
Born Still: A Misunderstood Grief

by Kathy Evans

I find myself writing this, maybe because I hurt, maybe because I feel the need to educate others, maybe because I just *have* to.

I am just three years bereaved. My son died when I was full term with him. In my search for help to assist me through my own grief I have tried to help others understand what it is that we who have lost a baby – a child – at birth feel. Sometimes it is very difficult to explain because he never lived outside my womb. But because he was vibrantly alive inside of me for nine months, I grew to know him as he developed.

Sometimes I think back and try to remember the happy memories of my time with Sean. He loved fettuccine alfredo, but it had to have broccoli or shrimp in it. I think about the kind of music he liked. I think about the kind of songs that he liked me to sing to him.

Sean liked me to rub him to sleep. I also think about how he hiccupped so often – it sometimes drove me nuts! Oh, how I miss those days. But because of those days, even through this intense pain, I also have joy. I have joy because I had

my son at all; because I loved my son, because I mothered him.

When I was first bereaved, I looked at people who had “time” with their children and thought to myself “well at least you had them for (however long it was).” I know other grieving parents look at me and think, “well, at least you didn’t get to know him.” I know now how wrong I was, and also how wrong they are. No matter what amount of time we have with our child – the pain we feel is the same. **We should never have to bury our children.**

I have pain because Sean died, because I had only 10 minutes with him outside my womb, because I never saw his eyes open, never saw his smile, never heard him make a sound. That silence in the delivery room was deafening. I have pain because he lay in a morgue for days, waiting to be buried. I have the pain of seeing my son in his coffin, seeing that coffin closed, having a funeral, putting him in the ground, saying goodbye. Pain because I now must visit him at a cemetery. I grieve his loss terribly. I feel that crater burned into my heart. I feel the emptiness that will never be filled, I feel



the loss of my future, my life.

You see, I feel what you feel. Our experiences may be different; some may have had their children for a longer or shorter time than I did, but our pain is all the same. Losing a child is a life-altering experience. Things will never be the same – I will never be the same, and I don’t want to be!

By Kathy Evans in loving memory of my son Sean, born still November 8th, 1997

Families Facing the Death of Their Child

by Angela Iverson

“Incompatible with life.” These three words will forever be in my memory. When our family received news that my third pregnancy was complicated with a fatal birth defect called anencephaly, I remember an overwhelming feeling of loneliness consume me. I desperately needed to connect with someone who could help answer the myriad of questions that remained. By mere coincidence, I came in contact with two wonderful individuals who had past anencephalic pregnancies. Through sharing their experience, I found the information and support I needed to help me through every aspect of this heartbreaking diagnosis.

Since losing my son Cody Elijah, I have committed myself to assist other families affected by fatal birth defects

either acquired during pregnancy or at birth.

The M.I.S.S. Foundation realizes the immense need to support those faced with the devastating reality of fatal birth anomalies and requested my assistance with this cause. My desire is to provide parents with the necessary tools, education and support to empower them to make the best decision for their situa-



tion.

I encourage anyone who has, or is, facing fatal birth defects to come and join the new M.I.S.S. online forum support group. This forum promises to treat each individual in a compassionate, non-judgmental manner and is hopeful that through sharing your stories we can assure that no one will face this alone.

If you have any further questions or would like to volunteer, please email me at angbri77@msn.com.

Angela Iverson

*In loving memory of
Cody Elijah Iverson 1-29-01*



Remembering Our November and December Children...

Happy Birthday

November

Tyler David Abarr
Guadalupe Arellano
Chase Montgomery Arthur
Brandon Kyle Ball
Brianna Raye Ball
Samuel James Bercich
Charlotte fulton Brochhausen
Stephanie Denise Brooks
Jack Connor Bryan
Carolyn Ann Burley
Serena Carlson
Jeremy Russell Chepeus
Wyatt Edward Boehly
Kaylee Ranae McCully
Peyton Doren
Aric Michael Dunn
Allen Rivera
Sean Michael Evans
Hannah Fenstermaker
Nathaniel Fleeman
Christina Teran Gajdecki
Spencer Gallard
Kimberley Gratke
Gregory James Halinar
Issac Harmon
Hailee Miranda Karen Hildreth
Dylan Ryan Jackson
Phillip Thomas Johnson
Phillip Damien Leach
Megan Leach
Conner Brian Thomas Loughlin
Christopher Michael Masterson
Patience Mathieson
Hope Elizabeth Meek
Eric Christopher Mikkelson
Mercedes Lynn Miller
Victoria Jenea Renteria
Kai Noa Ruiz
Jordenn Polk

November (con't)

Jocelyn Ann Sanders
Taylor Louise St. Laurent
Harrison Lennon Thiergart
Brooke Thompson
Amanda Marie Truxell
Joshua Fransisco Villabolos-Blanco
Collin James Watson
Bronson and Garrett Wetzell
Zane Allen White
Faith Caprice Wright
Jason E. Wynn, Jr.

December

Jaylee Angel
Keathon Armstrong
Corrie Armstrong
Michael Cameron Bartkus
Joshua David Brokaw
Brodie Myles Kehoe—
Nainoa Hom Buchwach
Tristan Salamanca
Tyrin O. Callahan
Jacob Daniel Castaneda
Justin Anthony Castro
Elysia Isabel Contreras
Candace Correll
Justin Cox
Ashley Lynn Daniel
Connor Jack Dicke
Vivian Ann Edwards
Dana Jane Franklin
Malcolm Issac Freeman
Magdalena Gajdecki
Kendra Charity Gidley
Darrell Pennington
Brittney Angelique Grace
Rachel Ann Hage
Jessica Marie Hajdo

December (con't)

Ashleigh Marie Hargis
Aaron Hayes
Carlota Hoffman
Vanessa Denae Hong
Alexander Marin Johnson
Micheala Danielle Samarripa
Macy J. Kelly
John Lafferty, Jr.
Sarah Lusk
Celine Martinez
Kelsey Mayo
Imogen Mighty Meagher
Tristian Rae Miller
Sydney Rose Mitchell
Emma Montgomery
Dalton Moretti
Samantha Ashley Morlan
Marcello Muller
Johnny Nichols
Caleb and Jonah Noyd
Daniella Palacios
Blake Parker-Merrow
Joshua and Shawn Peters
Colten Riley Pitsch
Mario E. Ramirez
Allison Rice
Megan Camille Rowley
Brittney and Nicholas Runyan
Gabriel Salzbrenner
Bryce and Brianna Schindele
Jared Leonard Sullivan
Sarah Jean Vinette
Bethany Vital
Angel Webb
Ethan Alec Shirley-Williams
Jeremiah Jadon Thomas Wilson
Logan Thomas Winton
Brett Alan Wondra
Grace Nicole Steger
Kamryn Rose York

In Memoriam

November

Tyler David Abarr
Guadalupe Arellano
Brandon Kyle Ball
Brianna Raye Ball
Samuel James Bercich
Lisa Lee Billington
Stephanie Denise Brooks
Carolyn Ann Burley
Nikolas Kodie Carlson
Alexis Brianna Stempien
Kaylee Ranae McCully
James Aaron DeLaCruz
Peyton Doren
Aric Michael Dunn
Sean Michael Evans
Spencer Gallard
Amber Cheyenne Murphy
Emily Geitz
Scott Christopher Gomez
Gregory James Halinar
Issac Harmon
Phillip Thomas Johnson
Alexander Swartz
Phillip Damien Leach
Megan Leach
Eric Christopher Mikkelson
Mercedes Lynn Miller
Kai Noa Ruiz
Jocelyn Ann Sanders
Cheyenne Autumn Smith
Taylor Louise St. Laurent
Crystal Sheyenne Valentine-Gripp
Bronson and Garrett Wetzell
Faith Caprice Wright

December

Jesse Andrews
Jaylee Angel
Keathon Armstrong
Corrie Armstrong
Michael Cameron Bartkus
Joshua David Brokaw
Jack Conner Bryan
Brodie Myles Kehoe Nainoa Hom Buchwach
Tristan Salamanca
Bridgette Desire-Victoria Crowkiller-Scherr
Connor Jack Dicke
Samantha Amber Dillard
Ryan Spencer Dugan
Vivian Ann Edwards
Alec Ellson
Hannah Fenstermaker
Malcolm Issac Freeman
Cassandra Nicole Choquette
Zachary Isaac Gatewood
Kendra Charity Gidley
Brandon Allen Gomez
Brittney Angelique Grace
Tyler Lee Grissom
Jessica Marie Hajdo
Ashleigh Marie Hargis
Kody Harris
Carlota Hoffman
Vanessa Denae Hong
Dylan Ryan Jackson
David Isaac Jacobs
Dawson Thomas Jones
Micheala Danielle Samarraipa

December (con't)

John Lafferty, Jr.
Sarah Lusk
Kelsey Mayo
Hope Elizabeth Meek
Tristian Rae Miller
Sydney Rose Mitchell
Dalton Moretti
Samantha Ashley Morlan
Marcello Muller
Regina Marie Munoz
Johnny Nichols
Caleb and Jonah Noyd
Joshua and Shawn Peters
Victoria Jenea Renteria
Allison Rice
Rudy Jr.
Brittney and Nicholas Runyan
Gabriel Salzbrenner
Bryce and Brianna Schindele
Nadir Nathaniel Shah
Taylor Jordan Soucie
Jared Leonard Sullivan
Joshua Fransisco Villabolos-Blanco
Sarah Jean Vinette
Bethany Vital
Angel Webb
Logan Thomas Winton
Brett Alan Wondra
Grace Nicole Steger
Kamryn Rose York



***To the families of these children,
Our sympathies for your recent loss...***

Serena Carlson
Justin Cox
McKenzie Fitchett
Owen Paul Larsen
Anthony Griego
Anna Elizabeth Lwowski
Samuel Mendoza
Abbygale Mary Miller
Matthew Gallardo

Matthew Michael Noyd
Zachary Michael Noyd
Laura Yudir Fuentes
Rexlee Bryant Oxley
Alexis Victoria Rawley
Malcolm Sharratt
Dominick Chase Smith-Vega
Jason E. Wynn, Jr.
Tommy Byrnes

Jose Garcia
Fabian Eduard Herrera-Lopez
Cheyenne Bakken
Celine Martinez
Aaliyah Amari Parker
Colt Justice Pechac
Paul William Rao
Diego Velez

Memorial Donations

In Loving Memory of . . .

Josef Damien "JD" Moeschl
by Malia and Joe, his loving parents

Garrett Pike
by his mother, Keri

Taylor Louise St Laurent
by her parents, Kim and Rick

Tyler David Abarr
by Anonymous
By Margaret, Mark, and Signe, His loving family

Max Alexander Dingus
by his loving parents, Seth and Emily

Eric Christopher Mikkelson
by Anonymous

Samantha Ann Morlan
by Doug, Lee Ann, and Big Brother Nick
by her Angel Friends
And by an anonymous donor

Brittney Angelique Grace
by Tammy & Joseph, her loving parents

Stephanie Denise Brooks
by Deborah, Keith, and little brother, Kyle
by Dorothy Robinson, her Grandmother

Brianna DeCarlo
Happy fourth heavenly birthday, forever our quadruplet daughter and forever in our hearts and lives!

Collette P Chang
by Roger & Fai, her loving parents

Emily Nell
by Barbara and John Howe
by Krista Skinner

Abbi Grace Kontra
by her loving mother Suzette Kontra

Brian Thomas Wall
by his mother, Lori

Jennalee Rose Ambuehl
by Kathy Lindquist (grandma)

Shannon Elizabeth Jenkins
by Keith, Debra, and Kyle Brooks

Lois Ellen Miller, Beloved Human and Mother
by Mark, Margaret, Tyler, and Signe Abarr

Alexander Michael Swartz
by Greg Swartz, Mitra Khazai,
and little brother Ethan

Kaylee Dawn Burch
by Donna Howell, her loving grandmother
MISSing her so

Chase Montgomery Arthur
by his loving family

Cody Elijah Iverson
by a Loving Friend

Samantha Ashley Morlan
by Anonymous

Living Honors Donations



Living Honors Donation
for **Mitch and Jamie Green**
by Molly and James Green



For Joshua Cheyne Cacciatore's Fifth Birthday
by his grandparents, Jo & John

The Day the World Mourned Together: How MISS Foundation Members Helped

The MISS Foundation families have taken action to help others yet again. During the months of October, November, and December, we'll be sending more than 2,000 Grief Support Packets to families affected by the tragic events of September 11, 2001. We would like to offer a special thank you to the families who donated to our 911 Grief Support Program to send books, resources, brochures, and children's literature to the families of the firefighters, police officers, and citizens of New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania who lost their lives in attacks...

The Family of Stephanie Denise Brooks by Deborah, Keith, and Kyle Brooks

The Family of Claire Nibali-Tish, Jim, and Alex Nibali

Linda Zierolf

The Family of MacKenzie Marie Ball by Joellen Ball

The Family of Carlota, Cesar, and Josephine by Carla, their mother

Judi Ashlock and Jami Garrison in loving remembrance of Lois Ellen Miller

Donna Couch in memory of Bradley T. Couch

Michael and Jean Morrissey on behalf of Bonnie Babes

Ann Jewel in loving remembrance of Michael Steven Kolcum

Donna Howell in loving remembrance of Kaylee Dawn Burch

Lely Alamina-Cardace of Baldwin Harbor, New York in loving remembrance of Anissa Victoria Cardace

Cactus Pine Girl Scouts

Brad and Alisa Detwiler in loving remembrance of Jakob Bradley Detwiler

Kelly Berrigan/Founder "Empty Arms~Heavy Heart" Childloss.com

Members

Sun City Fire Department
Sun Cities Firefighters Local 3573

United Parcel Service

Rusty Chepeus
Southwestern Litho

Claire Noll of San Antonio, Texas

Lorri Jacobs in loving remembrance of David Isaac Jacobs

Ann Rosati in loving remembrance of Tatyana Janiz Mooney

Linda Harrison of Oak Island, NC

Cindy Grubb in memory of Katie and Madison

Jeremy and Shari Green in memory of RyLeigh Denna Green

Toye Haddock in memory of Isabel Joy Haddock

Karsten Asher Voss by his loving parents

Abbie and Lloyd Pike

Sam Schoenauer for Cheyenne

Angela and Brian Iverson in loving remembrance of Cody Elijah Iverson

Lori Brown in loving remembrance of Noah James Brown

The Evans Family in loving remembrance of Hannah Grace Evans

Denise Dickerson in loving remembrance of Michelle Elizabeth Dickerson and Emily Amanda Dickerson

The Kennedy Family in loving remembrance of Jared Michael Kennedy

Grandma Kristine Kemper in loving remembrance of McKayla Cortes Kemper

The Perez Family in loving remembrance of Joseph Michael Perez

James Gillard of Merriam, Kansas and brother of Lois Miller

Keri Pike in loving remembrance of Garrett Pike

Malia and Joe Moeschl in loving remembrance of Josef Damien "JD" Moeschl

Caridad Caspers of Somerset, NJ

In loving remembrance of Taylor Louise St Laurent by her parents, Kim and Rick

Emily Dingus in loving remembrance of Max Alexander Dingus

Annette Simon and GSD&M Publishing in memory of Libby Simon

Sara Ruble in loving remembrance of Scott Michael Jessie of Stow, Ohio

Tara Pitts in loving remembrance of Christian Samuel Pitts

Sandra Disspain in loving remembrance of Travis Lee Disspain

Brenda Nunes in loving memory of beautiful Alexander

Milo and Marilyn Caskey in loving remembrance of Charles Samuel Caskey and in honor of Bennet Berlin, who just celebrated her first birthday

in memory of Shirley Sarver, mother of Gael Johnson, who spent her life committed to volunteering

by the Vinette Family in loving remembrance of Sarah Jean Vinette

Thank you to Skyview Elementary School's Fifth Grade and Indian Bend's Sixth Grade Classes for the beautiful letters to the children of N.Y. and D.C.

And thank you to Alex Nibali and Riley Caskey for their beautiful artwork-

Betty and Dave Jeffries

By Judith Toth in loving remembrance of Christopher Michael Toth

Special thanks to our 911 Grief Support Packet Volunteers:

Pam Binder

Beth Benninghoff

Dave Wookstrum

Juliegh Fullerton

Dave Garard

Joanne Cacciatore-Garard

Doris Hicks-Tillman

Jana Vorhis

Rusty Chepeus

Tammy Haimovitz

Jami Garrison

Holly Wander



Remembering ...



Aaron Michael Hayes



Annika Lindroth



Corrie Armstrong



Zane White



Cheyenne Smith



Taylor Louis St Laurent



Lisa Lee Billington



Alexander Swartz



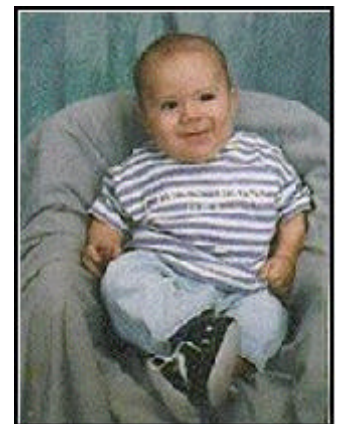
Max Alexander Dingus



Eric Mikkelson



Chris Masterson



Zachary Gatewood