

2017.

The delivery room was fully equipped for the birth of a baby who would have been taken across the hall to the nursery, her baby wasn't going there.

"I don't know if that was standard procedure, but it was a punch in the stomach."

After delivering the tiny boy, nurses brought him to her wrapped in a surgical towel.

A surgical towel.

"They just kept apologizing, I get it they didn't know what to say. But silence would have been best. They kept me there for observation for a few hours and sent me home; didn't even wheel me out. You know you don't get the grand gesture when you don't take a baby home"

One in four pregnancies end in loss with no medical reason. This was a statistic Laura learned after returning home and having to announce her baby died at 18 weeks in the womb.

"I needed an unbiased, third-party person who wasn't involved emotionally and would not cry with me. For my sanity."

Little did she know this began her healing process. She is a woman of strength which led her to reach out for help.

Her inbox was bursting at the seams after sharing her story with so many women who had experienced the same thing. People she worked with, saw on a daily basis, strangers, however, she had no idea they had gone through the same thing, because infant loss is just not talked about.

"People need to talk about it so they don't feel alone, because it's a lonely journey."

Laura is active in a number of organizations that support infant loss such as Threads of Love, A Walk to Remember, and Angels Away support group. These therapeutic organizations not only helped the grieving mother cope but help her celebrate her child.

"I never want to forget he existed, he was real, I have to remember him."

The annual walk is full of people just like Laura who have lost a child and understand what she went and continues to go through.

"It is a shared connection. For every person I know who has lost a child, our children have met in heaven."

Pregnancy and infant loss awareness month was established in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan.

On October 15 each year, a candle is lit for the internal wave of light day to remember all babies lost.

