



The Small Miracles Foundation's Light a Candle initiative is shedding much-needed light on the plight of thousands of Australian families.

'Jacob, our beloved boy, always in our hearts. Died September 2002.'
'Bradley, died 12/10/1993. Loved and remembered by Jessica and family.'
'Erin, lost nearly 3 ½ years ago.'



Simple and heartfelt, these messages read like an honour roll for soldiers killed in war, or citizens lost in a large scale natural disaster.

But as tragic as those losses are, these aren't the names of people affected by a single, catastrophic event.

These are the names of Australian children who never even had the chance to choose to fight for their country, to have a career at all, a family of their own, or to visit exotic overseas destinations.

They are Australian children who lost their fight for life before it even began.

These names and the poignant messages of remembrance represent just a few of the thousands of babies lost in Australia each year through stillbirth, miscarriage or neonatal death.

Light a candle to start the conversation ...

In the few weeks since the launch of the Small Miracles Foundations 'Light a Candle' initiative, the number of [free virtual candles](#) that have been lit to remember lost children is growing every day.

Already, there have been candles lit in memory of children lost over 20 years ago; clearly showing that when it comes to the death of a much-wanted baby, time doesn't heal all wounds.



Around 70,000 babies are lost to stillbirth or miscarriage in Australia each year. To put this figure in perspective, the total number of deaths from all types of cancer is around 43,000 people per annum.

Across Australia, families who have faced infertility or who have lost a child, as well as the people who love them, are lighting candles to remember their experience in a special and lasting way.

Most Australians have been touched, or know someone who has been touched, by the struggle to conceive, the trauma of a premature birth, or tragically, the loss of a much-wanted baby.

Candles have long been used by our community to provide light and warmth, and to symbolise love and spirituality.

The Small Miracles Foundation hopes that by offering the opportunity to light a candle, we can encourage Australians to take that first step and open up a conversation about their feelings of loss ...



*If you've suffered a loss,
or you wish to support family members or friends who have,
phone 1300 266 643 to share your story
and [light a free virtual remembrance candle online](#) today.*

Each warm, twinkling light on the website will represent a lost or preemie child and their family, and will bear the name and year the child was - or would have been - born, as well as a short message of remembrance.

Phone 1300 266 643 to share your story and Light a Candle today.

