



# *Gone But Not Forgotten*

Volume 2 Issue 1

July 2005

## *The Great Battle Against STDS*

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[Http://BattleSIDS.org](http://BattleSIDS.org)

[Melissa@BattleSIDS.org](mailto:Melissa@BattleSIDS.org)

*Photo of  
The Living Memorial*

# TGBAS News!

## **The Great Battle Against SIDS**

celebrates it's first birthday this month!

This past year has been a busy one for us!

### *Some interesting TGBAS stats:*

- 73 people have attended one or more of our 4 local support groups
- 3,487 large SIDS Awareness Ribbon Magnets & over 1,100 SIDS Awareness Ribbon Pins have been distributed across America & Canada
- Since October 1, 2004, the TGBAS website has had over 18,500 page views!
- 115 children have been added to the Special days registry
- Over 350 SIDS Risk factors packets have been distributed to new parents.
- Over 1,800 SIDS risk factor brochures have been distributed to medical offices.
- 15 children have been added to the Monument Gallery
- 43 children have been added to the Memorial Wall
- 20 Remembrance Packages have been distributed to local funeral homes.

*As you can see we've been busy this year! We'd like to thank everyone who has taken time out of their life to volunteer their time, talent & support!*

## Annual Fund Drive!

July marks our second annual fund drive! You can help by making a donation to TGBAS during the month of July! Without the assistance of caring people like you, we wouldn't exist! Please see the insert for more information!

## TGBAS & SIDS Families to benefit from AIM fundraiser!

### A Special Thanks to the members of AIM!

A Special thanks to the recent contributions from:

Leanne LaMattina in Memory of Joseph

April Pinkham in Memory of Lauren-Raye

Laura Martini

CJ Foundation for S.I.D.S.

We've made major changes to our Awareness Shop! It's easier to use, and best of all, it now accepts coupons! And as a special thank you to our readers, we're offering you a 10% discount! Use coupon code: thanks

Contributions to our newsletter can be mailed to:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
Attn: Editor  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

Or emailed to:  
Editor@battlesids.org

### ***What I learned about ME during grief....***

I've been working on a book for several years about what I've learned about myself since Chassidy's death. I'd like to invite others to make contributions to the book. What have you learned about yourself since your child's death? If you would like to make a contribution to the book, please mail your 100 – 2000 word story, name and address to:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
Attn: Melissa Clements  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

If your story is selected to be included, we will notify you by mail.

## **Little Ones Grieve Too!**

Often young children are incapable of sitting down and talking about their emotions, especially if they think they are hurting Mommy & Daddy by doing so. We've gathered some amazing ideas of projects you can do with your children that may aid in the healing process, and give your children the opportunity they've looked for to talk about their brother /sister. Each issue we'll feature a new Little Ones Grieve Too! Idea...

- Make a memory book.
  - Get four pieces of acid free construction paper in your child's favorite colors. Fold the pages in half, staple the folded edges together, and score the pages for your child. This makes an 8 page album for your child.
  - Make copies of any photos of your child and his / her brother / sister. <http://snapfish.com> is an excellent online photo printing company; 4 x 6's are as little as 10 cents each! If you don't have any photos of your children together, use photos of just each child, or your belly when you were pregnant. Anything that reminds your child of the child that passed will work!
  - Help you child cut the photos, ask them how they'd like them! Don't worry about being perfect!
  - Allow your child to glue them anywhere and anyway they want them! Don't get caught up in correcting your child's mistakes. If a picture is upside down, or crooked, it's okay!
  - Get out colored pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, and anything else you can find that would make great decorations!
  - Ask them to draw or write what each picture means to them. Don't interrupt them by correcting them. Even if they don't remember when that picture was from.

When your child is done, go over the memory book with them. You'll probably be amazed at how much your little one remembers! You may also find that your child has deep fears and concerns surrounding your child's death, and now that you're aware of them, and your child is expressing these concerns with you, you can address them before they lead to behavior problems.

# Remember Me

Please take a few moments to remember the little ones listed. Each is loved and missed dearly each day.

## Birthdays

Michael James Paul Matelski

July 03, 2002

SIDS

Matthew Lee Parker

July 07, 1998

SIDS

Ryan Nicholas Del Vecchio

July 11, 2003

SIDS

William Edward Gasser

July 13, 1999

SIDS

Ethan James Landes

July 20, 2004

SIDS

John R Devereux

August 08, 2001

SIDS

Tilor Christopher Zajicek

August 15, 2002

SIDS

Nicholas Cassiano Hyora

August 28, 2001

SIDS

Chad Kahler

August 27, 2003

SIDS

Kylee Exandria

September 06, 2003

SIDS

Chassidy "CC" Clements

September 10, 2000

SIDS



Jeremiah Christopher Merrell

September 10, 2003

SIDS

Layton Riley Tippins

September 11, 2003

SIDS

Lori Beth Hall

September 12, 2001

SIDS

Aislinn Celeste

McComsey

September 23, 2003

SIDS

Ivee Nicole Murphy

September 27, 2003

SIDS

Adam Tracey Bates

September 29, 1998

SIDS

Joseph Christian McGraw

September 29, 2000

SIDS



To include your child in the Remember Me section of our newsletter,

please add your child to the special days registry.

[Http://battlesids.org/specialdays.html](http://battlesids.org/specialdays.html)

# Remember Me

## Angel Days

Anthony Michael Sauls  
July 01, 1990  
SIDS  
Dimitri Alexander Jones  
July 09, 2001  
SIDS  
Colton Dale Sherman  
July 09, 2004  
SIDS  
Amani Jacob Paterno  
July 14, 2004  
SIDS  
Alana Morgan Shifflett  
July 17, 2004  
SIDS  
Derick James Anthony Shaw  
July 18, 1991  
Kaiden Alexander Conley-McDowell  
July 18, 2003  
Sudden Infant Death  
Michael James Paul Matelski  
July 23, 2002  
SIDS  
Ashley Rose Bernt  
July 24, 1989  
SIDS  
Justin David Molina  
July 29, 1995  
Cord Accident  
(stillbirth)  
Jacob Frank Sherman  
July 31, 2004  
SIDS  
Nicolas Charles  
Kammerman-Darling  
August 08, 1994  
SIDS



Alexander Charles Gill  
August 12, 2001  
SIDS  
Bryce Charles Baker  
August 14, 2003  
SIDS  
Orrin Fulton Blake  
August 18, 2002  
SIDS  
Joseph C LaMattina  
August 19, 2003  
SIDS  
Micaela  
August 27, 2003  
SIDS  
Jackson  
August 27, 2004  
SIDS  
Matthew Lee Parker  
August 30, 1998  
SIDS  
Hunter Matthew  
September 03, 2003  
SIDS  
Ava Grace Perry  
September 09, 2004  
SIDS  
Kaitlyn Michelle Edge  
September 19, 2004  
SIDS  
Bryan Charles Bemis  
September 20, 1989  
SIDS



Angel Day is a term used by SIDS Families meaning Anniversary of Death.

## Support Group Meetings

- \*July 5 Stillbirth & miscarriage
- July 11 Infant Loss
- July 18 Toddler & young child
- July 25 SIDS
- August 1 Stillbirth & miscarriage
- August 8 Infant Loss
- August 15 Toddler & Young child
- August 22 SIDS
- September 5 Stillbirth & miscarriage
- September 12 Infant Loss
- September 19 Toddler & young child
- September 26 SIDS

Contact Melissa for more information:  
[Supportgroups@battlesids.org](mailto:Supportgroups@battlesids.org)  
 (909) 794-3725



Fundraising committee to meet to plan upcoming events!

Saturday July 9th. Call Melissa @ (909) 794-3725 for more information.

### Online Support Groups

California SIDS Support  
<http://groups.msn.com/CalSIDS>

California Infant Loss Support  
<http://groups.msn.com/CaliforniaInfantLossSupport>

San Bernardino & surrounding areas infant loss support  
<http://groups.msn.com/SBIL>

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☆ We're pleased to announce the safe arrival of:

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*Kyle Daniel*

April 19, 2005

Son of Daniel & Melissa Clements  
 Sibling of Alexis & ~Chassidy~

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### TGBAS mentioned in U.S. News & World Report!

On May 2, 2005 US News & World Report included a link to TGBAS on their story entitled "Crib deaths may not be falling"

Are more & more SIDS cases being labeled "unknown" or "undetermined"? One study suggests that may be the case. Researchers from the University of Texas Medical Branch conducted a study that showed the overall infant mortality rate declined 55 percent between 1992 and 2001. During that time period, SIDS deaths declined at an average of 8.6 percent per year. However, from 1999 to 2001, the infant mortality rate leveled off, during which time there was apparent drop in SIDS deaths. During that same time period, deaths from "unknown & undetermined causes rose. Researchers suspect that misclassification may be the true reason behind the apparent SIDS drop.

What does this mean to you??? It means we need to stand up and demand a uniform death scene investigation. We need CLEAR and specific guidelines, and we need them now! Please contact your congressmen & senators and let them know you want a national sudden unexpected death scene protocol!

# How you can help!

You can help the Great Battle Against SIDS by shopping! Yep that' s right, shopping! Just sign up at <http://igive.com/battlesids> and shop at your favorite stores! Just to name a few of the many stores that will donate money to The Great Battle Against SIDS when you sign up and shop: Petco, AOL, JCPennys, Petsmart, Lands End, Dell, 123 Inkjets, OfficeMax, Circuit City, Barnes & Noble, Ebay, Joann Fabric, QVC, and many, many more.

Do you love Magazines? Then check this out! You can save up to 85% off news stand prices! When you buy, renew or extend your magazine subscriptions, 40% is donated to The Great Battle Against SIDS! Imagine, by simply renewing your favorite magazine, you can help The Great Battle Against SIDS! Visit

<http://mygrouppage2.efundraising.com/Home.aspx?IID=304568> and buy, renew, or extend your subscription on all your favorite magazines! Over 650 magazines to chose from! Just to name a few of the many titles to chose from: Family Fun, Family Circle, Good House Keeping, US News & world record, Glamour, Body & Soul and many, many more!

## Newsletter Submissions Needed!

Did you recently have a subsequent child? Do you have short story you'd like to share? Want your baby included in the birthday / angel day section? Send your articles, poems, announcements, photos, name & address to:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359  
Or email [editor@battlesids.org](mailto:editor@battlesids.org)

For more information on our Mission fish store please visit:  
[http://www.missionfish.org/cgt/nonprofit/np.show.home.do?NP\\_ID=5847](http://www.missionfish.org/cgt/nonprofit/np.show.home.do?NP_ID=5847)

Help us by donating your used cartridges and cell phones! Do you have a business that would like to start a cartridge and cell phone donation program Benefiting The Great Battle Against SIDS? Email

[Melissa@BattleSIDS.org](mailto:Melissa@BattleSIDS.org), or call (909) 794-3725. Mail your used cartridges to: The Great Battle Against SIDS, 2257 A Mentone Blvd. Mentone, CA 92359

Help Support The Great Battle Against SIDS. Obtain your next real estate loan from Sapient Financial Services. With any loan that closes with Sapient Financial, they will make a donation to our program. Sapient Financial is a full service loan brokerage company and has one of the largest databases of lenders in the nation. They offer hundreds of residential and commercial loan programs to help best fit needs of California residents. For more information contact Jeffrey Paz, 310-439-2845 [jeffp@sapientfinancial.com](mailto:jeffp@sapientfinancial.com) \*Remember to mention that you are a referral from The Great Battle Against SIDS. \*

## Pamper Chef fundraiser!

Cathy (mom to John Daniel Fry 3-19-98 ~ 6-14-98) has volunteered to head up our Pampered Chef fundraiser! Visit <http://www.pamperedchef.biz/cathymcdonald> and make sure you put The Great Battle Against SIDS in where it says Host' s First Name/ Organization Name.

## Mission Fish Store (Ebay Giving Works Auction)

We've sold over 50 items through our Ebay Mission Fish store!

You can list your items through our Mission Fish homepage, or mail them to us to list! The choice is yours!

If you would like to mail your items to us, please mail them to:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
Attn: Daniel Clements  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

If you would like to make a donation please make the check payable to:  
The Great Battle Against SIDS

Mail your check & the information on the right, to:

The Great battle Against SIDS  
Attn: Daniel Clements  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

Sorry at this time we can not process credit card donations.

The Great Battle Against SIDS is registered in the State of California as a non-profit corporation. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with federal tax-exempt status. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. 20-1385962

Your donations keep our programs going!

Name

Address

Phone

In Memory Of:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
Infant Loss Supportive Services  
[Http://battlesids.org](http://battlesids.org)  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359





The Great Battle Against SIDS  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359  
June 30, 2005

Dear The Great Battle Against SIDS Supporter:

Our 2005 – 2006 year is quickly approaching! This July we'll be conducting our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual fund drive!

The past year has been a great year for The Great Battle Against SIDS!

We hope to expand our services this year, but we need your help to accomplish that! Contributions provide support for families who have lost an infant or young child. This includes support groups, peer contact, reading materials, financial assistance for low-income families, local education and awareness programs, and much more.

We're in need of support group meeting locations, office space, a computer, monetary contributions, and volunteers. All sponsors will be recognized on our website, unless otherwise requested.

Businesses can help by matching employee donations, making an monetary contribution, or donating the items above to us. Another wonderful way you can help is donating products for our continuous eBay Giving Works auctions.

Individuals can help by making a contribution, or organizing a fundraiser benefiting TGBAS.

We are asking that all contributions, be sent to the following address:

The Great Battle Against SIDS  
2257 A Mentone Blvd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
*Melissa L Clements*

Melissa Clements  
President