



OUR WHY

On a somber Sunday, May 19th, 2019, a profound shift in my pregnancy became evident. The following day, as the ultrasound wand swept over my belly, it confirmed our fears – our daughter's heartbeat had stopped. In that heart-wrenching moment, the unthinkable reality of giving birth and leaving the hospital without our precious daughter gripped us; a nightmare no parent ever imagines facing. On May 21st, after celebrating our son's 2nd-grade graduation and sharing dinner with my parents, we kissed our son goodbye and embarked on the agonizing journey to the hospital.

I was 28 weeks pregnant when, on Saturday, May 25th, after enduring five days of labor, our daughter, Aylee Katelynn Grace LeBlanc, entered the world peacefully at 6:51 am. She weighed a mere 14.6 ounces and measured 8½ inches in length. Much of our hospital stay remains a blur. No one had prepared us for the unsettling realities of stillbirth, such as skin slippage, the rapid deterioration of stillborn babies after birth, or the possibility of amnesia stemming from a traumatic delivery.

Despite our research, nothing could have readied us for this heart-wrenching journey. Our daughter was born sleeping, and our hearts were shattered. As my husband, Jason, loaded our car to depart, the harsh reality struck us – we were leaving the hospital not with a baby but with a bereavement box.

Planning the burial of our child was a heavy burden, one no parent, especially young ones like us, should ever have to bear. As we began arranging Aylee's service, we were overwhelmed by the expenses, discovering that her casket spray was not even included in the burial cost. I recall coming home, tears flowing, utterly drained and defeated. The following day, we met with a compassionate florist to craft Aylee's casket spray. I had a clear vision in mind – star gazer lilies, liatris, peonies, and tulips. As the florist took notes, I anxiously asked, "I know I have good taste in flowers, but what will this cost?" His response was unexpected yet profoundly moving: "Someone you know has contacted us and wishes to cover the cost of Aylee's flowers." Since that day, a burning desire to give back to families in the same way has been etched into my heart.

On June 1st, amid an intimate graveside service, I delivered Aylee's eulogy, surrounded by our dearest friends and family. Father Herrington's soothing voice filled the air, and Aylee was gently laid to rest. Knowing that we wanted to offer support to other families enduring similar pain, we took the ensuing seven months to reflect, heal as best we could, and channel our grief into a purposeful mission by founding Aylee's Angels.



ABOUT US

Aylee's Angels is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with a mission to support families experiencing the unimaginable loss of a child. Our goal is to connect and support as many families as possible so they know they are not alone while creating long term partnerships to support our community. Providing bereavement boxes and keepsakes to families that experience child loss from miscarriage to 17 years of age. Supporting families that experience child loss due to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss through peer to peer support groups. Curating bereavement gowns for full-term, stillborn babies.

We have officially started our campaign to gift funeral flowers to families that experience child loss in Acadiana. Petals of Remembrance is no small task as it will take six months, new community connections as well as a total of \$90,000 to reach our goal. Your sponsorship will help us reach our goal of supporting families that experience loss in a new way, through the gift of casket sprays.



PROGRAM

Our hope is to provide financial assistance towards flower casket sprays for all families that experience the loss of a child in Acadiana, paid directly to the provider. Through our outreach, we hope to spread the word about our mission so that all funeral homes and florists are aware of the services that our nonprofit provides.

- Louisiana ranks 4th highest in the US in child mortality
- 31% of child deaths are due to motor vehicle crashes
- An average of 28 children die in Acadiana annually
- 20% of child deaths are due to drowning









Why become a Founding Donor of The Petals of Remembrance Campaign?

This is an exclusive opportunity during our startup campaign. We will only be offering these sponsorships through December 31st, 2023. This donation will allow us to start our campaign and assist the next family in need. Please consider being a part of something that is unique to our community. This select group of donors will be recognized in many ways throughout the community. As a founding donor, you will be a major part of our organization for years to come! Below are the donation levels of what will be offered , starting January 1st, 2024, in return for your gracious donation!

Petals of Remembrance Founding Donor Levels

Donor Level	Peony	Tulip	Lily	Liatris
Amount	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000
Length of time you receive eligible benefits	3 years	2 years	1 year	1 year
Sponsor logo prominently placed on all Petals of Remembrance Advertisements	✓			
Sponsor logo on Aylee's Angels direct mail	✓	✓	✓	
Sponsor logo on Aylee's Angels website w/link to sponsor site	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sponsor video with bio on all Aylee's Angels social media sites	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ongoing social media recognition	Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly	Quarterly
Ad in Aylee's Angels quarterly newsletter	Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page	Recognition
Recognition as Founding Donor at all Aylee's Angels events	✓	✓	✓	✓
Signage at all Aylee's Angels events	✓	✓	Banner	Banner
Recognition plaque as Founding Donor	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation for presenting sponsorship at any applicable Aylee's Angels events	First	Second	Third	





Petals of Remembrance Founding Donor Sponsorship

Company/Sponsor	Name:	
Address:		
	State:	
Contact Name:		
Contact Phone Nun	ıber:	
Contact Email:		
Sponsor Amount:		
Peony Spo	nsorship, \$10,000.00	
Tulip Spor	sorship, \$5,000.00	
Lily Spons	orship, \$2,500.00	
Liatris Spo	nsorship, \$1,000.00	

Method of Payment:

Make checks payable to Aylee's Angels and mail to 221 Rue de Jean, Suite 137, Lafayette, LA. 70508. Credit card payments can be made through our website at www.ayleesangels.org.

For additional information please contact Katherine LeBlanc, Founder, at ayleesangels@gmail.com or by calling 337-277-3035.

Note: A charitable tax donation letter, as per IRS code 501(c)(3), will be provided.