

June 2023 HONOR LAMB

Catherine Grace Yancey

My husband and I have tried for over 3 years to grow our little family with IVF. We were finally expecting Catherine in 2022. In July 2022, we were told that she had kidney issues and would need dialysis and transplants in her young life. We met with everyone at Children's Hospital of Richmond that would take care of her after she was born.

I started having pre-eclampsia complications and low amniotic fluid in late September 2022 and was admitted to VCU Medical Center under strict monitoring. On October 1, I started having trouble breathing and laying down on top of unmanageable high blood pressure. They found fluid in my lungs and rushed me to the OR for a c-section. I was put under general anesthesia and I was intubated for over 17 hours and transferred to the ICU. Catherine Grace Yancey was born on October 1, 2022 at 5:33pm at exactly 32 weeks. She was 2 lbs 8 oz due to intrauterine growth restriction.

I finally got to meet her 24 hours after her birth. Due to her kidney issues and other issues with her urinary system, we tried two urostomies where urine would collect in containers outside of her body. However, her kidneys were non-functioning and she was too small for dialysis. We placed her on palliative care and created many memories with her in those last days. She passed away peacefully on October 20, 2022 at 2:23 am.

Shortly after Catherine's passing, I heard about Weighted Angels through my therapist and I requested one of my own and I'm so grateful to have it. I was so consumed with grief that I forgot how she felt in my arms and I'm glad to have that reminder of her existence.



