



IRIS INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE

Whispers of the Heart Newsletter ©



Mother's Day BRUNCH

Saturday May 2, 2015

**Join us in Celebrating You as a Mother at
the IRIS Angel Brunch!**

This adult only event will be held

Saturday May 2, 2015

10:00 am

At the IRIS House
218 NW 3rd Ave.
Faribault, MN 55021

Reservations will be accepted Through April 27th

Fee: \$10 per person

You are welcome to invite as many
supportive women to join you as you would like.
Brunch will be followed by the opportunity to create your
own keepsake memorial Necklace or Bracelet.
Register online or with enclosed form.



Memorial Water Lantern Release

For decades, remembering loved ones by lighting a lantern and floating on water has been a ritual filled with emotion and has provided a sensation of peace. Please join IRIS in remembering your child at the Memorial Water Lantern Release Saturday August 29, 2015 at Alexander Park South (7th Ave. NW Faribault, MN). The park is reserved from 9am–11 pm for your enjoyment. Bring your own picnic and join together with others for dinner at 5pm, or find your own quiet place to dine and reflect. Decorating area will be open from 3–7:30 pm. Ceremonial Program will be at 7:30 pm. Lantern Release will be at 7:45 pm. Lanterns can be ordered in memory of your child regardless of where you live, when the child died, or the cause of death. Lanterns can be picked up at the IRIS Office, reserved by ordering online, or by completing the enclosed order form. A Limited Number of Memorial Water Lanterns will be for sale at the event. Order now to guarantee yours. If you are unable to join us on August 29th we will be honored to release your Memorial Lantern for you. Decorating service is also available.

More information at www.irisRemembers.org

Find Paperwork for the Angel Brunch & Memorial Water Lantern Release in this newsletter & at www.irisRemembers.org

I Will Love You

By Daniel Haughian

As long as I can dream, as long as I can think, as long as I have a memory...

I will love you.

As long as I have eyes to see, and ears to hear, and lips to speak...

I will love you.

As long as I have a heart to feel, a soul stirring within me, an imagination to hold you...

I will love you.

As long as there is time, as long as there is love, as long as I have a breath to speak your name...

I will love you.

Because I loved you more than anything in all the world.



This Mothers Day, This Fathers Day

© By Lisa Weber

I have a son.
I have a daughter.
I am a mother.
I am a father.

I do not take my child to the park
Like some parents do ~
but I take my baby everywhere in my heart.

She was denied this earthly existence.
I don't know why.
He will play catch in the stars,
not on the ball field.

She will never shop for a prom dress at the mall,
and he will never ask for the keys to my car.

But they are our children, nonetheless.
I will wear her birthstone around my neck.

I will think of him every day.
Acknowledge me on Mother's Day.
Wish me a pleasant Father's Day.
I need that support and acceptance
as much as you.

I am a parent.
Mother's Day is to honor all mothers.
Father's Day is to honor all fathers.

As spring brings forth new life following the quiet
healing of winter,
let us welcome a rebirth of hope in our own lives.

In recognition of childless parents,
and those who have loving children,
but also have felt the heartache of
the death of a child,
this Mother's Day and Father's Day.

My wish for you is one of peace, love, and to
call to mind the dignity of parenthood.



Time Capsule

We are ready to place the IRIS time capsules. If you would like to add something in honor of your child, please bring it to the IRIS office by April 30, 2015. Suggested items include picture, a poem, letter to your child or about IRIS, a flower, etc. Space is very limited.

A Prayer for Springtime

Like springtime, let me unfold and grow,
fresh and anew from this cocoon of grief
that has been spun around me.

Help me face the harsh reality of sunshine
and renewed life, as my bones still creak
from the winter of my grief.

Life has dared to go on around me,
and as I recover from the insult of life's
continuance, I readjust my focus to include
recovery and growth as a possibility
in my future.

Give me strength to break out of the cocoon
of my grief. But may I never forget it as the
place where I grew my wings becoming a
new person because of my loss.

Dear Daddy

By Vickie Zitney

Dear Daddy, my Daddy, I miss you so much,
Though I'm far from you, know love will keep us in touch.

You and I spent a few precious moments, yes we did,
Our eyes did not meet, but our hearts did instead.

You held me, you rocked me, you cuddled me gently,
I reached up and tugged at your heart so intensely.

I love you so much, I love Mommy too,
And by loving each other, you're loving me too.

We won't play baseball or take a long hike,
Sing songs, play guitar, or go "bump" on a bike.

You won't tuck me in on a cold winter's night.
Look up to the heavens and I'll be in your sight.

I've caused you no grief with a scream or a tear,
I'm in a safe place, Daddy, and I haven't a fear.

Let's always remember our brief time together,
Perhaps later on we'll be together... for forever.

Till then, kiss Mommy for me each night on her cheek,
Hold tight to each other as you drift off to sleep.

I'm your precious little baby, oh I was from the start,
I love you, dear Daddy, with all of my heart.

Happy Father's Day from your little Angel, with love

2015 Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 8 Midday Support Group
- 8 Trot Meeting
- 14 Board Meeting
- 27 Mothers Day Brunch Reservation deadline
- 28 Evening Support Group

MAY

- 2 Mother's Day Brunch
- 13 Midday Support Group
- 13 Trot Meeting
- 26 Evening Support Group

JUNE

- 10 Midday Support Group
- 10 Trot Meeting
- 23 Evening Support Group
- 19-20 IRIS Garage Sale

JULY

- 8 Midday Support Group
- 8 Trot Meeting
- 14 Board Meeting
- 28 Evening Support Group

AUGUST

- 12 Midday Support Group
- 13 Trot Meeting
- 21 Memorial Water Lanterns Order deadline
- 25 Evening Support Group
- 29 Memorial Water Lantern Release

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Midday Support Group
- 9 Trot Meeting
- 18-20 Healing Takes Time Retreat
- 22 Evening Support Group

OCTOBER

- 14 Midday Support Group
- 14 Trot Meeting
- 15 Burning of Heavenly Notes Ceremony
- 15 Infant and Child Loss Remembrance Day
- More information TBA
- 27 Evening Support Group

NOVEMBER

- 11 Midday Support Group
- 11 Trot Meeting
- 24 Evening Support Group
- 25 Turkey Trot Early Check-in
- 26 Turkey Trot
- 27 Office Closed

DECEMBER

- 5 Set Up For Holiday Service
- 6 Holiday Service
- 9 Midday Support Group
- 22 No Evening Support Group
- 24-25 IRIS Office Closed

Wish List



- ♥ Printer Ink (HP 61)
- ♥ Baby Yarn (Pastel colors)
- ♥ Trash Bags
- ♥ Avery Labels 5160
- ♥ Kleenex
- ♥ Furnace Filters (16x25x1)
- ♥ Yard Rakes
- ♥ Sheetrock
- ♥ Volunteers
- ♥ Garage Sale Items
- ♥ Plants/flowering baskets
- ♥ Large outdoor flower pots and Potting soil
- ♥ Security System



Volunteer Help Needed With

Hanging drywall, mowing lawn, inside & outside painting, deck repair, retaining wall repair, general maintenance & cleaning, Turkey Trot Committee, Memorial Garden Committee, Capital Campaign Committee, and IRIS Board of Directors.

**Volunteers of all kinds are needed
with all levels of experience!
Volunteers are the heart and soul of IRIS.**



Infant Memorials

- ♥ **Logan O'Connor**
Laura and Nick O'Connor
- ♥ **Taylor O'Connor**
Laura and Nick O'Connor
- ♥ **Corbin Lawrence Wall**
Corbin's Candle Sales
- ♥ **Catherine Allen**
Christine & Scott Allen
- ♥ **William Thomas Wagner**
Tim & Sheri Wagner
- ♥ **Grace Elizabeth Anderson**
Steve & Jane Cross
- ♥ **Elijah William Miller**
Lori & Lonnie Zimmerman
- ♥ **Garrett Robert Sterling**
Brad & Amy Sterling
- ♥ **Anthony Michael Zimprich**
Rebecca Hensel
Jonathan & Vanessa Zimprich
Dennis & Jean McBride
- ♥ **Derek Joseph Sundwall**
Diana Sundwall
Helen Kelly
- ♥ **Joseph Thomas Markman**
Harold & Tonita Amundson
- ♥ **Sara Jane Murray**
Harold & Tonita Amundson
- ♥ **Joshua Daniel Neubauer**
Angie and Dan Neubauer-
Joshua Neubauer Memorial
Fund
Catherine & Doug Benkert
Megan LaMont
- ♥ **Blake Wayne Wilson**
Cynthia Hoganson
- ♥ **Kelly Jean Vandereide**
Jay & Marianne Vandereide
- ♥ **Erica Kay Vandereide**
Jay & Marianne Vandereide
- ♥ **Blake Robert Stadler**
Cheryl Fleck
- ♥ **Trevor Richard Pint**
Mary Kotek
- ♥ **Theresa Mueller**
Gladys Barsness
- ♥ **Jake Michael Schaffran**
Dennis & Brenda Gunhus
- ♥ **Lucy Jane Dowd**
Grant & Cara Wilson
- ♥ **Lila Nash Novotny**
Theodore & Susan Storey
- ♥ **Jayden Krohn**
Michael & Faith Vaharen
- ♥ **Aubrey Corionna**
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dozark
- ♥ **Eric Holden Ambur**
Sonja Ambur
- ♥ **Loren Charles Ambur**
Sonja Ambur
- ♥ **Noah Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
Kathryn Sherwood
- ♥ **Abby Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
Kathryn Sherwood
- ♥ **Hope Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
- ♥ **Faith Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
- ♥ **Grace Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
- ♥ **Baby Brandt**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
- ♥ **Justin Meyer**
Eric & Elizabeth Brandt
Kathryn Sherwood
- ♥ **Scott Arthur Carver**
Judy Carver
- ♥ **Nicholas Joseph Moravec**
Kenneth Benkowski
- ♥ **Daniel Robert Novak**
Donald & Karen Novak
- ♥ **Ethan Patrick Culhane**
Patrick & Gwen Culhane
- ♥ **Angel Babies**
Dr. & Mrs. B. Embury
- ♥ **Hope Kuennen**
Kris Jenson
Mrs. James Kuennen
- ♥ **Gus Kuennen**
Kris Jenson
Mrs. James Kuennen
- ♥ **Lila Strauss**
Kris Jenson
- ♥ **Russell Allen**
Kris Jenson
- ♥ **Baby Havumaki**
Christina Havumaki
- ♥ **Lizzy Dienst**
Dominic & Beth Dienst
- ♥ **Sara Connelly Jones**
Diane Connelly
- ♥ **Jacob Lynn Slama**
Jackie & Chuck Slama
- ♥ **John Paul Slama**
Jackie & Chuck Slama
- ♥ **Hummel-Langerfeld Babies**
Susan Trelstad
Sharon Langerfeld
- ♥ **Elias Jesus Shellum**
Tina Varness
- ♥ **Blake Wilson**
Wayne & Linda Staab
Cynthia Hoganson
- ♥ **Isaiah Shoop**
LuAnn Shoop
- ♥ **Vivian Nina DeBruzzi**
Daniel & Janet Bradley

♥ **Daniel James Piepho**
James Piepho
Kathy Ryks
Marv & JoAnn Chmelik

♥ **Christian Joel Kriesel**
Larry & Julie Kriesel

♥ **Addison Sommers**
Bonita Sommers
Deb Miller
Martin Tesch
Kari Priebe
Diane Hanson
Shirley Richter
Julie Paap
Jerre Richter
Marlyn Pierce
Ben Manigold
Janis Mann
Melissa Langer
Chris Christenson
Elizabeth Krocak
Andrew & Sara Richter
Tim & Sandra Penny
Southern MN Initiative
Foundation
John & Cynthia Beckwith
Linda Larson

♥ **JJ Wolf**
Amy & James Wolf

♥ **Braydon Kleeberger**
Michael & Elizabeth Crombie
Liberty Diversified International

♥ **Peyton Jean Bennett**
Britt Bauer

♥ **Harrison Bahn**
Kris Jensen

♥ **Morgan Ann Twedt**
Teresa Johnson

♥ **Jameson**
Michelle Persson

♥ **Kristen Margaret Stortz**
Carl & Heather Stortz
Holly Blackwood

♥ **Brooke Marie Bauer**
Britt & Aaron Bauer

♥ **Jan Marie Belal**
Steve Roemhildt

♥ **Leah Reker**
Lori and Bob Mickelson

♥ **Michelle Reker**
Lori and Bob Mickelson

♥ **Stewart Reker**
Lori and Bob Mickelson



Adult Memorials

♥ **Dorothy Reker**
Lori and Bob Mickelson

♥ **Audrey Rue**
Diana Sundwall

♥ **Jamie Schaffran**
Diana Sundwall

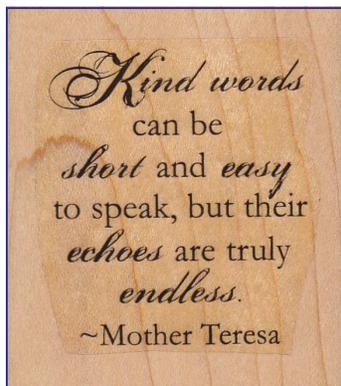
♥ **Alivin Herman**
Allan & Becky Baker



Donations in Honor Of

♥ **Margaret Walker**
From Francis Raidt

♥ **Eleanor Raidt**
From Margaret Walker



A Mother's Day Wish From Heaven

By Jody Seilheimer

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,
I saw 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 are 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, s
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.



Thank You to the Friends of IRIS

A special thanks to all those who donate their time and resources to ensure the success and effectiveness of IRIS. We would not be able to do what we do without each one of you and your ongoing support!

Cash Donations

Under \$250

JD & Margaret. Walker
Amanda Hall
Jean Silkey
David & Kathryn Duchene
Women of the Moose
Russell & Mary Keating
Greg & Allyson Skillestad
Paul & Kendra Myrom
Patrick & Sara Wallace
Boldt Funeral Home
Fr. Marty Schaefer
Brian & Rojean Sweeney
Katie Raidt
Kris Shuda - Tastefully Simple
Lisa Bang
William & Debra Skarupa
Kwik Trip, Inc.~ Milk Moola
Fr. Michael Kaluza
Stacy Crakes
Dr. Kris & Matt Drevlow
Kayla Johnson
Bob & Lori Mickelson
Brandi Petricka
Chuck & Amber Warnemunde
Kari Casper
Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Stephen & Mary Marquard
Dr. J.R. & Sarah Walker
Peter & Alisha Kolb
Edwin & Lois Gehrke
Keystone Senior Living
St. Patrick's Church CCW
Community Shares MN ~
(Debra Dwyer, Corrie Guggisberg, & Tara Miller)
Richard Nelson
Howard Schoenfeld
Michael Peroutka
Parker Kohl Funeral Home
Deborah Lenway
Denise Gillen
Laura Knopik -
Images 4 Life Photography
Amazon Smiles

\$250 - \$499

Saint Gobain Corporation (SAGE)
Brian Haefner

\$500 - \$999

Dr's. David & Sarah Beckmann
Joshua Neubauer Memorial Fund
Premier Bank

\$1,000 -1,999

ABC Bus Company
Northfield Area United Way
United Way of Faribault

\$2,000 and Up

Dodge County United Way



In-Kind Donations

- ♥ **Izzy Springer** ~ Baby bath, lotions, and oils; Iron & Office Labels
- ♥ **Sandy Varley, SJV Photo Solutions** ~ Infant Photo restoration
- ♥ **Connie & Joe DeGroot** ~ Donation of Ecolab for Bug Spraying at the IRIS House
- ♥ **Lois Menzel, Pam Porras, German Lake Lutheran Church Ladies,** ~ Crocheted & knitted blankets, caps, and prayer shawls
- ♥ **Shattuck St. Mary's Hands Across Faribault** mowed lawn, watered flowers, labeled and mailed Trot postcards, hung Trot posters
- ♥ **Divine Mercy Youth Group** ~ Moving Furniture, Cleaning, and Yard work
- ♥ **Cedar Chiropractic** ~ 12 cases of copy machine paper

- ♥ **Kristy Springer** ~ Office File Folders, Blow-up Turkey for Trot
- ♥ **Vanessa & Jon Zimprich** ~ Quilt Rack & Angel Statue In Memory of Anthony Zimprich
- ♥ **Brushworks of Faribault, Inc.** ~ IRIS Logo on trailer
- ♥ **Brianna & Ryan Prechel** ~ Trailer repairs in memory of Payton and Allison Prechel
- ♥ **Ricky Danielson** ~ Scrapbooking & Stamping Supplies
- ♥ **Design Specialties (Karen)** ~ Embroidery of Memorial Quilt Squares
- ♥ **Kathy Hallinger/Connie DeGroot** ~ Balloon Release & Holiday Service Cookies
- ♥ **Bob & Lori Mickelson** ~ Memorial Garden Stake in memory of Dorothy Reker and her Angel Grandchildren Leah, Michelle, and Stewart Reker
- ♥ **Trotman Family** ~ Wooden Shaker Boxes in memory of Arianna Luella Trotman
- ♥ **Steve & Jane Cross** ~ Kleenex
- ♥ **Laurie Steward** ~ Shampoo, lotions and bath soaps
- ♥ **Jeff Berger and Sam Ramaeker at Floor to Ceiling** ~ Carpet Stretching
- ♥ **Dean Fahrendorf** ~ Wooden toys and crosses
- ♥ **Students of Dawn Braa (DCTC)** ~ Hand-sewn fabric folders, and supplies
- ♥ **Ray & Mary Navarro** ~ House hold items
- ♥ **The Tuma Family** ~ Household items & Grandfather Clock
- ♥ **Deanna & Allyn Kuennen** ~ Lamps in memory of Hope and Gus Kuennen





This adult only Angel Brunch ~ "A Mother's Treasure is in Her Heart" ~ will be held Saturday May 2, 2015 at 10:00 am at the IRIS House (218 NW 3rd Ave., Faribault, MN 55021) Reservations will be accepted Through April 27th. You are welcome to invite as many supportive women to join you as you would like. A wonderful Brunch will be followed by the opportunity to create your own keepsake memorial Necklace or Bracelet. Payment must be included with reservations and returned to the address above by April 27th.

♥ Name: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

Attending in Memory of: _____

♥ Name: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

Attending in Memory of: _____

Feel free to add more names on another paper

Total Number Attending: _____ X \$10 per person. Total Due: \$ _____



Memorial Water Lantern Order Form

Memorial Water Lantern Release Saturday August 29, 2015.

Lanterns can be ordered in memory of your child regardless of where you live, when the child died, or the cause of death. Lanterns can be picked up at the IRIS Office, reserved by ordering online, or by completing the order form. A Limited Number of Memorial Water Lanterns will be for sale at the event. If you are unable to join us on August 29th we will be honored to release your Memorial Lantern for you. Decorating service is also available.

Return order form to: IRIS 218 NW 3rd Ave., Faribault MN 55021 No Later Than August 17th. Payment must accompany order. Order now to guarantee yours.

Your Name: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

I/we will decorate our Lantern on the 29th I/we request "Decorating Service" Info enclosed

I/we will pick up our Lantern at the IRIS House and decorate at home

I/we will be in attendance I/we request IRIS to release the Lantern for us

Total Number of Lanterns Ordered _____ X \$10 per Lantern Total Due: \$ _____

Infants Remembered In Silence

218 NW 3rd Ave.
Faribault, MN 55021
www.irisRemembers.org

Inside this issue:

Mothers day brunch, Memorial Floating Lanterns,
IRIS Garage Sale, Poems, and more!



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

A Mother's Love

Author Unknown

I didn't have to look into your eyes
To fall in love with you.

I didn't have to hear you cry
To know you loved me too.

I didn't need to hold your hand
To cherish you always.

Within my womb we shared our hearts,
You touched my soul,

You sweetened my spirit,

You gave me memories I'll always hold very dear

Yes, my heart aches since you departed so soon,
But a mother's love does not end with death,
For you are my child my love is forever yours.



A Dad's Poem

Author Unknown

We never had the chance to play,
to laugh, to rock, to wiggle,
We long to hold you, touch you now,
and listen to your giggle.

She'll always be your mother, and I'll always be your Dad,
You will always be our child - the child we never had.

But now you're gone ... but yet you're here.

We sense you everywhere;

You are our sorrow and our joy.

There's love in every tear.

Just know our love goes deep and strong,
that we'll forget you never,

The child we had, but never had - and yet
will have forever.

IRIS Garage Sale June 19th - 20th



We are currently collecting clean items for our upcoming sale. Please bring all items you wish to donate to the IRIS garage sale to the IRIS Office by June 12th. Items left following the sale will be donated. Drop off & Sale Location:

IRIS HOUSE
218 3rd Street NW
Faribault, MN 55021

Time: Friday June 19th from 8 pm - 6 pm
Saturday 20th 7am - 4 pm