

## *A Special Garden to Grieve, Hope, and Heal*

*In memory of all children whose brief presence touched our hearts forever.*

“Nicole was stillborn in February 1993. We were overcome with grief, and only with the help of SHARE Atlanta did we come to peace with her loss. Over time, they showed us how to put meaning around her loss, and to continue to remember Nicole in ways that are special to us.”



“The Angel is a symbol of inspiration, tranquility, and hope for families and friends who have suffered pregnancy and newborn loss. By the angel being in Arlington *all* who grieve can come to heal.”  
Chris and Terry Clontz, Angel’s Benefactors



### *“Sanctuary”*

From the first moment that Joe Keen, SHARE Atlanta parent and the garden’s architect, explained his vision of the garden, I immediately imagined a place of safety, peace, and comfort.

I see this garden as a haven for our babies' memories to fly free, where no one will judge our ties to them. I know it will become a place where my tears are free to flow. It is my calm harbor in the stormy emotions of grief where I am sure my heart can find shelter. Jennifer Greer ~ In memory of Jesse, Jamie, and Jacob miscarried '93 & '98 (SHARE Atlanta)

### **Angel of Hope ~ An Enduring Message**

The Angel statue is inspired by Richard Paul Evans’ book, The Christmas Box, “the touching story of a widow (Mary) and the young family who moves in with her. Though the story is mostly fictional, the angel monument once existed but was destroyed. The new angel statue was commissioned by Evans in response to reports that grieving parents were seeking the angel as a place to grieve and heal.” [www.richardpaulevans.com/statue.html](http://www.richardpaulevans.com/statue.html)

The book embraces the process of healing with a tender message that with healing we can then reach out to others and make our loss meaningful. Our hope can lift us, and we can grow as Mary did.

At the base of an angel monument, Mary mourned the loss of her child. Then she shared her love for her child in life’s most treasured lesson as her lasting outreach.



### **The First Dedication ~ December 6, 1994**

In Salt Lake City Cemetery, Evans’ mother placed the first flower at the Christmas Box Angel of Hope statue in honor of her daughter, Sue, who was stillborn.

The dedication completed a circle of understanding and love brought about as Evans was writing his book. As he wrote, he had a strong sense of Sue’s presence asking that this story be given for their mother.

In placing the flower by the angel, his parents were able, after thirty years of unresolved grief, to find peace and healing through their children’s gift.

Whether your loss was 5 days or 55 years ago, please visit our garden. It is never too late to grieve, to heal, or to remember.



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### *The Touch of An Angel*

*May all who stand before you bask in the warmth of your knowing face*

*As they share a special moment of peace and love*

*With precious little ones that time has not left behind*

*And forget for the while sad spirits and heavy hearts*

*But instead feel the rustle of your wings and hear the whispers of the babies*

*So soft ... so near ... like feathers falling from the sky*

*Letting your warmth surround them in a wave of newfound hope*

*As gentle as the breeze ... as sure as the sunrise.*

*Valerie Scholovich SHARE Atlanta  
In memory of Megan stillborn 1/2000  
and Kathryn miscarried 2/2001*



### **The angel’s garden is a special place for you to:**

- \* *sit quietly and reflect or pray*
- \* *bring flowers or small mementos in memory of a loved baby*
- \* *have a memory brick with a name, date, or loving thought—especially if you have no other memorial*
- \* *hold a memorial or burial service*
- \* *share some special moments with loved ones who want to be with you*



SHARE Atlanta's angel is the 24th Christmas Box Angel of Hope in the United States.

*If the bricks could talk,  
what amazing and timeless stories  
they would surely tell.*

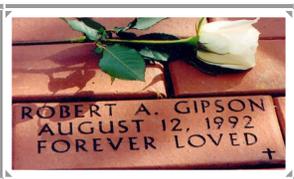
*Tales of sorrow, despair, and broken hearts.  
Lives forever changed against their will -  
raw, utter sadness and  
a fragile, unending vulnerability.*

*But the bricks would also tell the story of  
healing, the story of courage and hope.  
A place beyond this earth, warm and safe;  
a bittersweet peace.*

*They would tell us to hold ever close  
our precious dreams,  
and they would sing the little babies lullabies  
to soothe our mending souls.*

*Singing sweet songs of love -  
undeniable love.*

*Valerie Scholovich, SHARE Atlanta, 2003  
In memory of Megan Elizabeth & Kathryn Anne*



Memory brick from Memorial Pathway In Arlington Park



### Mementos ~ Special Gifts..

We welcome the wonderful gifts and mementos that families and friends have left for their loved babies. This is a very special way to remember and honor our children. Unfortunately, the rain and sun make our treasures like the Velveteen Bunny (all worn out). Our trees grow and the branches can be injured by the hanging chimes and other items tied to them. Over a year's time, we retire some of these keepsakes to make sure our garden continues to be special for everyone. You can help us with this...

### Keeping Cherished Mementos

Through the years, I have brought home some of the items that we placed on Seth's grave or on Catherine, Elizabeth, and Seth's memorial bricks. I find them special because I know they have watched over Seth's resting place or our memorial bricks while we can't. I have pictures of many of these keepsakes in our children's memory book.

For me, there is a sense of peace to have some of these treasures in our home. They remind me of our love for our children and, in their own way, they fulfill my need to feel connected to our own angels.

### Love and Remembering Are Forever

We thank you for your continuing understanding and support so all who come to our garden may share in its beauty and peace ~ forever.  
Marcia McGinnis, President of SHARE Atlanta

### Order Memorial Brick:

[www.shareatlanta.org/legacy/angelmenu.htm](http://www.shareatlanta.org/legacy/angelmenu.htm)  
11.1.16 to 2.15.17



### SHARE Atlanta is:

- a grief support group for families who have experienced ectopic, miscarriage, stillbirth and newborn loss
- a non-profit, volunteer, organization since 1984
- funded completely by tax deductible donations
- non-denominational; no fees

Angel sketch by Mary Morgan in memory of her brother, John, ('72) and Allie (Newborn Loss -6/92)

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## SHARE Atlanta

Pregnancy and Newborn Loss  
Grief Support Group

SHARE Atlanta's Angel Garden  
with Memorial Bricks...

Dedicated  
October 21, 2001



Arlington Memorial Park  
Babyland  
201 Mt Vernon Hwy  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328