

## **How Family and Friends Can Help**

### **Understanding**

Imagine: You have just given birth to your precious newborn baby. You have waited so long to meet him, hold him, and love him. And now you finally can. As you cling to your child, a stranger walks into your room. He removes the baby from your arms. He takes the baby to a building on the other side of town. You have never been there. He assures you the baby will be well looked after. He will place him in a freezer, but only for a few days. After that time he will lay him in a small box just big enough to fit around his form. He will seal the box with a lid.

He will then want you to come with him to another place; a place where the grass is green, but littered with plaques and headstones. A hole is dug, and you will watch while he lowers your baby deep within the ground. The baby will stay there forever.

Now, imagine doing that to your living child.

Impossible. It is impossible to ask a mother to do such a thing.

Yet, this is just what a grieving mother must do with her baby. How is it possible to be separated from a baby you have known so intimately within your womb? The precious face, the soft chubby arms and legs, the tiny body you felt move within, the body you hold so dear to you, the tiny body you cling to; until the stranger comes. Impossible.