

Support Group Meetings

IRIS Support Group Meetings are held twice each month at the IRIS office (101 Third St. NW in downtown Faribault) Meetings are informal and a wonderful place to vent your frustrations, feelings, and share emotions with other parents who understand.

<u>Midday Meetings</u> are held on the second (2nd) Wednesday of each month from 11 am – 1 pm

Evening Meetings are held on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month from 7 – 8:30 pm

Midday Meetings	Evening Meeting
Feb. 8 th	Feb. 28 th
March 8 th	March 28 th
April 12 th	April 25 th
May 10 th	May 23 rd
June 14 th	June 27 th
July 12 th	July 25 th
August 9 th	August 22 nd
September 13 th	September 26 th
October 11 th	October 24 th
November 8 th	November 28 th
December 13 th	No Meeting



Scrapbooking Special Event

Thanks to Natalie Crooks, the February 18th Scrapbooking will have a special touch added to it. There are a total of 20 spots open for a day of Scrapbooking at "Remember When" a scrapbooking store located in the Medford Outlet Mall. We will have use of their scrapping room and access to their store. This is a private event reserved for bereaved parents.

Time: 10 AM - 8 PM

Location: Remember When Scrapbooking Store

Medford Outlet Mall

6750 East Frontage Road, Medford MN

Fee: No Charge

Meals: Bring your own food items or order in RSVP: LIMITED to 20 people. Please call the

IRIS office (507) 334-4748 to reserve

your spot today!

Thank You For Your Donations

- Dr. Ben and Pat Tuma
 - Center for Philanthropy \$250
- United Way of Faribault \$750
- Northfield Hospital Auxiliary \$100
- Wells Fargo
 - Community Support Campaign \$55
- Anonymous donation \$50
- Northfield Area United Way \$625

Thank You For Your Donation

- Yvonne Jacobson ~ Volunteering in the office
- Laura Schultz/Creative Memories consultant ~ donation of a Creative Memories scrapbook, pages and page protector at a 30% discount for all IRIS parents. Please call the IRIS office for details
- Anna Kincade, Ricki Danielson, Alice Smuca
 Baby Blankets
- Margaret Walker and Jessie Donahue ~
 Volunteering in the IRIS Office
- Joni and Tom Trotter ~ volunteering their service to maintain the IRIS website
- To everyone who has been collecting Milk Moola from Kwik Trip milk and juice, please keep up the great job!
- ◆ Linda Dusek ~ a TLC Scrapbook and stickers
- Michele Priebe ~ Handmade Thank You cards
- ◆ Margaret and JD Walker ~ 3 rolls of stamps

Holiday Service 2005

The IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance was held on December 4, 2005. In the following pages you will find a listing of the names read at the service as well as the names those who purchased a poinsettia and/or a memorial bell.

Anyone wishing a copy of the program from this service is asked to send a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope -1 stamp) to the IRIS office.

IRIS - Holiday Program 101 NW Third Street Faribault, MN 55021





Memorials

In loving memory of **Katherine Hardcopf** Grandma and Grandpa Hardcopf

In loving memory of **Daniel Piepho**Love Mommy and Daddy
(Chantell and Charles Piepho)
Love Grandma and Grandpa Ryks
(Kenneth and Kathleen)

In loving memory of **Drake Michael Vickney**. We love and miss you.
Grandma and Grandpa Vickney
(Jan & Bob)

In loving memory of **Kilian Richard Donahue**, Happy 2nd Birthday and Heavens Birthday, We love you! Mommy and Daddy (Jessie and Jim)

In loving memory of William Robert and Bethany Agnes DeGrood
Love Mommy and Daddy
(Connie and Joe)

In loving memory of **Blake Stadler** Love Grandma (Cheryl Armagost)

In loving memory of our precious little **Hannah Rose Rysavy**Love Mommy and Daddy
(Wendy and Ben)

In loving memory of our sweet little **Trevor Richard Pint**Love Mommy and Daddy
(Kristy and Joseph)

Memorials

In loving memory of our precious little **Tahirih Dimayuga**, Love Mommy & Daddy (Michelle Pettit de Dimayuga & J. Guadalupe Dimayuga Garcia)

In loving memory of my son **Derek Joseph Sundwall**Love ya Mom (Diana Sundwall)

In loving memory of our precious twins **Aiden Michael and Owen Michael Puppe** We love you and miss you (Susie and Mike Puppe)

In loving memory of **William Thomas Wagner**. We love and miss you.

Mommy and Daddy (Sheri and Tim Wagner)

In loving memory of our precious **Joseph Thomas Markman**

Love Mommy and Daddy (Lori Jo and Todd Markman)

In loving memory of our precious son **Jacob Donald Peterson**. We love and Miss you. Love
Mommy and Daddy
(Susan and Scott Peterson)

In loving memory **Zander James Nowak**We love you
Debbie and Talitha Nowak

In loving remembrance of our precious granddaughter, **Mara Anne Kolterman**. Grandma and Grandpa Johnson (Anne and Doug)



Memorials

In loving memory of **Coltan Arette**. We love and miss you. Carol and David Beranek Grandma and Grandpa Kriesel (Julie and Larry)

In loving memory of **Gianni Anton Carrasca** We love & miss you, Mommy & Daddy Arlene and Gene Carrasca

In loving memory of our precious little **Lizzy Dienst**.

We love you, Mommy and Daddy (Beth and Nick)

In loving memory of **Nicholas Joseph Moravec**. Love Mommy and Daddy (Denise and Joe)

In loving memory of **Garrett Robert Sterling** We love and miss you, Mommy and Daddy (Amy and Brad)

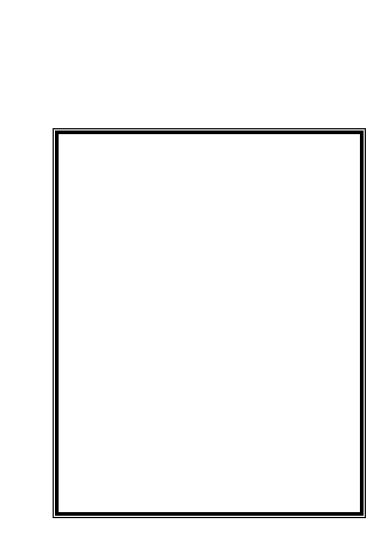
In loving of **Weston Bradley Germundson**We love you very much.
Mommy & Daddy (Shelly & Brad)

In loving memory of our sweet little **Dillon Bendt**We love you so much.
Mommy and Daddy (April and Kyle Bendt)

In loving memory of **Nash Adams** Gay Jensen-Paquin

In loving memory of **Christian Joel Kriesel** We love and miss you. Grandma and Grandpa Kriesel (Julie and Larry)

In loving memory of **Erin Grace Kriesel**We love and miss you. Grandma and Grandpa
Kriesel (Julie and Larry)



Consider making a Memorial Donation

Did you know that IRIS spends approximately \$500 on a family in the first year following the death of their child?

As you can imagine, donations and memorials are an important part of our support. They allow us to reach out to bereaved parents and provide them with Bereavement Support Packets, Clothing Sets, Pictures, Sculptures of hands and feet, Newsletters, Support Groups, Memorial Gatherings, and conduct Educational Programs.

Please consider a tax-deductible gift to Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS).

Ask your employer to match your tax-deductible contribution.



Calendar of Events

February 2006

- 8th Midday Support Group Meeting 11 AM 1AM
- 11th IRIS Charity Weekend Family Fun Night at the Faribault Community Center 6 9 PM
- 12th IRIS Charity Weekend Pancake Breakfast Buffet at the American Legion in Faribault 8 am 1 pm BINGO 1 3:30, Silent Auction and Bake Sale 8 am 2:30 pm
- Scrapbooking NOTE Changes to location ~ 10 AM 8 PM
 Remember When Scrapbooking Store (Medford Outlet Mall) 6750 East Frontage Road, Medford MN
 No Charge ~ Bring your own food items or order in
 LIMITED to 20 people. Please call the IRIS office to reserve your spot today!
- 22nd Staff Training at District One Hospital in Faribault. Please call the IRIS Office at (507) 334-4748 for more information
- 28th Evening Support Group Meeting 7 8:30 PM

March 2006

- 8th Midday Support Group Meeting 11AM– 1PM
- 18th Scrapbooking 9 AM 4 PM at the IRIS Office
- 28th Evening Support Group Meeting 7 8:30PM IRIS Office

April 2006

- 12th Midday Support Group Meeting 11 am 1 pm at the IRIS Office
- 21st Caring for the Sorrow of Pregnancy & Infant Loss Presented ~ Allina Hospitals & Clinics, 8 am 4 pm Please call (612) 262-5030 for more information or visit education@allina.com to request a brochure. IRIS will be displaying at this conference.
- 22nd Scrapbooking 9 AM 4 PM at the IRIS Office
- 25th Evening Support Group Meeting 7 8:30PM at the IRIS Office

May 2006

- 10th Midday Support Group Meeting 11 am 1 pm at the IRIS Office
- 23rd Evening Support Group Meeting 7 8:30PM at the IRIS Office

June 2006

14th Midday Support Group Meeting 11 am - 1 pm at the IRIS Office
 23rd - 25th National Gathering for Bereaved Parents of the USA

 Visit www.bpusastl.org for more information or call (314) 878-0890

 27th Evening Support Group Meeting 7 – 8:30PM

 at the IRIS Office

October 2006

12 – 15thWinds of Change Whispers of Hope, Remembering Precious Lives 15th National Perinatal Bereavement Conference, Chicago IL, visit www.perinatalbereavementconference.org for info.



Children We Lovingly Remember

Children & Who They Are Remembered By

- Eunice K. Shumway ~ All who are present The Chapel is dedicated in her memory
- Carter Allen Adams ~ Michelle & Gordy Adams
- Nash Rueben Adams ~ Rebecca Adams
- Catherine Rose Allen ~ Christine & Scott Allen
- Michael Joshua Almendinger ~ April Embree & Josh Almendinger
- Calvin Arnold Almendinger April Embree & Josh Almendinger
- ▼ Tyler William Anderson ~ Julia & Bryan Anderson
- Cameron Bailey ~ Leah & Bryan Bailey

- Michael Norman Braun ~ Jennifer & Gary Braun
- Makayla Nichole Brooks ~ Jan Katra

- Scott Arthur Carver ~ Judy & Gary Carver
- Randy Alan Bedford Jr. ~ Carla Clay
- Sara Connelly-Jones ~ Diane Connelly

- Shayla Angel and Shelby Tracy Marie Cota ~ Tina & John Cota
- Preston Hugh Crooks ~ Natalie & Leif Crooks
- James Patrick DeGrood ~Angela & Shane DeGrood

- William Robert and Bethany Agnes DeGrood Connie & Joe DeGrood
- Precious Baby ~ Your Loving Family
- Precious Baby ~ Your Loving Family
- ¥ Lizzy Dienst ~ Beth & Nick Dienst
- Tàhirih Dimayuga ~ Michelle Pettit de Dimayuga & J.Guadalupe Dimayuga Garcia
- ¥ Kilian Richard Donahue ~ Jessie & James Donahue

- Marcia Flim ~ Marilyn Flim
- Weston Bradley Germundson ~ Shelly & Brad Germundson
- Sayer Clarence and Bennett Charles Gfrerer ~ Mollie & Brian Gfrerer
- Baby Beaner Gfrerer ~ Mollie & Brian Gfrerer

- Patrick Andrew Hallin ~ Amber & Marc Hallin
- ¥ Hannah Hevon Halla ~ Sandra & Roger Halla
- ¥ Austin J. Hanson ~ Annette & Troy Hanson
- ¥ Jake Michael Head ~ Lisa & Greg Head
- Shannon Marie & Baby Grace Marie Hermans ~ Julie and Joe Jarvis
- Lindsay Rose Hermsen ~ Sheila & Merle Hermsen
- Scout Nicole Herndon ~ Kristina Herndon

- Timothy D. Hulme ~ Grandma Sandra Graben
- Mickey Ronald Ingebritson ~ Your Loving Family
- McKenzie Grace Johnson ~ Megon Stitz, Grandma & Grandpa Stitz

- Baby Kelley ~ Mom & Dad
- Baby Boy Kelley ~ Mom & Dad

- Christian Joel Kriesel ~ Tiffany & Joel Kriesel
- Amyah Mae Lambkins ~ Alyssa Lambkins
- Alexandria Marie Irish-Lamont ~ Christine & David Lamont
- Nicole Ashley Litchard Grandma & Grandpa Wick
- ¥ Jay & Baby Litchard ~ Grandma & Grandpa Wick
- Paul Richard Malecha ~ Lisa & Jon Malecha
- Joseph Thomas Markman ~ Lori Jo & Todd Markman
- Tarby Parks Meier ~ Heidi & Brad Meier

- Sara Jane Murray ~ Teri & Jim Murray

- Zander James Nowak ~ Lesley & Tavis Nowak
- Micah Andrew O'Connor ~ Cassie & Patrick O'Connor
- ¥ Jarrod Allen Olson ~ Marcy & Brad Olson

- ¥ Jacob Donald Peterson ~ Susan & Scott Peterson
- Madeline Muller Peterson ~ Heidi Muller Peterson & Randy Peterson

- ▼ Trevor Richard Pint ~ Kristy & Joseph Pint
- ¥ Samuel Ethan Priebe ~ Michele & John Priebe
- Aiden Michael and Owen Michael Puppe ~ Susie & Mike Puppe
- Sammy Jo Radatz ~ Patty & Ronald Radatz
- Taylor Jordan Radatz ~ Patty & Ronald Radatz

- Emilie Grace and Randyll Lorraine Rech ~ Kris & Jim Rech

- Jodi Rickaby ~ Lois & John Rickaby
- Edgar Rios Hruska ~ Kathy Hruska de Rios & Edgar Rios Cazares
- Andrew James Roehl ~ Donna & Terry Roehl
- Samantha Opal Rolstad ~ Roxanne & Fred Rolstad
- ¥ Hannah Rose Rysavy ~ Wendy & Ben Rysavy
- Therese Rysavy ~ Peggy & Al Rysavy
- Sara Anisa Sands ~ Lorrie & Mark Sands
- Dakota Raymond Scheffert ~ Darla & Gary Scheffert
- Zachary Andrew Schmit ~ Elizabeth & Thomas Schmit
- Paige Emily Schoenbauer ~ Jackie & Jason Schoenbauer
- ♥ Dustin Russel Skogen ~ Vicky & Russ Skogen
- Blake Robert Stadler ~ Lisa Armagost & Grandmal Armogost
- Andrew James Stephens ~ Michelle Stephens
- Abby Ann Sterling ~ Laura & Todd Sterling
- Garrett Robert Sterling ~ Amy & Brad Sterling
- ▼ Tristan Micallen Sticha ~ Cory Sticha & Eric Sticha
- Sabrina Marie Strouth ~ Lori & Troy Strouth

- ▼ Derek Joseph Sundwall ~ Diana & Mark Sundwall
- € Ethan Jay Swanger ~ Jessica & Jason Swanger
- Madison Marie Swedin ~ Michelle & Bob Swedin

- ¥ Jacob Ryan Torgerud ~ Shannon & Mark Torgerud
- ¥ Alyssa Grace Trotter ~ Joni & Tom Trotter

- ¥ Kelly Jean Vandereide ~Marianne & Jay Vandereide
- Drake Michael Vickney ~ Amanda & Garen Vickney

- Baby W. ~ Mommy & Daddy

- ¥ Jarod Webster ~ Rebecca & Bill Webster
- Angel Maree Wilson ~ Shari Hill
- J.J. Wolf ~ Amy & James Wolf

- ▼ Joshua Clarence Zak ~ LeeAnn & Robert Zak
- Dakota Douglas Zapata ~ Dawn Miller and Jorge Zapata

- Anna Christine Zollner ~ Gail & Mark Zollner

- ♥ Precious Baby Boy ~ Mommy & Daddy
- ♥ Our 5 Babies ~ Mommy & Daddy
- ♥ Our 12 Babies ~ Mommy & Daddy

And all the children Remembered in their parent's hearts.

Thank You

IRIS would like to thank everyone who took part in the 12th Annual Holiday Service of Remembrance.

Father Henry Doyle, Rev. Garry and Linda Rosenau, Teresa Moen, Connie DeGrood, Leif and Natalie Crooks, Diana Sundwall, Spirit Wind Choir (Divine Mercy Catholic Church) Yvonne Jacobson, Genesis Ringers (First English Lutheran Church), Elizabeth Schmit, Kathy Hanek, Chris Petricka, Margaret Walker, Anne Pientka, Denise and Joe Moravec, Chad Roehrick, Beeker Roehrick, Kayla Racine, Caitlin Sundwall, Katie Savoie, Cassie Sjogren, Nicole Moravec, Justine Adamek, Andy Sundwall, Michele Priebe, Sandra McConn Halla, Maria Markman, Nancy Stitz, Shattuck St. Mary's School, Fette Productions, and Donahue's Greenhouse.



Angels Wings

Written and read by Elizabeth Schmit

We all share a common bond, brought together by our children who have left our arms.

Gone on to a beautiful place where sunshine is always on their face.

Our arms might ache our hearts too, but we know one day we will be there too.

Today we shed tears, light a candle, and say our child's name.

We ring bells for them to hear bringing them near.

Sending our love on the breeze to catch on our tiny angels wings.



Memorial Poinsettias

Preston Hugh Crooks Bethany DeGrood William DeGrood Kilian Richard Donahue Nikolas Michael Fischer Weston Bradley Germundson Shannon Marie Hermans & Her Daughter Grace Nicholas Joseph Moravec Danny Novak Noah Ethan Priebe Samuel Ethan Priebe Aiden and Owen Puppe Hannah Rose Rysavy Zachary Andrew Schmit Derek Joseph Sundwall Kelly Jean Vandereide Erica Kay Vandereide William Thomas Wagner



Memorial Bells

Carter Allen Adams Nash Reuben Adams Calvin Arnold Almendinger Michael Joshua Almendinger Brice Anderson Gianni Anton Carrasca Cole Erin Elizabeth Cooper Nathan Earl Corv **Preston Hugh Crooks** James Patrick DeGrood Lizzy Dienst Kilian Richard Donahue Kayla Jamie Dusek Nikolas Michael Fischer Weston Bradley Germundson Baby Beaner Gfrerer Bennett Charles Gfrerer Saver Clarence Gfrerer

Victoria A. Graves Gwendolyn Gail Griepp Laura Ruth Griepp Hannah Hevon Halla Scout Nicole Herndon Timothy D. Hulme Brain James Jacobson McKenzie Grace Johnson Elizabeth Frances Karnick Gabriel Lee Karnick Kevin Theodore Karnick Mara Anne Kolterman Amyah Mae Lambkins Joseph Thomas Markman Darby Park Meier Angel Brooke Nicole Mier Nicholas Joseph Moravec Sara Jane Murray



Miscarriage Research Opportunity

Researchers at WomenCare, an organization devoted to

improving medical care for women, are continuing an exploratory study of women who have experienced a miscarriage. The purpose of the study is to identify what changes can be made by the medical professionals who care for women before, during, and after a miscarriage.

The goal is to better the care of women who go through a miscarriage experience. The researchers will be focusing on a woman's level of satisfaction with her healthcare providers and will also focus on gathering data on what options women were given, what information they received, and post-care treatment and follow-up.

Results from the study will help us to understand the medical care women receive during a miscarriage and will be used to provide helpful information to the medical community so they can appreciate the unique emotional and physical needs of their patients.

Study participants must be 18 years or older and have experienced a miscarriage (pregnancy loss before 20 weeks of gestation). Participants will complete a research questionnaire, which will either be emailed or mailed to them. The form will take 15-30 minutes to complete.

If you are interested in participating in this important new research please contact the research team at: womencare@pclink.com

Danny Robert Novak Grace Olson Daniel James Piepho Alexander Jason Pierce Trevor Richard Pint Precious Baby Precious Baby Hannah Rose Rysavy Therese Rysavy Zachary Andrew Schmit Paige Emily Schoenbauer Blake Robert Stadler Derek Joseph Sundwall Ethan Jason Swanger Erica Kay Vandereide Kelly Jean Vandereide J. J. Wolf

or by mail:

WomenCare 224 Benton Avenue Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Deadline to participate is: March 31st 2006 Thank you in advance for your participation in this very important study.







The Love You Bring

I looked toward the clouds today and for a moment saw your face And wondered just where you have gone with the hope it's a peaceful place Did you show yourself to me today to tell me you're all right? Or was it just a daydream playing tricks upon my sight Then I thought of when you left still too young to say a word Yet the look you gave us said it all in our hearts, your good-bye was heard You have changed our lives forever your short time here not in vain and hope you know we tried it all to keep you safe from pain We will always feel the void inside because you are not here But each new thought you send our way let's us know you're always near So until our journey nears its end and we hear the Angels sing

We'll face each new day as it comes and live off the Love you bring.

By James Sullivan

Beyond The Sunset

Should you go first and I remain to walk the road alone, I'll live in memories garden dear, with happy days we've known. In spring I'll wait for roses red. when faded, the lilacs blue. In early fall when brown leaves fall, I'll catch a glimpse of you. Should you go first and I remain, for battle to be fought. Each thing you've touched along the way will be a hallowed spot. I'll hear your voice, I'll see your smile, though blindly I may grope, The memory of your helping hand will buoy me on with hope. Should you go first and I remain, one thing I'll have you do: Walk slowly down that long long path, for soon I'll follow you. I want to know each step you take, so I may take the same. For someday down that lonely road you'll hear me call your name.

~Author Unknown~



The 15th National Perinatal Bereavement Conference

October 12-15, 2006 Chicago, Illinois

For information on the conference overview, featured presenters, conference schedule, hotel and travel information please visit:

www.perinatalbereavementconference.org



Precious Child Remembered

We know that you are hurting
We know just how you feel.
The pain deep inside your heart
You feel it can't be real.

We know what's going through your mind, Thoughts that cloud it through the day. We're on the road you're traveling now. It can be handled, there's a way.

Don't fight the tears you're feeling, You must just let them flow. Speak of your child daily To many people that you know.

Find others who can understand They'll hold you as you cry. The questions, we have all asked, All the how's and every why.

We will always think of our child, No one will have to say a word. They will remain in our hearts Our precious child remembered. (Unknown)

Your Invited.... To the IRIS 9th Annual Charity Weekend

Family Fun Night

Saturday February 11th
6 - 9 pm
Faribault Community Center
Located at the corner of Central
Ave. and Division St. in Faribault
Cost \$3 per person \$10 per family
Purchase your dinner at this event...Pizza, pop and treats available
How can you help.... Bring your family and friends

to use the pool, gym, decorate cookies, make a valentine and have your face painted.



Pancake Breakfast Buffet

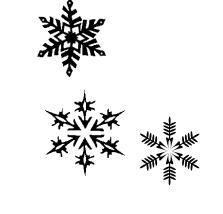
Sunday February 12th 8 am – 1 pm

American Legion

112 NE 5th St. in Faribault MN \$6 Adults \$3 Children ages 2 – 6 How can you help ... Invite your family and friends to join you at this event. You could also volunteer to help with cooking, serving, or cleaning up.

Silent and Bake Sale

Sunday February 12th 8 am – 2:30 pm American Legion 112 NE 5th St. in Faribault MN How can you help ... Donate items for the silent auction and/or the bake sale and come participate.





Sunday February 12th 1 – 3:30 pm American Legion, 112 NE 5th St. in Faribault MN **20 Games – all ages**

10th Game Blackout Jackpot \$500 if done in 45 numbers. \$50 Consolation

20th Game Blackout Jackpot if not winner in the 10th game. \$1,000 if done in 46 numbers or less. \$50 Consolation.

How you can help... Come and play BINGO!

Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc.

101 NW Third Street Faribault, MN 55021 www.irisremembers.com



Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Faribault, MN Permit #5



Your Text Here

9th Annual IRIS Charity Weekend

To benefit Infants Remembered in Silence, Inc.

February 11th and 12th, 2006

Saturday, February 11th FAMILY FUN NIGHT

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Faribault Community Center

\$3 per person or \$10 per family

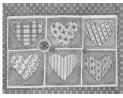
Swimming, open gym, face painting, cookie decorating, and make valentine cards. Lots of family fun! Pizza, pop and treats will be for sale. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Sunday, February 12th

1: 000 --3:: 300 pm

a



From Diana's Desk...

Dear IRIS Parents, Family, and Friends,

Caring has always been a critical part of the IRIS philosophy. Caring about the children that have died, caring about the parents who are



At the **Sunday**,

Also Sunday... Sale Silent Auction and Bake Sale 8 am - 2:30 pm grieving, and caring about our volunteers. We have received many thank you notes from parents, family, and friends stating that they are greatly touched by the love and care that is put into each and every support packet and clothing set. They are astonished by the love and compassion provided by the IRIS Advocates, and are surprised that IRIS is able to provide such services free of charge to parents in our six county service area. (Dodge, Goodhue, LeSueur, Rice, Steele, and Waseca counties). We often have calls from parents and professionals asking how we do it, how can we provide this type of service, where the funding comes from and where we find our volunteers.

The answer is simple, we rely on over 300 volunteers, many of whom are bereaved parents, bereaved grandparents, or have a special connection or relationship to a child that has died. All of the volunteers understand how important it is to have someone who someone who understands, cares. someone who you can depend on. They know firsthand how much that type of support helped them when others turned their back, and told them to "move on", "get over it", or "really, shouldn't you be back to normal by now". They remember the long lasting and unforgivable pain these types of comments make. They also understand that forgiving is easier than forgetting. After all, with the death of your child comes the death of all that was to be, your whole life has changed, all of your hopes, dreams, and plans for the future are gone. We understand that your life will never be "back to normal". We understand that you will develop a "new sense of normal" within two - four years, and we know that this is a normal time frame.

As for the how we can afford to do it, well that is another story. IRIS spends approximately \$500 on each family in the first year following the death of a child. Because of this, IRIS relies on the generosity of others. make donations, memorial contributions, and attend our annual Pancake Breakfast, Silent Auction, Bingo and Family Fun Night. Please plan on attending one or all of the events on February 11th and 12th.

Come help the over <u>6000 people</u> that IRIS assists each year!

See you at Fun Night, the Breakfast, and Bingo!



Precious Angel

Precious angel sent to earth, Did they tell you of your worth?

More than diamonds, rubies or gold, Only you do I want to hold.

So perfect your beauty as I look into your eyes, That gentle reflection of angels in the skies.

Each day you grew inside me, so big and so strong,

But your time here with me was not to be long.

Oh how my heart aches as I have to say good-bye, As I let you go back to play in the sky.

(Author Unknown)



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