

Isabella died in utero when I was 20 weeks pregnant. She had her father and I, and 4 older siblings who were anxiously awaiting her birth. At an OB appointment with our then 4 year old son present, we were devastated when an ultrasound detected no heartbeat.

I delivered Isabella a few days after the ultrasound. She looked perfect in every way and no cause of death was ever found.

We were saddened when we noticed other babies at the cemetery she is buried in had no headstones, but never thought that would be the case with our daughter.

We had many medical bills following Isabella's birth. Her birth was quite traumatic and required a D&C in the end to deliver her placenta. Due to the delivery problems, I acquired a uterine infection that put me back in the hospital. I became pregnant a month following Isabella's death, but miscarried that baby at 14 weeks. I required another D&C, which incurred more medical bills. I became pregnant again after the miscarriage and after some complications delivered a now healthy baby girl in July of 2010, which of course brought even more medical bills.

We had been saving for a headstone, when my husband recently lost his job. We have been forced to use every cent we have just to feed our family. It breaks my heart to visit my daughter and see that she is missing a headstone. When we visited her grave last Memorial Day, even her temporary marker was missing. I was very upset, because it feels like most people have forgotten she ever existed, and the loss of even a marker of her death was more than I could bear.

For his Eagle Scout project, my son is hoping to raise money for families who cannot afford headstones for their lost babies. I am hoping we can give back to your charity this way.

- Natalie Hunter, Isabella's Mom