

# **A NATION CHALLENGED: CHARITY; Second Loss Compounds Widow's Grief**

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## **Body**

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Jorge Morron was supposed to become a United States citizen on Sept. 17. To record the event, he wanted his pregnant wife, Sonia, to bring a video camera to the swearing-in ceremony, at the Immigration and Naturalization Service bureau in Garden City, N.Y.

The two were going to celebrate that evening with dinner at a restaurant. He asked Mrs. Morron to wear her most beautiful clothing. "The ceremony will be in your honor and our baby's honor," she recalled his saying.

But on the morning of Sept. 17, the cushioned metal chair that Mr. Morron, 38, would have sat in during the ceremony remained empty. Mr. Morron, a security guard at the World Trade Center, has been missing since Sept. 11, and is presumed dead.

After her husband disappeared, Mrs. Morron began to have panic attacks.

Mrs. Morron has four brothers and four sisters in Bogota, Colombia, where she was born, but her husband was the only relative she had in the United States, to which she immigrated in 1995.

Mrs. Morron has not worked since February, after a 91-year-old woman she had cared for as a live-in health attendant died. The couple were married in April and lived in a two-bedroom apartment in Jackson Heights, Queens, with Mr. Morron's brother, Carlos, who built a wall off the living room to partition the apartment. The other bedroom was rented out to bring in an extra few hundred dollars a month.

It was a crowded existence, but for Mrs. Morron, 41, it was the happiest time in years, because she was in love.

This summer, Mrs. Morron (pronounced mor-OWN) was delighted to find out she was pregnant.

Early on the morning of Sept. 11, Mr. Morron took his wife to Elmhurst Hospital Center, where she was receiving prenatal care in the third month of a pregnancy that was considered high risk because of her age.

He was always anxious when she was in the hospital and he considered staying there and waiting for her to finish the day's tests. But he decided he had to go to work. "He doesn't like to leave me alone," Mrs. Morron said, "but he was always very responsible to his job."

She was in the hospital's waiting room when the television showed pictures of the planes hitting the twin towers. When the south tower collapsed, she said, she felt a chill come over her body.

Mr. Morron never returned, and she began to feel uncomfortable living in the apartment without her husband. The Children's Aid Society, one of the 10 local **charities** supported by The New York Times 9/11 Neediest Fund, gave

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her a one-bedroom apartment in a shelter it runs, where she is cared for 24 hours a day by a health aide and can receive medical attention quickly.

When her husband failed to return home in the days after the attack, Mrs. Morron increasingly worried about the well-being of her baby. "In this baby," she said, "there is a part of my husband."

Then last Thursday, she began feeling cramps in her abdomen, and Judy Quinones, a social worker at the Children's Aid Society who was working with her, called an ambulance, which took her to Mount Sinai Hospital. There, she found out that she had suffered a miscarriage. "In my feelings, I am hopeless," she said, crying. "I feel like dying also."

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