



Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc.

Whispers of the Heart Newsletter

June 2012

Celebrating 25 years of Caring!

In An Instant, Everything Changed ...

I know you have heard that saying before. I know that you have probably used or thought the words yourself to describe the loss of your child, I know I have. I also know that every time I hear those words, it's not usually good news.

In An Instant, EVERYTHING at IRIS Changed!

On February 28, 2012 the weather in Minnesota turned from above average temperatures to a mix of freezing rain, snow and sleet pellets. Not a good mix by even hearty Minnesotan standards. Knowing that the weather would surely limit the attendance of the months evening support group meeting I turned off the lights and locked the office sure that no one would attend. My plan was simple. I would come into the upstairs lobby of the building by 6:45 pm, wait until 7:15 pm and when no one showed up I could make a quick escape for home. If I was lucky, I wouldn't even have to take off my coat.

Much to my surprise, I received a call from a family who asked "With the weather are you still having the support group meeting?" The answer, "YES I will be here."

6:45 pm I entered the IRIS building and headed down to our offices, turned on the lights, and froze. I was standing in water. I called the landlord (who happens to be our board president) and explained the problem. Next call was to IRIS parents and volunteers to see if they could lend a hand. It didn't take long for everyone to be in place for a quick clean up. After all, it's a 107 year old building and we have had to do this type of clean up before.

As we began the Support Group Meeting upstairs we could hear the shopvac's downstairs. As it often does, the meeting turned from the parent's experience, to the purpose or meaning of their child life, to warm and loving memories; followed by leaving the very same place that was so hard and scary to enter.

By 8 pm the Support Group meeting had ended and the volunteers had left. Everything was safe and secure, with one last empty of the shopvac we would be on our way home.

But In An Instant, Everything CHANGED!

8:20 pm the words "We've lost all control, what do you want out of here first?"

8:30 pm my facebook page put out a mayday call for help.

8:40 pm the first volunteer shows up and there is word that the storm drain is plugged. Water is running down the sidewalk from the two parking lots behind the building. There is no place for the water to go except down the stairway, and the



storm drain in the stairwell is also backing up. The water is now coming in around the door frame, 2 ½ feet off the ground. Volunteers continued to come until 11 pm.

11:30 pm there was 4" of water in the office, no power, and it was starting to smell. The volunteers had moved as much of the office contents to the upper level of the building as they could and a professional cleaning company was moving in.

February 29th ~ It became very apparent that the IRIS office of 17 years was destroyed and we would have to relocate.

More volunteers showed up to remove the remaining items that were in the office, begin packing, and loading trailers.

March 16th ~ Lease was signed for a NEW IRIS OFFICE!

March 19th ~ We began Moving into the new office. It has taken many hours to go through every piece of paper and clothing set to make sure it was not damaged. We estimate that we have lost approximately \$7,000 in supplies. Insurance will not cover the loss. The bright side... the new Office is on the ground level, the majority of the items in the office were saved by the volunteers, and most importantly, we were able to respond to ALL Advocate calls.

Please join us on July 10, from 3 – 6 pm, at the New IRIS Office, 112 NE 3rd St. in Faribault, for an Open House, and Volunteer Appreciation.

Diana Sundwall
IRIS Founder and Executive Director

IRIS 25th Anniversary Events

Infants Remembered In Silence would like to invite you, your family, and friends to take part in the many activities planned to celebrate our 25th anniversary.

Please join us as we honor and lovingly remember the precious children and their families that we have worked with over the last 25 years.

Please note that some event dates and locations have changed!

June

- 26 Evening Support Meeting

July

- 10 IRIS Open House & Volunteer Appreciation
112 Third St. NE, Faribault MN
3 – 6 pm
- 11 Midday Support Meeting
- 14 Memorial Water Lanterns
Carlton College - Northfield, MN
- 24 Evening Support Meeting

August

- 4 For the Love of Joshuah Co-ed
Softball Tournament
West Park - LeCenter MN
- 8 Midday Support Meeting
- 18 LaCanne's Memorial Golf Tournament
Faribault Golf Club - Faribault, MN
- 18 Butterfly Release
Faribault Golf Club - Faribault MN
- 25 Scrapbooking ~ Create a keepsake scrapbook
Faribault, MN
- 25 Quilting ~ Create a square for the 25th
Anniversary quilt and one for a keepsake
Faribault MN
- 28 Evening Support Meeting

September

- TBA Truck & Tractor Pull – Info TBA
- 12 Midday Support Meeting
- 15 Scrapbooking ~ Create a keepsake scrapbook
Faribault, MN
- 15 Quilting ~ Create a square for the 25th
Anniversary quilt and one for a keepsake
Faribault MN
- 25 Evening Support Meeting

October

- 1 – 31 Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month
- 1 – 31 Memorial Book Drive
- 5 – 7 IRIS Advocate Training Conference ~ Gainey
Conference Center ~ Owatonna, MN
- 7 Balloon Release ~ Gainey Conference
Center ~ Owatonna, MN
- 10 Midday Support Meeting
- 15 International Infant Loss Remembrance Day
Candle Light Vigil ~ IRIS office
7 pm
- 23 Evening Support Meeting
- 28 The Healing Pumpkin. Join us in carving
pumpkins in memory of your child. Perfect to
decorate your child's grave or your home.
More info TBA

November

- 14 Midday Support Meeting
- 22 Turkey Trot ~ 5K Walk, 5K Run, 10K Run,
Trot Trot, and Gobble Wobble (Thanksgiving
Morning)
- 27 Evening Support Meeting

December

- 2 Holiday Service of Remembrance - 2 pm
Chapel of the Good Shepherd on Shattuck
Campus, Faribault MN
- 9 World Wide Children's Remembrance Day
Home vigil at 7 pm in your time zone
- 12 Midday Support Meeting
- 25 NO Evening Support Meeting
- 31 Quilt Squares for the 25th Anniversary Quilt
Due to the IRIS office

There are many events going on this year and we hope that you will take some time to join us in honoring your special child. You will find details about many of the events in this newsletter, we encourage you to visit the IRIS website for additional information and details. Please remember that some of the above dates have changes from previously published information.



Infants Memorials

- ☞ In loving memory of Joshua Daniel Neubauer
Douglas Benkert
- ☞ In loving memory of Derek Joseph Sundwall
Mom (Diana Sundwall)
Grandma (Helen Kelley)
- ☞ In loving memory of Daniel James Piepho
Mom & Dad (Chantell & Charles Piepho)
Grandma & Grandpa (Kathy & Ken Ryks)
Trolly & Jim Sawyer
- ☞ In loving memory of Lily Marcella Dietz
Cara & Jim Dietz
- ☞ In memory of our precious little girls
Mommy and Daddy (K & P E)
- ☞ In loving memory of Brady Bruce Velzke
Debra & Todd Grant
- ☞ In loving memory of Mason Meister
Mommy & Daddy (Jodi & Jamie)
- ☞ In loving memory of Anthony Michael Zimprich "Happy
4th Angelversary" January 24, 2012!
Grandma & Grandpa McBride
- ☞ In loving memory of William Thomas Wagner
Mom & Dad (Sheri & Tim)
- ☞ In loving Memory of Jeremiah Jonathan Simek
Jennifer & Jeffrey Jones
- ☞ In loving Memory of Kilian Richard Donahue
Julie & Philip Zweber
- ☞ In honor of Erin Grace Kriesel 9th Heavenly Birthday
4/2/2003
Grandma & Grandpa (Julie & Larry Kriesel)
- ☞ In loving memory of Niko Negron
Dr. Christine Braun
Dr. Melanie Dixon
- ☞ In loving memory of Shane Cope
Carol Thomas
Gloria Luecke
- ☞ In loving memory of Noah Ethan Priebe
Mom (Michele Priebe)
- ☞ In loving memory of Samuel Ethan Priebe
Mom (Michele Priebe)
- ☞ In loving memory of Grace Elizabeth Anderson
Grandma & Grandpa (Jane & Steve Cross)
- ☞ In loving memory of Angel Alison Reuvers
Mommy & Daddy (Sue & Tony)



Adult Memorials

- ☞ In loving memory of Ruth Zoubek
Julie and Larry Kriesel
- ☞ In loving memory of Belton H. "Russ" Russell
Diana Sundwall
- ☞ In loving memory of Tom Cherf
Julie & Larry Kriesel
- ☞ In loving memory of Ruth "Mama Ruth" Krull
Father Henry L. Doyle



IRIS Common Burial

IRIS maintains a Common Burial at Maple Lawn Cemetery for infants that have been lost in early pregnancy (miscarriage, DNC, etc) at District One hospital in Faribault, MN. On May 30, 2012, Father Kevin Finnegan from Divine Mercy Catholic Church presided over the 50th burial. To date 621 infants are buried at this site with 609 people attending the grave side services that are held twice a year. This free service is provided by Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Boldt Funeral Home, District One Hospital, Maple Lawn Cemetery, and Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc.



One of the Many 25th Anniversary Events



Memorial Water Lanterns

Join us for what promises to be a very special evening of Celebration, Remembrance, and Honor.

Date: Saturday July 14
Location: Lower Lyman Lake
Carlton Collage Campus
1 Collage St. in Northfield, MN
Lantern Decorating: 4 – 8 pm
Picnic: 4 – 8 pm
Lantern Launching: 8:30 pm (at sunset)

Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRS)
112 NE 3rd St.
Faribault, MN 55021
www.irisRemembers.com
(507) 334-4748



25th Anniversary
Lighting Lanterns
at New Office

- ★ Softball Tournament
- ★ Golf Tournament
- ★ Butterfly Release
- ★ Poems and more!



IRIS Open House & Volunteer Appreciation

You, your family, and friends are invited to a special Open House and volunteer Appreciation to be held:

Tuesday June 19 from 3 – 6 pm
At the NEW Office
112 Third St. NE, Faribault, MN

Coffee and Cookies will be served

Those in attendance will have the opportunity to create a keepsake memorial candle for their child.



Two Great Events... One Full Day!

Spend the day working one or both projects!

August 25th ~ RSVP by August 17th

September 15th ~ RSVP by September 7th

IRIS Scrapbooking ~



Create a keepsake scrapbook with pictures of your child, events you have attended, gravesite, sunsets, flowers, keepsakes, etc. IRIS Scrapbooking is a safe place to look at your pictures, create a scrapbook (traditional or electronic), or add to

your scrapbook. Share the day with others who know and understand the pain. You are welcome to use your pictures to create a book that you are comfortable sharing with others (known as a Safe Book) or one that is for personal use. Your child's scrapbook is never really finished; you have many opportunities to keep his/her memory alive. IRIS has all of the supplies that you will need! Please bring your pictures and a treat to share, your own lunch (or takeout) and your own beverages. IRIS will provide dinner.

25th Anniversary Quilt ~

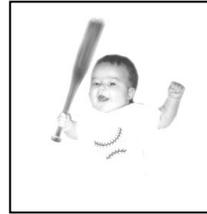


Would you like to have your child remembered on the IRIS 25th Anniversary Quilt but don't know how to sew, don't know where to begin, or don't want to do it alone. Join with others who also wish to take part! Volunteers will be on hand who will be

happy to help you create a treasured block for the quilt. You are welcome to bring special fabric to use if you would like. Don't forget your camera so you can add a picture of the finish square to your scrapbook!

Please note that space is limited for both Scrapbooking and the Anniversary Quilt Block! Events will be held in the same NEW Location!

Please call the IRIS office at (507) 334-4748 to RSVP



4th Annual For the Love of Joshuah Co-Ed Softball Tournament

Saturday, August 4th, 2012
West Park, Le Center
8:00 am

- Early Bird Registration (by July 14th) \$150
After July 14th \$175
- Teams will not be registered until registration fee is been paid in full
- 10 teams – first-come, first-serve basis
- Concessions & T-shirts available
- Rain or Shine Tournament – No Refunds
- Tournament payout based on 10 teams:
 - 1st Place - \$250.00
 - 2nd Place - \$200.00
 - 3rd Place - \$100.00

To register send fee along with Team Name, Manager/Coach Name, Address, Home and Cell Phone numbers, E-mail Address to:

Joshuah Neubauer Memorial Softball Tournament
C/O Angie Neubauer
41531 237th Ave
Le Center, MN 56057

Questions? Call Angie Neubauer at (507) 357-4411 or
Cris Young (507) 357-2244

Proceeds from this Tournament benefit IRIS



Healing Power of the Hug

It's wonderful what a hug can do
a hug can cheer you when you're blue.

A hug can say, I love you so
or, I hate to see you go.

A hug is welcomed back again
and great to see you – where've you been?

A hug can soothe a small child's pain
and bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug, there's just no doubt about it
we scarcely could survive without it.

A hug delights and warms and charms
it must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers.
Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers

and chances are your favorite aunts
love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them
heads of states are not above them.

A hug can break the language barrier
and make travelers so much merrier.

No need to fret about your store of 'em
so stretch those arms without delay
and give someone a hug today!



Memorial Water Lanterns

Join us for what promises to be a very special evening of Celebration, Remembrance, and Honor.

Date: Saturday July 14
 Location: Lower Lyman Lake
 Carlton Collage Campus
 1 Collage St. in Northfield, MN
 Lantern Decorating: 4 – 8 pm
 Picnic: 4 – 8 pm
 Lantern Launching: 8:30 pm (at sunset)

You are encouraged to make this event special by inviting your family and friends to join you for the evening. Everyone is invited to bring a picnic dinner and eat on the hills surrounding this lovely little lake. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, food, plates, and beverages. IRIS will provide water and desert.

Decorating your Memorial Water Lanterns:

- Be as creative with your Water Lantern! You will have four (4) side of your Lantern to decorate. You can include personal messages, poems, pictures, rub-ons, flowers or anything else that will show up when the candle is lit.
- IRIS will provide permanent markers for you to decorate your lantern. You are welcome to bring other embellishments and decorations. Lanterns will be floating on the water, it is important to keep the decorations and embellishments light weight and water proof.
- Lanterns will be launched from shore; you will not be permitted to enter the water.
- Because these Lanterns will be floating on water; precious keepsakes should Not be placed on or in the Lantern.

FAQ:

- **Can I pick up my Lantern early and decorate it at home?**
 Yes, you can stop into the IRIS office and pick up the rice paper to decorate at home.
- **Can I order more than one lantern?**
 Yes you can order as many as you would like.

- **Can I order a Lantern in memory of someone other than my child/children?**
 We are all someone's child; you can remember whoever you would like.
- **I can't attend on July 14th but would like a lantern; can you help me with that?**
 If you order the lantern we will decorate it for you and e-mail you a picture of it. If you want to decorate it yourself please stop in and pick up the rice paper and return it to us by July 6th.
- **Can I have the Lantern following the event?**
 Yes, however it will depend on the weather and condition of the lanterns when the candles burn out. Lanterns can be picked up at the IRIS office from July 17 – 20. Lanterns remaining in the office will be relit on October 15th, National Infant Loss Remembrance Day.

Memorial Floating Water Lanterns

Order Form

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

- I/we will decorate our lantern July 14th
- I/we will be picking up a lantern to decorate
- Please Decorate the Water Lantern for me/us

Please list Name and other info you would like on the lantern. (Feel free to enclose another piece of paper)

Qty	Price per Lantern	Subtotal	Total
	\$20		
		6.875% Tax	
		Total	

Return by July 6th to:
 IRIS, 112 Third St. NE Faribault, MN 55021
 Supplies Limited, reserve yours today!
 Order online www.irisRemembers.com

Have You Ever

Author Unknown

Have you ever watched you child die?

Have you ever held her hand, feeling the life that grew within you slip away, breath by painful breath?

Have you ever kissed a cold, gray cheek knowing you will never kiss it again while helpless tears rolled down you own?

Have you ever left your child –
The child you dreamed of, the child you love –
Knowing the next time you visit her,
It will be at her grave?

Have you ever sat at your window at midnight waiting for sleep, waiting for any escape from a nightmare that won't go away, only to watch the dawn bring nothing but reminders of what you will never have?

Have you ever watched the world forget the person you love the most saying "you'll have another one" or "move on" or "let go" as if she were a book or a pen, or a bad haircut that could be replaced, or erased as if she didn't matter, as if she had never been.

Have you ever looked at your future knowing someone will always be missing? Have you ever looked at your past knowing some things can never be changed? Have you ever looked at your present and felt nothing, saw nothing but guilt and anger and loss?

If you haven't – Then don't tell me what to think. Don't tell me how to act. Don't tell me how to feel; don't tell me to get over it, because I never will.

In loving memory of Alexa Marie Johnson 3/28/01 ~ 3/31/01

A Father's Grief

By Eileen Knight Hagemeister

It must be very difficult
To be a man in grief.
Since "men don't cry" and "men are strong"
No tears can bring relief.

It must be very difficult
To stand up to the test.
And field calls and visitors
So that she can get some rest.

They always ask if she's alright
And what she's going through.
But seldom take his hand and ask,
"My friend, how are you?"

He hears her cry in the night
And thinks his heart will break.
And dries her tears and comforts her
But "stays strong" for her sake.

It must be very difficult
To start each day anew.



Thank You for Your Donation

- From Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign: Emily Velishek, J.D. & Margaret Walker
- Marvin & Joanne Chmelik
- Kathryn Raidt
- In Honor of my Great Grandson, Flynn Walker, Birthday from Eleanor Raidt
- Patricia Raftery
- Romona Langeslag – Charismas Gift Exchange
- Rev. Erik Lundgren – For IRIS Flood Relief
- Divine Mercy Church – Parishioners for flood relief
- Julie Lewis
- Cassandra Lindquist
- Jacquelyn & Daniel Lemke
- Marian Bahl
- Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Schwarz
- G.W. & C.L Hoganson
- Marcia Lips
- Boldt Funeral Home ~ \$100
- Northfield Hospital & Clinics ~ \$700
- St. Patrick's Church of Shieldsville MN
- Council of Catholic Women ~ \$50
- PEO Sisterhood Chapter A.R. ~ \$50
- Wal-Mart/Sam's Foundation (VAP) ~ \$250
- Church of St. Dominic of Northfield MN ~ \$750
- JustGive.org ~ \$28.65
- South Central Tech College ~ \$75



United Way

United Way Donations

- Dodge County United Way, Inc. ~ \$2,500 - Second half allocation
- 2 Anonymous Donations – Payroll deduction United Way/Truist
- United Way of Faribault – 3rd Qtr Allocation ~ \$1,125
- United Way of Faribault – 4th Qtr Allocation ~ \$1,125



Thank You For Your Kind Donations

- Baby Blankets made by Sally Schnakenburg, Anna Kincade, Sue Rau, Judy Kunkel, Lorna Zincke, Gail Reineke and Chantell Piepho.
- Baby lotion in memory of Anthony Zimprich from Grandma and Grandpa McBride (Jean & Dennis)
- Cleaning supplies, office supplies, candy, and treats in memory of Grace Elizabeth Anderson from Grandma and Grandpa Cross (Jane and Steve)



Please Note:

If you have made a donation to IRIS and it has not appeared in this or the memorial section, or is incorrect, please contact the IRIS office. We are sorry for any omissions.



A Mother's Day Poem

© By Kim Maycock

In memory of her son, Darius Andrew Maycock

So many months I carried you
 And I couldn't wait to see
 What a wonderful little person
 You would turn out to be.
 I had my dreams of how it would be
 Just to watch you grow
 But now those dreams have faded
 Because I shall never know.
 For God in His great wisdom
 Carried you away with love
 Now the rocking chair sits silent
 And the lullabies won't be quiet.
 They flow like the river roars
 And I know my life is forever changed
 To be the same no more
 I must be a special mother.
 Because I have been set apart
 Some mothers carry their children in their arms –
 but I carry you in my heart.



**LaCannes Marine 5th Annual
 Charity Golf Tournament
 To benefit IRIS**

Join us on August 18th at the Faribault Golf Club for the 5th Annual LaCannes Marine Golf Tournament to benefit IRIS. You don't need to be a pro to join in this fun filled event!

\$95.00 per person; includes 18 holes of golf, cart, a fabulous dinner, entertainment, a fantastic silent auction, and more!

Sorry folks, this year we are limiting it to only one round of play with a maximum of 36, four person teams! We plan on making this the best tournament of the year! Register today by calling Nick LaCanne 507-210-6132 or stop in at LaCannes Marine in Faribault to register!



**IRIS
 Advocate Training Conference
 RESCHEDULED**

Because of the flood experienced by IRIS we were forced to reschedule this wonderful training opportunity. The NEW dates for the IRIS Advocate Training Conference are October 5 – 7 at the Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna MN. Programming will remain the same. Scholarships are still available, if you are interested in bringing IRIS services to your community, helping with IRIS in the Faribault area, consider attending this amazing conference.

Come and learn for the Experts in hands on Advocacy! Visit www.irisRemembers.com for more information and to register. Thousands of dollars in supply's will be given to each participant!



Butterfly Release

At the request of many of IRIS parents, grandparents, family, and friends we will once again be holding a very special Butterfly Release!

Date: Saturday August 18th
 Location: Faribault Golf Club
 Time: 2 pm

Butterfly Release are a beautiful way to remember your precious child or a loved one. Consider joining us! The butterflies will be ordered from a "Butterfly Farm" and will arrive at the IRIS office the day before the release!

Please preorder your butterfly(s) by August 3rd so that we have the proper amount on hand for the release! Due to the cost of each butterfly, we will not be ordering extra butterfly's this year! Butterflies can be ordered our website: www.irisRemembers.com

Butterfly Release Order Form

Qty	Price per Butterfly	Subtotal	Total
	\$10		
		6.875%	
		Tax	
		Total	

Please return by August 3rd to: IRIS
 112 NE 3rd St.
 Faribault, MN 55021