

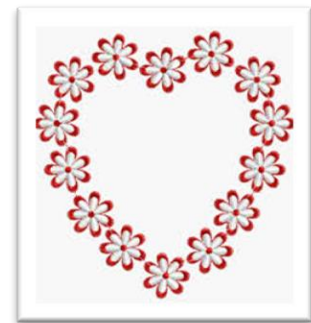
*Dear Karen*

*It feels very special writing a letter to you even though we, as a family, were denied the pleasure of you being a part of our family in person. You have always held a special place in our hearts, and I think of you often.*

*Your presence was made even more real when I contacted the wonderful charity - Brief Lives Remembered back in 2020 - and spoke with Paula and she was very quickly able to locate where you were laid to rest in 1961. We knew in which cemetery you were buried but not exactly where. It meant SO much to my husband, Les, and I to be able to pay a visit and know where you were placed.*

*It seems so cruel when I think back to how you were treated when you were stillborn. Mum gave birth to you at home, and she wasn't able to see or hold you before you were taken away and no funeral was held. Such was the thinking back then, that it would be best to deal with the situation in what we now know was an unfeeling and unempathetic way. Completely ignoring the feelings of your parents and siblings.*

*I have often wondered how your life would have panned out, Karen. How you would have gotten on in school. What career path you would have chosen. Would you have married and had children? Would you have moved away or lived locally?*



*I know that I would have enjoyed having another sister and being fairly near in age, I hope that we would have gotten on well and been close.*

*I would have loved supporting you in your endeavours and enjoyed sharing my life with you.*

*I am always very proud to announce when people ask how many brothers and sisters I have, and I tell them - seven.*

*You are and always will be a very important member of our family, Karen. I am SO sorry that we never got to meet and know you, but you are thought about and loved more than you will ever know.*

*May you continue to rest in peace and God bless and keep you safe always.*

*Your ever-loving brother, Ian*