

# Forever Angels



Hello Everyone,

*I received a note from a LSN member regarding MBC Information Circular (IC) [IC-BO-02-27-07-#1](#) I sent everyone a couple of weeks ago. Just in case you, too, were wondering why you received it, I thought I had better clarify. MBC has been providing Canadian multiple birth families with all types of support and resources for nearly 3 decades. In fact, next year is MBC's 30th Birthday. MBC is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to providing support resources and education to anyone whom may have, come in contact with or express an interest in multiples (e.g. researchers, midwives, doulas). MBC is the only Canadian multiple birth organization providing such ongoing support. MBC believes that multiple birth families come in many different forms and each family has specific needs, concerns and interests. Early on, it became clear that not all multiple birth families were created the same. While some support resources were obvious, MBC has also developed several Support Networks designed to address the needs of the many different families we serve. These Support Networks include lone parenting, higher order multiples, special needs and loss. In addition we respond to inquiries from Adult Multiples and Surviving Co-Multiples.*

*It seemed logical that you might like to read about some of the areas that MBC is involved with and thereby learn a little more about the umbrella organization which also focuses on you and your family's special challenges. You are an important part of our organization and your voice, feedback and input is important to us. While you learn about us, we also learn about you and of ways to support you on your journey. When we share journeys, we are never alone and that can be very comforting.*

*With your permission, I will periodically continue to send you updates about MBC, but if you feel you would rather not receive these ICs, don't hesitate to let me know. Sometimes it is helpful to know whose running the organization, what they have been doing and where they hope to get to. Nevertheless, please feel free to write in about anything at all.*

*Thinking of you,*

*Lynda*

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*You left us peaceful memories,  
Your heart is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you,  
You are always at our side.*

.....from an obituary

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*Looking Back.....*

Five years have passed since I wrote the following words and our family has undergone more changes. Today when I take flowers to our babies at the cemetery, I have more help. Our second twins, Matthew and Emily are my helpers. They are still learning to understand why our babies are not there when we take them flowers, but have embraced the love for them as well as any pre-schooler can. Matthew and Emily are not a replacement pair, they are another marvelous addition to our family, who by a quirk of fate, turned out to be a matching pair to their older brother and sister.

Roses

I truly have never understood people's fascination with roses. There is no denying that they are beautiful flowers, but they are difficult to care for and usually short lived. Why not, I have always reasoned, have a pretty flower that lasts much longer? However, recent events have changed my thinking.

This year, my husband and I were delighted to learn that after many years of trying, we were expecting, and it was twins! As with many expectant parents we worried our way through the troublesome first trimester. Soon enough, however, we were enjoying the good health of the second trimester. It seemed that perhaps we were finally on our way.

Then came the night, in the twenty third week of pregnancy, when I woke up trying to figure out if what I was feeling were labour pains. After finally deciding to phone the hospital, we were told to come in right away. One thing led to another and very soon I found myself at the end of an ambulance ride to the nearest city.

That first day, despite all of the medical technology available, our son, George was born. When he was born everyone knew he was a beautiful flower, no one knew he was a rose. He was hooked up to every piece of technology available and fairly sprouted tubes. However, tests soon revealed the truth, and the doctors came to us with the news. Our son was a rose, beautiful, delicate and just not made to last for long.

When we learned this, we told the doctors the only thing we could. Unhook the tubes. Roses are made to be loved and let go.

They brought our son to us later. We were overwhelmed by his beauty. The absolute perfection of each tiny ear, toe, finger and nail can never be fully explained to someone who hasn't seen it. We had very little time with him, but it was something we would never trade, something too precious to give up.

Despite our sorrow, we had to refocus. All of our hopes now lay with our remaining baby. This second child was not born at the same time as our son. Indeed there seemed promise in this. If we could stop the labour and the baby would wait, there was a chance for this second child.

Once again, however, nature beat out science and the next morning our daughter, Katherine, was born. When she was born the doctors came to us. We told them, as we had previously agreed, if she is a delicate rose like her brother, just let us enjoy her. No more tubes.

And so they brought our precious flower to us. She was a perfect rose, nearly a replica of her brother. She too had a perfect little body, complete to the tiny hands, fingers and nails. Unlike her brother, we were able to enjoy the movement of exquisite little lips, like petals taking breaths. However, all too soon we had to let her go also, but being able to enjoy her unspoiled beauty was a gift we will never forget.

Yesterday, I took two roses to the cemetery. Like the babies I took them to, they didn't last long. But, I now understand that it doesn't matter. Some kinds of beauty are not ours to keep. They must be loved and then let go.

*Katherine and George died of their extreme prematurity. This family has gone on to welcome another set of boy/girl twins, Matthew and Emily.*

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**Web Sites.....**

*This Site may be of interest/use to you and/or your children.....*

"A new kids' grief interactive section on [www.griefworksbc.com](http://www.griefworksbc.com) (The Journey World) is now live and ready for use. You can have a look at the overall Journey World by clicking on You're a Kid. It is designed for a parent to register and then register their child(ren). The child then has access to the site and can do their grief work with their parent if they choose."

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*A Google notification search came up with this article....*

[A Singular Pain: When Death Cuts the Bond of Twins](#)

New York Times - New York, NY, USA

The number of **multiple births** has risen steadily over the last 40 years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which means the ...

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*The First Candle Web Site is looking for your feedback to improve their Site. If you would like to comment, please follow these instructions to find them:*

"I would like to know your opinions on the Stillbirth Section of the First Candle website. Please visit the website at <http://www.firstcandle.org> if you have not done so already. Your answers to this survey will help improve the website and make it a valuable stillbirth resource. Thank you in advance for your survey participation and feedback. Please click the link below to begin the survey."

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=U2665HCSVQ53>

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Intriguing Site to create your own bracelets. If you are looking for a meaningful, beautiful heirloom, these elegant and tasteful bracelets may be the way to gently remember. You can create your own choosing from birth stones, "story wheels," to baby booties. Take a look at Elisa Ilana designs at [www.elisailana.com](http://www.elisailana.com)

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### ***Did you know?.....***

Lady Patricia Brabourne, the Countess Mountbatten of Burma and Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry was visiting Canada last week to give up her job as Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. At 88 years old, she felt she could no longer give job the attention it deserves. The Countess Mountbatten is the daughter of the late Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten whom was killed, along with one of her 15-year old monozygotic twin sons, when the IRA (Irish Republican Army) blew up a ship they were on in 1979.