

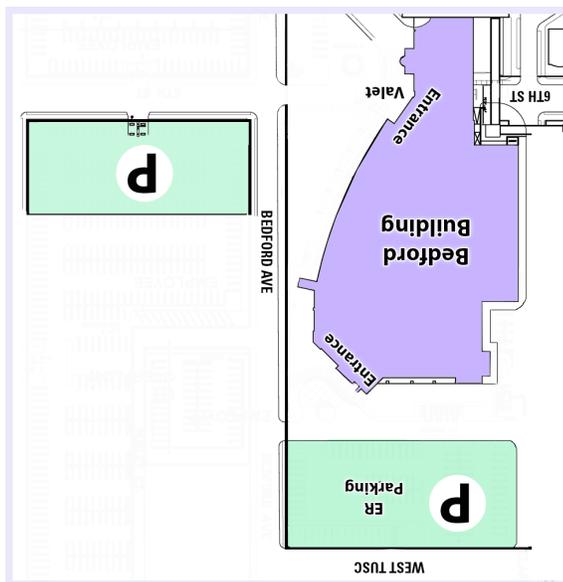
Where to Begin

First, if you are alone, call someone who will be able to be with you. This person will help guide you through this experience. You may be in shock and feel overwhelmed, as if you are in a fog or feel like this is not really happening.

Then, if medically safe, go home before going to the Birth Center. You may want some personal items for your stay and a few baby things, such as:

-  Preferred toiletries
-  Robe and slippers
-  Camera (The Birth Center staff will also take pictures, with your permission.)
-  Special baby blanket and/or outfit (The Birth Center also has these available.)

While at home, call your family and friends and allow them to grieve with you and help in decision making.



AULTMAN

Steps To Take When Your Unborn Baby Dies

Aultman Birth Center
Bedford building – fourth floor

Our goal is to walk beside you on the path through this difficult experience. You will be more prepared to make necessary decisions at your baby's birth, if you consider these things now.

AULTMAN

Birth Center Bereavement Coordinator
330-363-5400 330-363-5353

 www.aultman.org/pregnancyandinfantloss



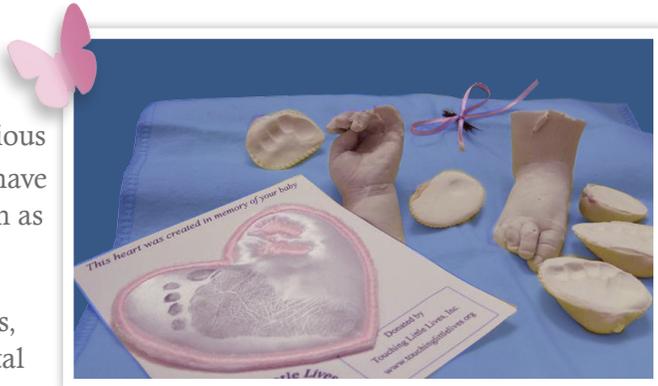
Things to Consider:

- Who do you want to have in the room with you?
- Would you like to see and hold your baby? (Most families are very glad they chose to do so.)
- Do you want your baby on your stomach after birth?
- Do you want your significant other or a support person to cut the cord?
- Think about what funeral home service you may want to use. A family member or friend can assist in calling and making arrangements, if needed. If your baby is less than 20 weeks, Aultman offers a cremation free of charge. The cremated remains will be commingled with other cremated remains. The Birth Center staff will provide you with more information pertaining to your specific situation.
- Do you want an autopsy for your baby? If the cause of death is unknown, and your baby is at least 20 weeks, one may be offered to you. Your physician will discuss this with you to help in making that choice.

Create Memories

Time spent with your little one is precious and limited. You will be permitted to have him/her with you in the room as much as you desire.

Think about saving ultrasound pictures, clothes and blankets used in the hospital to preserve memories. The Birth Center staff is trained in taking pictures, collecting a lock of hair and making footprints and molds when possible. These will become treasures to you in the coming years.



Someone from the Aultman Spiritual Care department is always available for you. They will be contacted for a baptism or blessing for your baby, if you choose, or for simply being a comforting presence to you. We also invite your own clergy person for your spiritual support.

Arrival at the Aultman Birth Center (Bedford building)

Take the elevator to the fourth floor. Someone may be seated at the desk and assist you. If not, please follow the posted directions for entrance to the Birth Center.

You will be shown to a room and given a chance to settle in. Our compassionate staff will make your stay as comfortable as possible. You are just beginning a life journey that you did not anticipate or choose. We offer our heartfelt sympathies to you.

*“Each life is indeed a gift no matter how brief, no matter how fragile.
Each life is indeed a gift, to be held in our hearts forever.”*