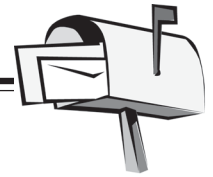


# Letters From The MISS Mailbox...



Dear MISS,  
Every two months I look forward to receiving my MISSing Angels newsletter and connecting with other families who, like me, have an angel child. However, I would like to announce the safe arrival of my newest earthbound angel. Aiden Thomas Lindsey-Uttley arrived Monday, September 20, 2004. He was due Oct 17th and gave us a hint of his impatience by coming a full month early!



This was by far the most special "early gift" I have ever received. You see, I was feeling the effects of my son Joshua's birthday anniversary full force that weekend. Joshua would have been two this year, and remembering him is so bittersweet...

*I went into labor on Saturday and everything went by so fast that the next thing I remember was being wheeled out of the hospital, my baby boy snug in my arms, waiting for his daddy to bring the car to take us home. Someone next to us made a comment about the weather and how beautiful it was for the end of September and I realized I didn't know what day it was! I asked the nurse and she said the 21st! I realized that I was leaving the same hospital with a baby safe in my arms exactly two years to the day that I left with aching empty arms and a broken heart.*

Two years ago I thought life would never be the same. I was so right. I remembered Joshua with tears and sorrow for a long time. Now I remember his short, precious life with a sad smile and gratitude. For without knowing his loss I could not have sat in the warm sunshine on Sept. 21, 2004 and truly appreciate the miracle I held in my arms. The significance that day holds for our family, is the day life ended and began again.  
Kharma Lindsey  
Glendale AZ



Dear MISS,  
I just finished reading the newest MISSing

Angels newsletter and am sitting here with your article, Wonderment, in front of me. It expresses my feelings exactly. I am a bereaved grandmother, and I have struggled with exactly the same issues you describe, with precisely the same conclusion. How validating to read this!! I am writing a book about grief as experienced from the

grandparent's point of view. The book came about after I searched and searched for information and support on the grief of grandparents after my granddaughter's stillbirth. I found very little, and most of what I found did not reflect my thoughts or experience. My book is called *Forgotten Tears A Grandmother's Journey Through Grief*. I would like permission to quote from your article, with full reference. My chapter on Renewal deals with issues of spirituality and maintaining a connection to my granddaughter.

My name is Nina Bennett.  
I look forward to hearing from you.  
Peace,  
Nina, Maddy's Grammy

*The following email came in to the MISS Foundation, apparently, after a family used a Kindness Project card to do a random act of kindness. What an honor to your little girl!*

I would like to thank you for the Halloween costume you have given my daughter, she is very happy and grateful for what you have done.

We are sorry for the loss of Emmalyna Grace and hope that God gives you tranquility in dealing with these difficult times. Once again thank you for your kindness.  
Sincerely,  
Miriam Amador (mother)  
and Jasmine Amador (daughter)



*This email came from MISS Foundation North Scottsdale, Arizona facilitator, Alison, whose precious son, Joshua, died at six years of age in September of 2001. As the anniversary of Josh's death approached, Alison, like so many bereaved parents, felt the longing and sadness. She e-mailed MISS Foundation's Executive Director, Joanne Cacciatore, after reading about a memorial donation made in memory of "Joshua."*

Dear MISS,  
Receiving this newsletter couldn't have come at a better time. It has been a rough month...I felt the "pressure" building about a week prior to the dreaded Labor Day weekend. I was in the drive-thru line at a coffee shop and Josh was heavy on my mind (like that is anything new!). I decided to use a "random act of kindness" card and bought the order for the guy behind me...

***This was the note attached to a Memorial Donation made to the MISS Foundation in memory of precious Josh.***

Memorial Donation in memory of "Joshua"  
By Mike Dunlevy  
In Honor of Joshua's Mother & all other family members. I received a Random Act of Kindness done in loving memory of Joshua on 8/27/2004, given to me by Joshua's mother. This touched my heart and although I am only able to make a small donation, it is my way of thanking Joshua and his family for helping to put my life in perspective. My deepest empathy and prayers are with Joshua's family. Their strength and kindheartedness is keeping his memory alive. The Random Act of Kindness card I received will be saved and kept in a place where I will see it every morning before starting my day as a reminder to myself that life is so very precious. Thank you again to Joshua and his mother.

## *Traveling with your child, who has died* by Nancy Grayson

Exhausted from organizing the local Children's Memorial Candle Lighting program, my husband and I, for the second year in a row, had neglected making plans for our own Christmas holiday. Checking the internet, luckily we found the last two seats on an old fashioned, horse-drawn sleigh ride for a Christmas Eve's dinner package in beautiful Sun Valley, Idaho, just a 3 hour drive from our home in Boise. We booked the sleigh, a room and headed out - not knowing how this would work. Our only child died. Celebrating, decorating and being joyful is often difficult for us. We frequently get away and travel for our son's anniversary dates and most holidays. Here are some of the things we have done over the years that have gotten us through and have given us hope:

That soft snowy night in Sun Valley, we toted a small red Christmas candle for our table. While we dined, a strolling German accordion player came by. He asked if we had a request. The song "Edelweiss" from *Sound of Music* came to me. While he played, tears poured down my face and Joel's dad, Peter, tenderly held my hand. On that trip we brought along a large colorful gift bag filled with what we would have liked Joel to have - a cuddly stuffed toy, drawing supplies, new clothes, PJ's and silly slippers (a must!). I had called ahead and arranged to leave this gift with a domestic violence safe center, with the understanding a four year old boy would receive the present. A MISS Kindness Card was attached to the gift bag.

We usually travel when it's Joel's birthday and it's much the same idea - buying what we would have. It helps us keep in touch with his age and the current time frame.

People are helpful when we explain what we want to do and the gifts always seem to find the right child in need. We order a small cake and we bring along the 'Tiger' candle. That candle has been on 5 cakes now. And yes, we sing - not Happy Birthday, but a song called 'On The Day You Were Born' by Red Grammer. [www.redgrammer.com](http://www.redgrammer.com)

This year we gave one of Joel's birthday balloons to a toddler at the next table. It turns out this was the child's first balloon — so cool! Release balloons whenever you need to. Recently we were in Tucson, Arizona at a restaurant watching two sweet boys get balloons. I asked the waiter for one —yellow please. I took out my black Sharpie pen, drew a smiling face and wrote "Love You" and off to Joel it went.

While you're in a hotel or staying with friends or family, make a little space for your child's & family photos and perhaps a stuffed toy. Frame an extra print for a hotel nightstand, just in case it's forgotten in packing up for home. We now have a second set of mementos that stay in the suitcase. Joel and his blue puppy toy go where we go!

Our first stop away from home is at any grocery store floral spot. We buy a flowering plant to join the photo display. Sometimes we stop at the dollar store for a vase or two and use cut flowers. *If flying, please remember to pack the scissors in the checked baggage - Yikes! We have had two pair confiscated at security now.* We leave the plant or flowers for the housekeeping staff or our host, remembering to attach a MISS Kindness card in memory of our son.

While at Italy's Lake Como on Mother's day, we placed flowers on

babies & children's graves. The Italian cemeteries and headstones are so incredibly beautiful and peaceful.

Stop by a floral shop any holiday and buy a corsage. Wear it and give one to another mother missing her child. Dads, this is a very thoughtful gift for you child's mom & grandmothers too.

Candles are a great remembrance. Bring one along to holiday dinners or gatherings - light it up and let those around you know this is for your child who died. Speak out loud that child's name, it will help let people know it's OK to talk about how you're thinking of and missing this precious child.

I wear my son's name bracelet daily - his name facing me, his mom. It tugs gently at my heart each and every day. No matter where I am, he's with me. What a great traveler this kid is!

On the beach or in the snow? Write to your child in the sand or build a snowperson in tribute.

Fly a kite, ride on a carousel. Be creative, go ahead and enjoy what you wish you could with your child.

Getting away for the holidays or any travel need not exclude your child who has died.

Wishing you and yours gentle days ahead and in the New Year. From Nancy & Peter Grayson Boise, Idaho [nancy@missfoundation.org](mailto:nancy@missfoundation.org)

Where ever we are - we are together. Love to our son, Joel Albert Grayson.

# 4th Annual Children's Memorial Golf Tournament

A great time was had by all at the 4th Annual Children's Memorial Golf Tournament. This event, held at the Arrowhead Country Club in Glendale Arizona, raised nearly \$10,000.00 for the MISS Foundation that will go toward our Family Support Programs. The day was spent golfing in the Arizona sunshine followed by a silent auction and raffle prize drawing during dinner. Musical entertainment was provided by Jimmy Tiberia and Jim Lugo. We would like to thank our MISS families that participated in the beautiful field of butterflies and our major sponsors: 1st National Bank of Arizona, Cox Communications and United Beverage. And of course we can't forget the wonderful volunteer committee who coordinated this fabulous event:

*Jeff Bell  
Andrew Sosnowitz  
Cindi Nannetti, JD  
Angela Iverson  
Dana Southworth  
Rob Dalager*

And thank you to all the families and friends who participated in this event! See everyone next year for a great time in Phoenix!



## International Contacts:

### Mexico City

FUNDACIÓN ESPERANZA's Support Group, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 9:30a.m. Contact Carla at (5255)5579 1327 for location [carlah@missfoundation.org](mailto:carlah@missfoundation.org)

### Ireland

Sinead Williamson  
Contact: [sinead@missfoundation.org](mailto:sinead@missfoundation.org)

### London England

2nd Sunday of each month, 1:30 p.m.  
Room 4, Northfields Community Centre  
71A Northcroft Road, London W13  
Phone: 07932 812931  
Contact: Cathie Shipton 07932 812931  
[cathie@missfoundation.org](mailto:cathie@missfoundation.org)

### Eastbourne - East Sussex, UK

2nd Tuesday of every month 7.30-9.30pm  
Cumberland Hotel, 34-36 Grand Parade,  
Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3YT  
Contact: Cathie Shipton 07932 812931  
[cathie@missfoundation.org](mailto:cathie@missfoundation.org)

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

*Tyraa Nicolette Perez*

*Cecelia Olson*

*Angel Alexis Lopez*

*Lincoln "Noah" Jeremiah Auau*

*Quinton Joseph Conner Alexander  
Lee Raban*

*Riley Catherine O'Harra*

*BabyRath*

*Noah Mesa*

*Sarah Rose Fox*

*Zaria Marie Gibson*



# MISS Foundation Chapters & Global Peer Contacts

## **Arkansas**

Camden - coming soon!  
Karen Loomis  
[karen.loomis@missfoundation.org](mailto:karen.loomis@missfoundation.org)

## **California**

Arcadia - Kristin Jared 626-963-9120  
[kristin@missfoundation.org](mailto:kristin@missfoundation.org)

Huntington Beach - Katie Hodge  
714-585-3614  
[katie@missfoundation.org](mailto:katie@missfoundation.org)

Merced - Kim Lotz 209-725-9241  
[kim@missfoundation.org](mailto:kim@missfoundation.org)  
Tricia Lencioni 209-384-7381 and  
Sheryl McAllister 209-383-3392

San Diego - Keny Marie Leepier  
619-521-1891  
[keny@missfoundation.org](mailto:keny@missfoundation.org)

West Hills - Heather Lipari  
818-999-5888  
[heather\\_lipari@missfoundation.org](mailto:heather_lipari@missfoundation.org)

## **Connecticut**

coming soon!  
[heather@missfoundation.org](mailto:heather@missfoundation.org)

## **Colorado**

Denver - Leslie Clemenson  
303-841-4152  
[leslie@missfoundation.org](mailto:leslie@missfoundation.org)

## **Florida**

Trenton - Valerie 352-463-3986  
[vlgsml@missfoundation.org](mailto:vlgsml@missfoundation.org)  
Palm Beach - Rusti 561-642-6464  
[rusti@missfoundation.org](mailto:rusti@missfoundation.org)

## **Idaho**

Boise - Nancy & Peter Grayson  
208-861-2407  
[nancy@missfoundation.org](mailto:nancy@missfoundation.org)

## **Illinois**

Roselle - Mary at 630-582-0874  
[mary@missfoundation.org](mailto:mary@missfoundation.org)

Sandwich - Angie Farley  
815-786-6873  
[angie\\_farley@missfoundation.org](mailto:angie_farley@missfoundation.org)

Wheaton - Mary at 630-852-0874  
[mary@missfoundation.org](mailto:mary@missfoundation.org)

## **Indiana**

Crissy Tohm & Katie Irby  
[crissy@missfoundation.org](mailto:crissy@missfoundation.org)  
[katie\\_irby@missfoundation.org](mailto:katie_irby@missfoundation.org)

## **Kansas**

Wichita - Alan & Karen Wondra  
316-721-8284  
[Kwondra1@cox.net](mailto:Kwondra1@cox.net)

## **Kentucky**

Pacucah - Kelly Nicholls  
270-395-7668  
[knicholls@missfoundation.org](mailto:knicholls@missfoundation.org)

## **Maryland**

Baltimore - Kahlilia Woodlon  
443-794-0778  
[miraclasmom2003@yahoo.com](mailto:miraclasmom2003@yahoo.com)

## **Massachusetts**

West Medford - Lynne Barberian  
781-488-3546  
[lynne@missfoundation.org](mailto:lynne@missfoundation.org)

## **Minnesota**

Alexandria - Heidi Ciepielinski  
320-859-5660  
[heidi@missfoundation.org](mailto:heidi@missfoundation.org)

## **Pennsylvania**

Jessica Finnegan  
[jessica@missfoundation.org](mailto:jessica@missfoundation.org)

## **Tennessee**

Memphis - Rex & Laura Butts  
901-523-7549  
[laura@missfoundation.org](mailto:laura@missfoundation.org) or  
[rex@missfoundation.org](mailto:rex@missfoundation.org)

## **Virginia, D.C. & Maryland Metro**

Fairfax - Tara Pitts 703-583-1503  
[tara@missfoundation.org](mailto:tara@missfoundation.org) &

Dionna Williams 301-797-9155  
[dionna@missfoundation.org](mailto:dionna@missfoundation.org)

## **Virginia**

Gordonsville - coming soon!  
[elizabeth@missfoundation.org](mailto:elizabeth@missfoundation.org)

Richmond - Twyla Powell  
[twyla@missfoundation.org](mailto:twyla@missfoundation.org)

## **Washington**

West Seattle - Krista McInerney  
[krista@missfoundat.org](mailto:krista@missfoundat.org)

Spokane - coming soon!  
Sarah Bain  
[sarah@missfoundation.org](mailto:sarah@missfoundation.org)

Vashon Island - Kara Jones  
205-251-6706  
[kara@missfoundation.org](mailto:kara@missfoundation.org)

*For specific meeting days and  
times, please visit  
[www.missfoundation.org](http://www.missfoundation.org).*

## **National Peer Contacts:**

### **Connecticut**

Heather Farrier 203-895-2138

### **Indiana**

Crissy Tohm 317-826-7913  
Katie Irby 317-878-4937

### **California**

Kim Lotz 209-725-9241  
Kristen Jared 626-963-9120  
Keny Leepier 619-801-1726  
Katie Hodge 714-585-3614 or  
714-442-3669 (*Experience with  
Accidental Toddler Death*)  
Kim St. Laurent 714 965-8883

### **Minnesota**

Heidi Ciepielinski 320-859-5660  
Trina Charles 320-763-6317

### **Missouri**

Gregg Carder 816-690-6273

# Arizona MISS Foundation Chapters

## Phoenix, Arizona

3rd Thursday of each month,  
Community Church of Joy  
21000 N. 75th Avenue  
Portable 6 behind the chapel  
6:30 p.m. Contact: *Anna Kennedy* at  
[anna@missfoundation.org](mailto:anna@missfoundation.org)

## Peoria, AZ - Inner Peace/Interfaith based

2nd Thursday of the month, at  
Peace Lutheran Church, in the church  
library. 18265 N. 89th Ave., Peoria, AZ  
6:30p.m. Contact: *Deborah Brooks*  
[Deborah@missfoundation.org](mailto:Deborah@missfoundation.org), (623)  
487-4275 or *Anna Kennedy* at  
[anna@missfoundation.org](mailto:anna@missfoundation.org)

## Tempe, Arizona

1st Monday of the month, DaySpring  
United Methodist Church, 1365 E.  
Elliot Rd, Room #201, Tempe, AA  
6:30 p.m. Contact: *Lee Ann Morlan*  
[Leeann@missfoundation.org](mailto:Leeann@missfoundation.org)  
480-963-9844

## Central Phoenix, AZ - Child Drowning

1st Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
St. Francis Xavier Church  
Parish Office Building, 4715 N.  
Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ, Contact:  
*Asena* 602-367-4626  
[Asena@missfoundation.org](mailto:Asena@missfoundation.org)

## Phoenix, AZ - Subsequent Pregnancy

Church of the Beatitudes  
7th Ave and Glendale, SE corner  
Contact: *Kelli Rivera* 623-203-4072  
[krivera2@cox.net](mailto:krivera2@cox.net)

## Tempe, AZ East Valley Subsequent Pregnancy Group

First Saturday of each month, 2:00pm  
DaySpring United Methodist Church  
1365 E. Elliot Rd, Room #201 (on  
Elliot, between McClintock and Rural),  
Tempe, AZ. Contact: *Angelique  
Watson*,  
480-792-6705. Babies are welcome!

**Phoenix, AZ KISS—Kids In  
Sympathy & Support** For Kids in  
Grief - Northwest Valley. *Please  
email us for time/dates*  
Community Church of Joy, 21000 N.  
75th Avenue, Peoria, AZ. Portable 6  
behind the chapel. Contact: *Robin  
and Ed Kennedy* at 602-547-1244 or  
email [Robin@missfoundation.org](mailto:Robin@missfoundation.org)

## Spanish-Speaking Support Group

2nd Monday of each month at Saint  
Francis Xavier Church, 4715 N.  
Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ @ 6:30 pm  
In the Parrish office which is the two  
story building next to main church.  
Facilitator: *Roberto Sanchez*  
602-518-2262  
[roberto@missfoundation.org](mailto:roberto@missfoundation.org)

## Phoenix, AZ - Central Valley

1st Thursday of each month,  
Saint Francis Xavier Church  
4715 N. Central, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Will meet in the Parish office which is  
two story building next to main  
church. Facilitator: *Asena* 602-367-  
4626 [Asena@missfoundation.org](mailto:Asena@missfoundation.org)  
and Co-Facilitator:  
[kristina@missfoundation.org](mailto:kristina@missfoundation.org)

## Flagstaff, Arizona

Contact *Karin Atkinson* for more info  
at [karin@missfoundation.org](mailto:karin@missfoundation.org)

## Parker, Arizona

3rd third Thursday of each month,  
meets in back of The Church of  
Christ at 6pm. 800 Kofa, Parker,  
Arizona. Facilitated by *Crystal Lopes*  
928-851-2788

## Prescott, Arizona

1st Thursday of each month, 5:30pm  
Prescott Public Library, 3rd Floor  
Meeting Room, 215 E. Goodwin St.  
(Goodwin & Marina Streets) Contact:  
*Heidi & Douglas Cass*. Email:  
[Cass@missfoundation.org](mailto:Cass@missfoundation.org)  
928-778-2528

## Scottsdale, Arizona

4th Tuesday of each month 7-9pm.  
Northridge Community Church, in the  
Tumbleweed Room, by the children's  
center. 6363 E. Dynamite Blvd.  
Facilitated by *Nicole Dougherty* 602-  
923-1630 [ndougherty@cox.net](mailto:ndougherty@cox.net) and  
*Alison Batchelder* 480-502-8077  
[alison@missfoundation.org](mailto:alison@missfoundation.org)

## Coming Soon New MISS Foundation Support Groups:

### Starting January 2005!

### Central Phoenix - Child with Special Needs-

For families experiencing the death of a  
child with special needs. Offices of  
Stepping Stones of Hope. 2nd Thursday  
each month at 6:45 p.m. 4000 N. 7th Stree  
Suite 108. Facilitators: *Dana Southworth  
& Kelli Rivera* [dana@missfoundation.org](mailto:dana@missfoundation.org)  
or [krivera2@cox.net](mailto:krivera2@cox.net)

### Anthem/North Valley

For more information, contact  
[joanne@missfoundation.org](mailto:joanne@missfoundation.org)

## Arizona Peer Contacts:

If you need one-on-one support and  
friendship contact one of your  
Peer Contacts.

Chaplain Kellie Gatewood	602-866-3645
Angela Iverson	623-572-0334
Lee Ann Morlan	480-963-9844
Debra Brooks	623-487-4275
Ed & Robin Kennedy ( <i>Kids</i> )	602-547-1244
Heidi & Doug Cass	928-778-2528
Joanne Cacciatore	623-979-1000

### Subsequent Pregnancy & Family Planning:

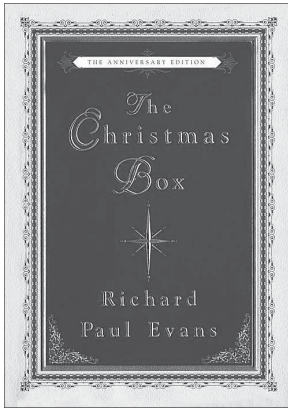
Anna Kennedy	602-439-9025
Gennie Contreras	602-999-0226

### Drowning/Accidents:

Asena Nicolosi	602-367-4626
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# Angel of Hope



Richard Paul Evans' book, *The Christmas Box*, is a story of a woman who mourns the loss of her child at the base of an Angel monument. As a result of this story, the Angel Monument was introduced to the public and is now known world wide as the Christmas Box Angel. Evans commissioned an Angel statue in response to the needs of bereaved parents.

The original Angel is located in Salt Lake City, Utah and had provided comfort to thousands of bereaved parents from all over the world. Hansen Mortuaries is donating land and, in early

December, the Angel of Hope will be in place at Desert Hills Memorial Park, 6500 E. Bell Road. There are opportunities for founding donors to receive recognition on a founder's wall as well as a plaque for their loved one. Those contributions of \$100.00 will have their loved ones name inscribed on a plaque to be located at the site. For questions or more information please call (602) 944-1561 or (480) 991-5800.



## Newsletter Articles

If you would like to submit an article to be published in the *MISSing Angels Newsletter*, you may do so by sending it to the attention of Andra at: [info@missfoundation.org](mailto:info@missfoundation.org).

The deadline for the Newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to publication. All articles for the January/February issue are due December 15, 2004.

All articles are subject to editing, and the MISS Foundation reserves the right to not to publish any article or photograph due to space limitations.



*M.i.s.s. Foundation*

P.O. Box 5333

Peoria, Arizona 85385

Phone: 623-979-1000

Fax: 623-979-1001

Email: [info@missfoundation.org](mailto:info@missfoundation.org)

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*"When I find myself fading, I close my eyes and realize my friends are my energy."*

*Anonymous*