRIS Scrapbooking Event 9am -9pm Our Saviors Lutheran Church
- 28 Evening Support Group 7- 8: 30pm



- 3 Potluck and Balloon Release at Kinder Park. Potluck is at 12 noon with Balloon Release at 2 pm.
- 13 Midday Support Group 11am 1pm
- 26 Evening Support Group 7 8:30pm



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- 10 Midday Support Group 11 1 pm
- 12 Registration deadline to guarantee t-shirt for Turkey Trot
- 19 Closing date for IRIS Holiday Service
- 23 Evening Support Group 7 8:30pm
- 25 2nd Annual Turkey Trot at the Faribault Middle School. Check-in & Registration starting at 7:30am



- 5 IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance, Chapel of the Good Shepherd, 1000 Shumway Ave. Faribault, MN Keepsake window display set up – noon 2 pm Service Begins
- 8 Midday Support Group 11 1 pm
- 12 Worldwide Candle Light Children's Memorial Day – 7pm in your time zone
- 28 No Evening Support Group



IRIS Newsletters

As many of you may have noticed IRIS is no longer sending out four (4) newsletters a year. The reason

for this change is simply the cost. IRIS has been printing and mailing our newsletters by bulk mail for years, with the cost increasing yearly. IRIS now pays approx. \$1,000 per mailing of one newsletter (\$4,000 yearly). In addition, many of you have stated that you are not receiving the newsletter in the appropriate time frame. There are two reasons for this. One is that bulk mailing, while less expensive, can take 6 weeks or longer to be delivered and two, bulk mail is not forwarded. If you move or your address changes in anyway, your newsletter will not be delivered. We are not notified of this, thus corrections cannot be made.

We have also heard from many of you that you would rather read the newsletter online. It is in color, can be updated faster, and printed if you need or want a hard copy. We will begin posting newsletters online more frequently and mailing out the newsletters to those that do not have access to the IRIS website. You are the key to making this new system work! We will be sending out e-mail notices when a newsletter is posted online, event dates are approaching, etc. In order to do this we need to have your current e-mail address. Please send an e-mail with NEWSLETTER as the subject to: <u>iris@qwestoffice.net</u>



A Love Song By Nancy Williams

The mention of my child's name May bring tears to my eyes. But it never fails to bring Music to my ears.

If you really are my friend, Please, don't keep me From hearing the beautiful music. It soothes my broken heart And fills my soul with love.

"If I had a flower for every time I thought of you, I could walk in my garden forever."



United Way Contributions

- United Way of Dodge County \$2,750
 1st half allocation
- Waseca Area United Way \$2,500
- United Way Special Distribution Account UPS Donor Designation - \$35
- United Way of Faribault \$500 3rd quarter allocation
- United Way of Faribault \$500 4th quarter allocation



Corporate and Personal Donations

- Northfield Hospital \$700
- Paul Swenson \$200 (Easter Photo Shoot)
- Wal-Mart Foundation (Stacy Chmelik VAP program) \$250
- St. Patrick's Church of Shieldsville Council of Catholic Women - \$25
- Rice County VFW Auxiliary \$25
- Moose Lodge of Faribault \$100
- Church of St. Michael CCW \$50
- Cities 97 (Clear Channel) \$11,000
- VFW of Owatonna \$50
- VFW of Faribault \$100
- Bruzek Funeral Home, Inc \$200
- Eagles Ladies Auxiliary of Faribault \$300
- Church of St. Dominic Northfield \$500
- New Moms Network Northfield \$50
- Wells Fargo Community support by employees – AJ Walker, Emily Velishek, and JD Walker
- Joshuah Neubauer Memorial Fund (Scrapbooking event) - \$200
- Jason & Maggie Demars (Ice Golf Fundraiser) - \$380
- MN State Court of Catholic Daughters of the Americas - \$869
- From Missy Shippman



Through a Child's Eyes Guidepost, May 1964 A little girl and her father walked in the

evening. Fascinated, she looked up at the stars but made no comment. "What are you thinking?" her father asked. She replied, "If the bottom of Heaven is so beautiful, how wonderful the other side must be."



IRIS Wish List

- White & Clear Mailing Labels (Avery 8160)
- Baby Lotions (sample size)
- Baby Bath (sample size)
- Stamps
- Postal Scale
- Baby yarn or sport weight yarn in pastel colors. We are very low on blue yarn.
- Printer Ink (HP 56 black HP 57 color)
- Scrapbooking supplies including scrapbooks, scrapbooking papers, embellishments
- Cash donations and memorials
- Books for the lending library (we accept books that you have read and would like to share with other bereaved parents, grandparents, and friends)
- Silent Auction items for the Golf Tournament
- Cleaning supplies



Our Littlest Angel

By Connie Bolick In memory of Kristina Marie Bolick, miscarried on July 14, 1999.

You were our littlest angel, we always thought of you that way. We had no way of knowing that, Your life would last only a day. You grew guietly within me, we loved you from the start. Then suddenly your life was ended, you became an angel in my heart. And as this Christmas time begins, with bright colored lights to see. There is no need for an ornament, to place atop our tree. Our littlest angel will be there, looking down from Heaven above. Asleep in the arms of the Christ Child, remembered in our hearts with love.

Scrapbooking Event



Join with other IRIS parents for a day of scrapbooking! This is an event where you can scrapbook pictures of your child that has died.

Saturday September 18th 9 am – 9 pm Our Saviors Lutheran Church 1207 Prairie Ave. in SW Faribault MN.

Bring pictures that you would like to scrapbook, your scrapbooking supplies, if you have them, your lunch or money for lunch, and snacks to share if you can. IRIS will supply beverages. Don't have the supplies? IRIS has 12x12 scrapbooks, papers, stickers, and other scrapbooking supplies for you. We have also had a Creative Memories consultant, Amber Warnemunde, offer to help you fix photos that may be difficult and if you like, show you how to create a digital photo album. This can be done before the Scrapbooking day. For more info or to RSVP call Natalie at the IRIS office (507) 334-4748 or e-mail: iris@qwestoffice.net



Thank You Dear Friends

To honor and thank for the support and love shown to the Embury Family during the weeks and months that have followed our loss:

> Jean & Denny Correll, Lindsay & Brittany Patt & Denny Germann Michele & Jim Hartshorn Donna Johnson Patti & Steve Krueger Jani & Roger May Nicole & Tim Roach Lori & Joe Schleis, Erin & Courtney Debbie & Fran Thompson ~The Embury Family



Adult Memorials

 In Memory of Mark F. Kelley (Diana Sundwall's father) ~The Kelley Family

IRIS receives portion of Cities97 City Sampler 21 proceeds

The Cities97 2009 Live from Studio C, holiday CD sales raised \$725,000 for Minnesota charities. As a recipient, IRIS received a donation in the amount of \$11,000 during the Sampler Charity Luncheon, Ceremonial Check Presentation, and special Studio C performance.



Pictured with ceremonial check are; Diana Sundwall – IRIS Executive Director, Lauren Macleash – Cities97 on air

personality, and Denise Dube` - IRIS Board of Directors.

Pictured with members of the Alison Scott Band are; Denise Dube` -IRIS Board of Directors, Diana Sundwall – IRIS Executive



Director, Studio C performers - Alison Scott (vocalist/piano) and Kevin Bowe (guitar/vocals), and Todd Kalman- Cities97 General Sales Manager.



Donations In Honor of

- In honor my granddaughter's and grandson's to be delivered soon. Kathie H
- In Honor of David and Robin Hattey's 30th Anniversary Sarah & Ivan Denouden
- In Honor of Margaret Walker for her work with IRIS Francis Raidt



Dear IRIS,

We just had our family Christmas and had Santa Clause make an appearance to hand out gifts to the children. When we tried to pay

Santa he asked that we donate the money to IRIS. He said that he only did this to see the joy on the kids' faces. Santa asked that the donation be in memory of Daniel Piepho and the Hjelman babies who were missing from our family event.

~ Marv & Bev Stark families on behalf of Santa Clause



A Time of Sharing

Lyrics & Music by Tim Clausing What a time of joy Will it be a girl or maybe a boy Choosing names - dreams of ponytails and backyard baseball games. When I close my eyes I still can hear them telling me your baby died. We did our best We can talk so more - right now just get some rest. Pleading no - begging to be told that isn't so. And I'll share my sorrow with you It's OK if we just sit here and cry Cause for us this is real - It's a pain just we can feel. Hand in hand we'll help each other to get by. My baby is part of me Don't tell me that life will be what it will be. At least hold my hand When I cry – don't shut me up please try to understand Help me talk it through - maybe there'll be something here for you. And I'll share my sorrow with you It's OK if we just sit here and cry Cause for us this is real – It's a pain that we can feel. Hand in hand we'll help each other to get by.



IRIS Support Group Meetings

"I didn't know if we should go to the IRIS support group meeting or not. I didn't know who would be there, I didn't know if it was it

only for moms or would there be dads there to. I was a little nervous about what we would talk about; I was worried about what people would say, and how the meeting might make me feel. It didn't take long to figure out that the room was full of people who understood what we were feeling, they cared, they listened, and they didn't judge, they acutely wanted to see her pictures! They were the first people who really understood. I am so glad that we went."

~ A Dad from an IRIS Support Group

IRIS support groups are not the same as talking to someone on the internet. Both moms and dads attend and sometime they bring grandparents, close family members, or friends with them. Meeting consist of talking about what every the parents want to talk about, sometimes that's how their child died other times it's something that they did to remember or honor the child, and still other times its, when events they are not looking forward to. Parents are encouraged to share pictures and other keepsakes and as much or as little information as they would like. Consider coming and seeing what a meeting is really like.

Midday Meetings are held the 2^{nd} Wednesday of every month from 11 am – 1 pm

Evening Meetings are held on the 4^{th} Tuesday of every month from 7 – 8:30 pm (we usually run late.)





What Would He Tell Me... About His First Day of School

By Linda Moffatt

Ok. I didn't think it was going to bother be this much. I've been saying for weeks that I couldn't wait

till school started to get Scott and Ashley out of my hair. (They couldn't wait to get me out of theirs, either!)

So, here it is, the eve of the first day of school, and I'm thinking, "What would tomorrow be like if Nicolas were here?" His turn finally comes to stand outside with backpack and new shoes, waiting for the big yellow school bus. Or would he have been the only one of the three who wanted mom to take him to his first day of kindergarten? What would he come home and tell me about his first day of school?

And what about the kids –"his class." Will I forever look at these kids (and their parents) and wonder "what if?" They don't even know that they're missing a classmate.

Here it's been almost six years and I feel compelled to hand around the school and grab every kindergarten parent I see and say "I would have had a child in this class." I surprised myself because I don't usually have those urges anymore.

But this is harder than I thought it would be. Another milestone of life – first day of school – that Nicholas (and I) missed. The thing is, nobody will think of this. It's not a birthday, Mother's Day or Christmas. It goes by unnoticed except by a mother with kids too excited to sleep tonight – one starting 5th grade, one starting 2nd, and one...



Why don't People Understand What I Lost?

By Jamie Dawson for Maggie May Dawson October 24, 2002

The day my Maggie was born early and died, I lost..... My one year old saying her first words. My two year old saying "no" hundreds of times. My three year old asking the infinite question of "why?" My four year old entering preschool. My five year old attending her first day of kindergarten. My six year old learning to count. My seven year old losing her first tooth. My eight year old have her first sleep over. My nine year old saying boy's have "cooties". My ten year old starting to look less like a child. My eleven year old having her first crush. My twelve year old stuck in that "awkward" age. My thirteen year old finally reaching ten years. My fourteen year old starting high school. My fifteen year old meeting her first boyfriend. My sixteen year old learning to drive. My seventeen year old graduating. My eighteen year old becoming a woman, my friend.





Kindergarten Angel By Mary Jo Gruber

In memory of Jessica Anne August 25, 1991

When the Kindergarten bus rolls past my window this Fall, there will be tears rolling down my face. A sweet little five year old should be leaving home, for a seat where, for the first time, she would take her place, but my front door won't be pushed open, no last minute hugs for me; only my lonely heart aching for a little one who was never meant to be. Would she have a ponytail? Would it be curly or straight? Would she walk to the bus timidly or with a confident gait? Would there be tears in her eyes as she waved good-bye or merely a carefree glance? Would she think of me on her first kindergarten day? Would she sing? Would she skip? Would she dance? Almost five years have passed since the night we said good-bye, there was no hello, no coos, no cry... only a silence so loud that I, too, wanted to die. And since that time, I've held her tightly in my heart;

we are bound by a forever love although our lives are, for awhile apart.

United in thoughts of what could have been, my life moves ahead, although the light of her memory will never dim.

And while, this Fall, the school bus will have an empty place,

my heart and my eyes, of longing, will be full. She is forever my love, my unknown treasure, my special Kindergarten Angel.





Memorials

 In loving memory of Macey Alexander Balzer

Ricky & Catherine Balzer

- In loving memory of Baby Barnett Tami Lemke
- In loving memory of Wyatt Joseph Borden 3/22 – 3/26, 1996 Mommy (Laura (Roban)Jones)
- In loving memory of Baby James Brown IV Mommy & Daddy (James & Laura) John & Deborah Schad
- In loving memory of Lizzy Sammon Dienst's 5th birthday (5/18) Mommy and Daddy (Beth & Nick)
- In loving memory of Cole Brent Krenzke and Cashe Lonnie Berge Ruth Krull
- In loving memory of Edward Carte David & Kathleen Zdon
- In loving memory of Corey Creger Mom & Dad (Trent & Michelle)
- In loving memory of Preston Hugh Crooks Happy 8th Birthday Preston 7/28/02 Mommy & Daddy (Natalie & Leif)
- In loving memory of Kilian Donahue Ernie & Marge Morris
- In loving memory of Angel Little Ones Embury Mommy and Daddy (Lani & Barry)
- In loving memory of Christian Joel Kriesel Joel & Tiffany Kriesel
- In loving memory of Erin Grace Kriesel Julie & Larry Kriesel



Memorials

- In loving memory of Trevor Clarence Kaplan Mom & Dad (Dan & Rachel) Grandma Sue & Grandpa David Kaplan
 Clarence (Butch) & Diane Boyd Donald & Karen Kaplan
 Caroline & Herbert Sorenson
 Dorothy & Terry Kruckeberg
- In Loving memory of Julia Lynn Liverseed Mom & Dad (James & Wendy)
- Baby Lemke Tami Lemke
- In loving memory of Joshuah Neubauer Mom & Dad (Angie & Dan)
- In loving memory of Samuel Walter Opsal Mom & Dad (Walt & Katie Opsal)
- In loving memory of Daniel James Piepho Marv & Bev Stark & Families Santa Claus (See Story that follows) Grandma & Grandpa Ryks
- In loving memory of our nephew Trevor Richard Pint Matthew & Deborah Hoffer
- In memory of Jake Michael Schaffran (7/15/09)
 Greg Niblett
- In loving memory of Baby Stroh Mommy & Daddy (Lynette & Justin)
- In loving memory of Hjelmen babies Marv & Bev Stark & Families Santa Claus
- In loving memory of William Thomas Wagner. Mom and Dad (Sheri and Tim)



Memorials

- In loving memory of Emma Ward Mommy & Daddy (Lisa & Nathan)
- In loving memory and in honor of Anthony Michael Zimprich's 2nd Birthday (02/08/08) Mommy and Daddy (Vanessa & Jonathan) Jean & Dennis McBride
- In loving memory of Derek Joseph Sundwall Mom (Diana Sundwall)



A Lament for My Baby Author unknown

I never got to hear you laugh you never saw me cry didn't get a chance to say "Hello" you never said "Goodbye" I didn't think that I could feel so sad, lost and forlorn. I never knew God chose his Angels before some of them were born. Your life was short yet special I shared it all exclusively I felt you breathe, I felt you kick. You were alive inside of me. Every baby is an Angel and every angel is divine God needed one in heaven He came down and took mine And although we are not together we're not really apart for you'll always occupy a space deep within my heart. Time has begun to ease my pain It's only some days now I cry. When I wish I could have said "Hello" and heard you say "Goodbye"



A Grieving Parent Is... By Judy Skapnik

A grieving parent is someone who will never forget their child no matter how painful memories are.

A grieving parent is someone who yearns to be with their dead child but cannot conceive leaving their living ones.

A grieving parent is someone who has part of a heart as the rest is buried with their child.

A grieving parent is someone who begs for relief from the memories which plague them and then feels guilty when they get it.

A grieving parent is someone who pretends to be happy and enjoying life when they really are dying inside.

A grieving parent is someone who can cry or laugh at the drop of a hat whenever they remember their beloved child.

A grieving parent is someone who feels as if they just lost their child yesterday no matter how much time has passed.

A grieving parent is someone who fears for their remaining family because they cannot bear to have any more losses.

A grieving parent is someone who sits by their child's gravestone and feels a knife stabbing their heart.

A grieving parent is someone who wants to help others who have lost loved ones because somehow their loss is theirs all over again.



Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS) 101 NW Third St. Faribault, MN 55021

In this Newsletter:







IRIS has applied for a \$250,000 Pepsi Refresh Grant!

Find out how YOU can help starting in September 1st !

Annual IRIS Potluck and Balloon Release October 3rd

Kinder Park (Corner of 17th St. and 24th Ave. NW Faribault MN)

Potluck is at 12 noon IRIS will provide plates, silverware, & drinking water

Balloon Release at 2 pm

You provide your own balloons (no Mylar please) Place a tag on the balloon at home or at the park.

100's of tags from balloons have been found, and returned to IRIS office, and then to you.