



# IRIS INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE

## Whispers of the Heart Newsletter

IRIS  
218 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Faribault, MN 55021  
Phone: (507) 334-4748  
support@irisRemembers.com  
[www.irisRemembers.com](http://www.irisRemembers.com)

Offering parents, families, friends and professionals support, education and resources on the death of a child in early pregnancy, or from premature birth, stillbirth, neo-natal death, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), illness, accidents, and all other types of infant and early childhood death.

### 2024 Board Members

Han Aldrich - Northfield  
Anna Kettering - Faribault  
Chris Petricka - Kenyon  
Michele Priebe - Waseca  
Jennifer Hanson - Webster  
Jessica and Jason Krohn - Faribault  
Jackie and Chuck Slama - Lake Crystal

### Founder and Executive Director

Diana Kelley

### Looking to get Involved with IRIS? Become a Volunteer or Committee Member!



A great way to get involved with IRIS is to become a volunteer or a committee member! You will help us continue to improve events, meet new people, and have fun being involved with others who understand your loss. To join a committee email us at: support@irisRemembers.com. We will be happy to answer any questions.



### 9th Annual Heaven's Angels Motorcycle Run

Heaven's Angels Motorcycle Run will be held on August 3, 2024. This 2.5 - 3 hour ride will start and end at Faribault Harley-Davidson (2704 W. Airport Dr., Faribault MN). All types and sizes of motorcycles welcome! Don't have a motorcycle? You are welcome to follow along in your car or join us for the Silent Auction, and a meal from Kelm's BBQ food truck. This years route will take you through majestic rolling hills and on beautiful back roads of the southeastern Minnesota countryside. To register and for more details visit: [irisRemembers.com](http://irisRemembers.com)



### How Many Children?

Allison Chambers-Coxsey © 1996

"How many children"?,  
he asked of me.  
"Well", I said slowly,  
"I used to have three".  
Three were born living,  
Bot now one is gone,  
Should I answer two?  
But, no, that's wrong  
For the one who is gone,  
Still lives in my mind,  
Still lives in my heart,  
Her smiling picture  
still adorns my desk,  
Her presence on earth still  
remembered,  
"How many children"?  
He asked of me.  
"Three", I said proudly,  
"I have three"!

### 2024 Save the Dates

- **June 24 - The MSB - Brewing Experience** - Benefitting IRIS
- **August 3rd** - Heaven's Angels Motorcycle Run
- **Water Lantern Release** - TBD
- **October** - National Pregnancy & Infant Loss Remembrance Month
- **October 15th** - International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day Service at the IRIS Office at 7 pm
- **November 28th** - Turkey Trot
- **December 1st** - IRIS 31st Annual Holiday Service of Remembrance. This will be Father Doyle's last Holiday Service as he is retiring!
- **2nd Wednesday of the month** - Midday Support Groups from 11am - 1pm at the IRIS office
- **4th Tuesday of the month** - Evening Support Groups - from 7 - 8:30pm at the IRIS office



### Inside this Issue

Project Olive	2
Olivia Fund	
Wish List	
Poems	
Getting Involved	3
New Staff	
Support Groups	
Infant Memorials	4
Donations	5
From Diana's Desk	6
Adult Memorials	7
IRIS House Updates	



### Project Olive

Project 'Olive' You was started by Carole Perron after the loss of her granddaughter Olive. Carole creates beautiful handmade cards and sells them. She then donates the profits to IRIS in memory of Olive. Thank you Carole for all of your support and for creating such a special Project to honor Olive.



### Its time to talk Turkey. . Trot that is!

The 16th Annual Turkey Trot will be held on November 28th, 2024 (Thanksgiving Morning). Join us for a 5K Walk, 5K Run, 10K Run, Tot Trot, & Gobble Wobble. The Turkey Trot is held at the Faribault Middle School, 704 17th St. SW Faribault, MN 55021. Registration will open in early fall with registration at [irisRemembers.com](http://irisRemembers.com). If you have questions, or suggestions please let us know, we are always looking for feedback! We are also welcoming new members to the Trot Committee. Call 507-334-4748 or email: [trot@irisremembers.com](mailto:trot@irisremembers.com)



Top Fundraising Team "Team Luella & Emma" raised \$2,642! Team members lead the 5K Walk.

### Have You Ever?

By Terri Guillemets

Ever felt an angel's breath in the gentle breeze?  
A teardrop in the falling rain?  
Hear a whisper amongst the rustle of leaves?  
Or been kissed by a lone snowflake?  
Nature is an angel's favorite hiding place.

### The Olivia Fund

The Olivia Fund was created by Ruth & Will in 2022, as the five-year anniversary of their daughter Olivia's birth/death approached. Her family started 'Olivia's Ball' where a portion of the funds raised from the event are donated to IRIS with the designation that it must be used to help pay medical bills and therapy following a stillbirth at the Owatonna Hospital, after 2/22/22. We are so grateful for the support for families and to celebrate Olivia's memory. If you would like to apply for a grant please reach out to the IRIS office and ask for Diana (507)334-4748 or email: [Support@irisRemembers.com](mailto:Support@irisRemembers.com)

### An Angel's Kiss

Your breath is the song that the morning sings,  
Chirping birds,  
fluttering angel wings,  
Daylight dances on the air,  
Leaves rustle unaware.  
Quietly, thoughts of you wander through my mind,  
A gentle breeze on my face I find.  
As if a kiss delivered to me  
By the angels I know are there,  
but cannot see.  
Just like the love that will never end,  
Oh how I long to call this sorrow my friend.

### Dear Parents...

By Christy Kennealy

I did not die young.  
I lived my span of life,  
Within your body  
And within your love.  
There are many  
Who have lived long lives  
And who have not been loved as me.  
If you would honor me  
Then speak my name  
And number me among your family.  
If you would honor me  
Then strive to live in love  
For in that love, I live.  
Never, ever doubt  
That we will meet again.  
Until that happy day,  
I will grow with God  
And wait for you.



### At First

By: Amanda L Peters

At first, I was sorry,  
Because I didn't feel like  
a good mommy.  
How could I have let any harm  
come to you.  
But now I know that it was  
no one's fault,  
That's not what life is all about.

At first I was lonely,  
Because I missed you so,  
and I'd never see you grow.  
But now I know you'll always  
be with me,  
and heaven is a fine place  
to grow - you'll see.

At first I was mad,  
I wanted to love you so bad.  
But now I know you're  
with the only One,  
who could love you more  
than I do, Hun.

At first I was disappointed,  
we had so many plans for you,  
but I guess God did too,  
and His plans we know,  
are better than any we could show.

At first I was sad,  
but now I know that I was  
only sad for me,  
because you're in a place where  
nothing can harm  
You're in God's everlasting arms.

It's a place I hope to be some day,  
and then we will finally get a chance  
to play.



The Infants Remembered In Silence Amazon Wish List has recently been update, be sure to check it out! The list includes the items below & more!

- Baby Yarn
- Clorox Wipes
- Swiffer mop pads
- Paper towels
- Puffs ( No Lotion)
- Furnace Filters (16x25x1)
- Mulch for gardens
- Teddy Bears (any size)
- Keepsakes



Wishes...  
Dear little one,  
I wish two things:  
To give you roots,  
and to give you wings.



**Welcome to Mandy Jirak  
Administrative Assistant**

Mandy joined Infants Remembered In Silence © (IRIS) at the end of September 2023. Some of you may have met her at the Turkey Trot, at the IRIS Office, or have spoken to her on the phone. Mandy works mornings, five day a week. She has spent many hours trying to find her

way through the many events and fundraisers that we hold each year. So far she has survived a Wedding Dress Drive (held in October), the Turkey Trot, a Holiday Service, Pancake Breakfast, and the Little Black Dress so we know she can handle anything thrown her way.

Mandy and her husband, Jace, have one son, Kasen, and another baby on the way, due in August. If you haven't met Mandy, please introduce yourself when you see her, its nice to put a face with a name. Mandy and her family are not only new to IRIS but also new to Minnesota. Welcome Mandy, we truly appreciate your talents and assistance!

In addition to Mandy and Diana Kelley executive director and IRIS founder of IRIS, we are lucky enough to have Brandi Petricka who is our bookkeeper and works about 8 hours a month, and Katie Savoie who works casual parttime, primary at fundraisers.

As you can see our staff is small in number but they do a fantastic job and are aided by approximately 300 volunteers who also put their hearts and souls into Infants Remembered In Silence © . Would you like to volunteer? Reach out to us at support@irisRemembers.com

**Faith Is...**

By: Sue Friedeck

Faith does not come from receiving the gifts we want...

Faith does not come from others telling us how to believe...

Faith does not come from expectations...

Faith comes from love,  
both given and received.

Faith is gentle not coerced...

Faith is a journey not a destination...

And for all of this, I am grateful.



**Join the IRIS Team**



IRIS is seeking an additional Administrative Assistant to join our team in Faribault, MN! This is an in-person position with extremely competitive wages based on experience.

**Position Description:**

The administrative assistant provides support to the Executive Director in a business casual office atmosphere. The position requires a high degree of professionalism and the ability to maintain client and organizational confidentiality. This is an in-person, part-time position. 20 Hours per week, 40/ hour bi/weekly pay period.

**Responsibilities:**

- Support the Executive Director with day-to-day office operations
- Duties include assisting visitors, answering telephones, preparation of letters, memos, quarterly newsletter, and other correspondence, including emails
- Financial responsibilities including tracking website sales receipts and donations
- Assist with preparing reports for the Board of Directors, grant proposals and funding requests
- Assist with organization of inventory, materials, and supplies
- Assist with fundraising
- Assist with a wide variety of volunteers
- Other duties as assigned by Executive Director

**Education/Experience/Skills Required:**

- High School Diploma or GED required
- Ability to retain high level of confidentiality required
- Strong oral, written, communication, and organizational skills expected
- Proficient in use of Microsoft Office, specifically Word and Excel

Please submit Resume in PDF or JPEG format to support@irisRemembers.com

**Peer Grief Support Groups**



A safe place to navigate infant loss grief, and connect with others who share the same experiences and feelings.

- ♥ Midday meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 11 AM - 1 PM.
- ♥ Evening meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 7 - 8:30 PM.
- ♥ Evening meeting are "creative meetings" where we talk, laugh, cry, learn and create a precious keepsake.



# In Loving Memory

- ♥ **Addison J. Sommers**  
Bonita & Rick Sommers
- ♥ **Alex Michael Buenger**  
Lori & Robert Mickelson
- ♥ **Anthony Michael Zimprich**  
Jean & Dennis McBride  
Lisa McBride  
Wayne Kukacka
- ♥ **Baby J.**  
Tyler J.
- ♥ **Baby Martin**  
Staci Martin
- ♥ **Baby Schell**  
Phyllis & Robert Stade
- ♥ **Bethany Agnes**  
Connie & Joe DeGroot
- ♥ **Brinley Rae Kispert**  
Kelsey Kispert
- ♥ **Bryn Michele Ringel**  
Virginia Schmidtke  
Kelly Schwichtenberg
- ♥ **Camryn Jo Krause**  
Brandi Petricka  
Dorothy Rathbun Memorial  
Christine & Michael Petricka
- ♥ **Cohen & Calla Hoisington**  
James & Sheryl Hebel
- ♥ **David & Samson Passer**  
Judy & Jeffrey Passer
- ♥ **Derek Joseph**  
Diana Kelley
- ♥ **Ella Bea McKenzie**  
Darlene Endres
- ♥ **Eleanor & Meredith  
Schloesser**  
Kendra Benson  
Kendra Landkamer
- ♥ **Emma Elizabeth Amacher**  
Lori Markman  
Carre Thoen  
Margaret Elzen  
Laura & James Gillen  
Darlene Endres
- ♥ **Francie Irvine**  
Amanda & Andrew Irvine
- ♥ **Gracie Lou Tusa**  
Pat Rickard  
Sister Kathleen Hayes  
Verdetta & David Tusa
- ♥ **Granddaughter's 6th Birthday**  
Jane & Morris Marquette
- ♥ **Isaiah Elzen**  
Margaret Elzen
- ♥ **Isla Dawn Wolfe**  
Sudie Hofmann
- ♥ **James Richard Brown IV**  
Nancy Tannehill Dupont
- ♥ **Jasmine Faith Wilson**  
Susan Pitkanen
- ♥ **John Knudson, Jr.**  
Phyllis & Robert Stade
- ♥ **John Michael Perron**  
Carole & Michael Perron
- ♥ **Jonah and Isaiah Mulert**  
Donna & Daniel Morgan
- ♥ **Joseph F. Leahy Jr.**  
Lauretta & Jeffrey Anderson
- ♥ **Joseph Thomas Markman**  
Lori Markman
- ♥ **Joshuah D. Neubauer**  
Angie & Dan Neubauer
- ♥ **Korbin Allan LeMieux**  
Becky & Allan Baker
- ♥ **Landon Loose**  
Lori & Curtis Kowaleski
- ♥ **Lily M. Dietz**  
Marcia & Bill Barrett
- ♥ **Lucas**  
Jennifer & Jaye Dyrdaahl
- ♥ **Luella Kari Carlson**  
Laura & James Gillen  
Erica Jakes  
Lori Markman  
Carre Thoen  
Margaret Elzen  
Darlene Endres
- ♥ **Logan Babcock**  
Sarah Babcock
- ♥ **Loren & Eric Ambur**  
Paula Hildebrandt
- ♥ **Mavrick Jacob Eilen**  
Patrick Eilen  
Pat Eilen Trucking LLC  
Phyllis & Robert Stade  
Brandi Petricka  
Chadderdon Lumber  
Judy Carver
- ♥ **Maren**  
Dr. Jacquelyn Schieck & Mr.  
Tanner Schieck  
National Christian Foundation  
Southwest
- ♥ **Molly Nystrom**  
Laura Nystrom
- ♥ **Natalie Michel**  
Katie Eder
- ♥ **Noelle Grace Striker**  
Sandra & Timothy Gosen  
Leah & Peter Thorson  
Deborah Zachman
- ♥ **Olivia Brittain**  
Ruth & Will Brittain  
Travis Ladwig
- ♥ **Oliva Marie Smeby**  
Carole Perron
- ♥ **Ophelia Hudson**  
Tom Koch  
Marcy Koch  
Alyson Koch  
Kasey Koch  
Sarah Koch  
Sharon Koch  
Tiana Koch
- ♥ **Savanah Maria Litzau**  
Margaret Elzen
- ♥ **Scott Arthur Carver**  
Phyllis & Robert Stade
- ♥ **Scottie Nichols**  
Matthew Ogren
- ♥ **Thea Bestul**  
Prayer Bedes
- ♥ **Theo Philip**  
Sharon Tackmann
- ♥ **Trisha Elzen**  
Margaret Elzen
- ♥ **Tyler William Anderson**  
Paula Peroutka
- ♥ **William Robert**  
Connie & Joe DeGroot
- ♥ **Wyatt Wolfe**  
Sue & Dean Scott



## Thank You for Your Donations

### Donations \$2,000 - \$5,000

- Barta Machine LLC
- KC #1573 - Montgomery, MN
- Minnesota Valley Electric Trust
- Network For Good (\$2,763.57 – Facebook Donations & Birthday Fundraisers)
- PayPal Giving Fund (\$2,502.18)
- Northfield, MN Hospital and Clinics
- The Trustmark Foundation

### Donations \$1,000 - \$1,999

- Knights of Columbus
- New Prague Chamber of Commerce
- Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Fblt, MN
- Parish of Saints Joachim & Anne Catholic Church & Shakopee Area Catholic School
- United Way of Lake County
- United Way of Olmsted County
- Waseca Area Foundation Grants

### Donations \$500 - \$999

- AvidXchange
- Elks Club #1166 - Faribault, MN
- Knights of Columbus Auxiliary - New Prague
- MightyCause - Workplace giving
- People Helping People - FOE Aerie 1791 - Owatonna, MN
- Piepho Roofing, Inc.
- Premier Bank Minnesota
- Sertoma Club of Faribault
- Women's Auxiliary of the FOE

### Donations \$251 - \$499

- JustGive – Great Nonprofits
- Renaissance Charitable - Dorothy Rathbun Memorial
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church

### Donations \$250 & Under

- AgriBank
- American Legion - Faribault
- American Legion Post 79 - Montgomery
- CAF America - Xcel Energy Foundation
- CDC of St. Anne #1840 - Medford
- Cardinal Pointe Ladies at Tuesday Talk
- Divine Mercy Catholic Church & School
- HomeTown Credit Union
- Lions Club of Faribault
- Mayo Foundation
- Moose Lodge #2098
- MOPS Owatonna
- Reliance Bank
- Rice County Area United Way
- Schneider National Foundation, Inc.
- Thrivent Mutual Funds
- Women of the Moose Chapter #1476



### In-Kind Donations of Supplies and Talents

Jean Farr, Flavia Berg, Martha Sherman, Nicole Matejcek, Elsie Poutzy, Kris Theis, Agnes Kotek, Carol Weaver, Randy Twiehoff, RoseAnn Rypka, Kathrine Rypka, Gail Zollner and Friends, Carol Kaune, Bert Stenzel, Barbara Scheer, Debra Guzza, Anastasia Rando, Cheryl Mathre, Julie & Eric Drey, Amanda & Andrew Irvine, Libby & Thomas Schmit, Carol Underferth, IRIS Board Members, Janet Christenson, LeAnn Murphy, Lorna Zincke, Bea Naylor, Joy Naylor, Barb Kroyer, Suzanne Schwichtenberg, Carole Entinger, Jackie & Joel Wolfe, Jacquetta Goode, Sandy Muehlenbein, Sarah Kuball, Sue Powell, Deerfield Rustics, Congregational Church, Aldrich Technologies, InstyPrints, Better Way Designs, Donahue's Greenhouse, & everyone that has donated items to IRIS or who has shared their talents from making blankets & hats, cleaning to weeding & everything in-between. We know we have probably missed many of you from this list! Please know we thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!



### Because of You

by: J. Melia

Because of you  
I appreciate the sunset  
more than before.

Because of you I stop to look up at  
the moon and wish upon a star.

Because of you I look forward to  
hearing the birds sing in the  
morning, and thank God for their  
beautiful songs.

Because of you I am more  
understanding of others and  
accept people for who they are.

Because of you the touch of  
someone you love is more precious  
than any gift you can receive.

Because of you I have a  
broken heart  
but I thank God for  
sending you to me.

For there is no stronger love than  
I hold for you.

Until we meet again...



### Personal Donations

- Marcia & Bill Barrett
- Helmer Bauer
- David & Sarah Beckmann
- Jeffrey Berger
- Franz & Cindy Boelter
- Valerie Capra
- Susan & Robert Cochran
- Arlene Cygan
- Peter Dozark
- Father Henry Doyle
- Suzanne Fox
- Frances Gonyea
- Jennifer Hanson
- Jace & Miranda Jirak
- Ly & Travis Klatt
- Sharon Langerfeld
- Deborah Lenway
- Janelle & William Longest
- Jessica Matakis
- Brad Mathiowetz
- Susan Maresch-Pieper
- Victoria Teich
- Danalee & Thomas Merrill
- Carol Pence
- Debra Petersen
- Ashley Reuvers
- Katherine & Jeffrey Salaba
- Patricia Scrafton
- Chad Sweeney
- Thomas & Marylou Webb
- Rose & Ron Weyl



## From Diana's Desk



Many things have changed at IRIS over the last 37 years. IRIS started in my living room and now we have a beautiful office. The office has also changed, it looks different inside and out. The services and events have also changed and I think drastically improved. The staff and

volunteers numbers have increased. We have had many new faces join us with wonderful new ideas and suggestions. Yes there have been changes, but many things are still the same. We want to make sure that you know, regardless of changes and improvements you are always welcome at IRIS. You are welcome regardless of when your child died, the cause of his/her death, where the death occurred, and most of all, weather IRIS worked with you or not. We are always here for you, and you will always be welcomed in. There are many things that change but that is not one of them. You are always welcome to take part in IRIS services, events, and fundraisers. Some are ways to remember and honor your child, others are ways to help yourself find your new normal and heal.

One of our oldest traditions at IRIS is the Holiday Service of Remembrance that has been held annually on the 1st Sunday in December since 1993. This year marks the 31st Annual IRIS Holiday Service and **Father Henry Doyles last year of presiding** over it. Father Doyle will be retiring in the spring and yes, he hand picked his replacement for us. I hope that you will plan to join us at this very special service. We would love to hear what suggestions for improvement you have for this service ASAP as planning has begun. It should be noted that this years service is December 1st - three (3) days after the Turkey Trot!

I hope that you will take time to join us at one or several of the wonderful options you have to remember and honor your child. You will be amazed at how much peace attending an event can bring you. When you attend an event you will also see that you are not alone in missing a little one.

~ Diana

## *Taking Care of Yourself*

It may feel impossible or even childish, but consciously think about these basic needs that will make you physically & emotionally feel better.

Take a warm shower or bath  
 Drink water, not too much coffee, pop, or alcohol  
 Get dressed in "real clothes"  
 Go for a walk even if it's just down the driveway  
 Light a candle and enjoy its beauty  
 Do basic stretches  
 Tell someone "yes, you can help me"  
 Pick or buy yourself some flowers  
 Put on makeup and/or do your hair  
 Say a prayer or read a special poem  
 Write down something your grateful for  
 Join a support group or see a counselor



## 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.

## A Friend

-Libby Barstow

I need a friend to sit with me  
 To help me struggle through,  
 The sadness and the anger,  
 And the crying I will do.

I need a friend to set with me  
 To help me work this out,  
 The guilt and all the anguish,  
 The times I'll want to shout.

I need a friend to sit with me  
 To help me through my pain,  
 The longing and the emptiness,  
 The need to speak his name.



## About Being Strong

By: Sascha

Many people are convinced that being strong & brave means trying to think & talk about something else. But we know that being strong & brave means thinking & talking about our child until our grief begins to be bearable. That is strength. That is courage. Only then can being strong & brave help us heal.



## A Blink in the Night-sky

Karla A. Claeys, M.A.

"When one leaves for the stars, that person will be the one to blink at you in the night-sky and show you the way. While s/he will no longer be able to touch your hands, s/he will forever be able to touch your heart."



## Your Child and Mine

By Christina Fuller

We are friends, you and I  
Sisters born of an adverse bond  
Member of an exclusive sorority  
I met you through my child  
Not at the park, or zoo, or school  
But through the face of a small grave  
And when we're together we can talk  
For an hour  
Or not at all  
In the silence I still know  
You know what I do  
And when you catch me  
With a sigh  
Looking at other children playing  
It is only that I'm thinking  
Of children playing together in  
heaven  
Your child and mine



## You're Far Away

By Caitlin Reinhart, age 9

You're far away but sometimes  
I can still hear you.  
You're far away but sometimes  
I can still see you.  
You're far away but  
I'll be there for you.  
You're far away but  
I'll always love you.



## After the Worst Has Happened

Author Unknown

After the worst has happened,  
with nothing left to fear,  
The sun continues shining  
with undiminished cheer.  
winds continue blowing,  
and skies continue fair...  
As hearts continue bearing  
the thing they could not bear.

## Adult Memorials

- ♥ **Kelly**  
Janet & Eddie Lozon
- ♥ **Mike Less**  
Ruthann Less
- ♥ **Gary Elzen & Angela Elzen**  
Margaret Elzen
- ♥ **Chris Bradon**  
Diana Kelley  
Andy Sundwall
- ♥ **Frank Linster**  
Diana Kelley
- ♥ **Carol Underferth** - a 25+  
year IRIS Volunteer who  
sewed, knit, and crocheted for  
IRIS.
- ♥ **Dougherty, Johnson, and  
Kelley Family members**

## Donations

### In Honor Of

- ♥ **Diana Kelley**  
Carol Roessler
- ♥ **Sue Jandro**  
Deanna Haunsperger  
Stephen Kennedy



## 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 House Updates

Over the past few months L&K Concreate has been at the IRIS house completing many projects! Last summer they put in the new driveway for us, now they have fixed drywall, hung drywall in the Turkey Trot room, and built wood shelves. They removed all of the carpet upstairs and on the stairs to reveal beautiful hardwood floors that need paint spots removed and some polishing. They have fixed doors and doorknobs, fixed lights outlets, switches, installed a fan and a beautiful chandelier. They even accepted packages, donations, and handed out silent auction items when the office was closed! They have done so many tasks around the IRIS House we couldn't keep track of them all! Lance and his family even volunteered at the Pancake Breakfast! We can't thank them enough for all of their incredible work! Now their coming back to fix a basement window! Truly, Reach out to L&K Concreate by calling or texting 507-491-2865, email lkconcreteinc@gmail.com or DM on their Facebook Page.



## Creative Kindness® Cards

IRIS is thrilled to announce a new partnership with Cards for Kindness® by Creative Kindness®. We received our first shipment of 1900 beautiful handmade Thinking of You cards, and Thank You cards. Such a special and treasured gift!!!! Cards will be used to send to grieving parents on anniversary dates, and other special days. Do you know someone that would benefit from receiving a card? Please reach out to IRIS with their name and address. We would be honored to add them to our monthly remembrance list. It's ok to ask to add yourself to this list. This mailing list will not cross over to other mailings done by IRIS.



# IRIS INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE

218 3rd Ave. NW  
Faribault, MN 55021



*Celebrating 37 years of Caring!*  
*1987 ~ 2024*

Inside this newsletter:

- ♥ Poems
- ♥ New Staff
- ♥ Memorials
- ♥ Many Upcoming Events including:  
A Brewery Event, Motorcycle Run, and more!

## 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.



## Registration Deadline Extended!

All proceeds benefit Infants Remembered In Silence (IRIS)®

## The MSB Brewing Experience Benefiting IRIS

When: Monday, June 24th, 2024

Happy Hour: 5 - 6 pm

Brewery Tour: 6 pm

Pizza and Beer to Follow



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT!

Location: Mineral Springs Brewery  
111 N Walnut Ave  
Owatonna, MN 55060

Get a behind-the-scenes view of your hometown brewery, through a hosted event led by MSB owners Rod Baker and Bill Cronin. Flights, pints, and education, plus a sneak-peek at MSB's new building and operation. Enjoy a night out at MSB and support a great cause at the same time!

Special Thanks to our Event Sponsors



Register at:  
[www.irisRemembers.com](http://www.irisRemembers.com)  
by **June 22, 2024** \$25  
At the Door \$30

