

Ellen W. Valladares
Biography

Ellen Wolfson Valladres is an award-winning writer, spiritual teacher, community volunteer, and mother. A native Floridian, she grew up in St. Petersburg and graduated in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Florida. While in college, her articles appeared in university and local publications, and she was the editor of the College of Journalism's award-winning *Orange & Blue Magazine*.

After graduation, she joined a bi-weekly Jewish community newspaper in Hollywood, Florida, as an editorial assistant, and then became editor. Four years later, she joined an advertising agency, where she handled public relations and assisted in overall operations.

In 1995, she began working as a freelance writer. She was a frequent contributor to South Florida Parenting magazine, writing "Out and About" features and covering issues such as literacy, preschool adjustment, and talking to children about sex. Two of her articles received Gold and Silver Awards from the Parenting Publications of America. She also worked for clients such as Nova Southeastern University.

Valladares' life changed dramatically in 1995 after she suffered both the loss of her mother and her daughter, who was stillborn at 41 weeks. Her journey through pain and healing left her with a deep desire to help others. She has been dedicated to helping families who have lost babies. She volunteered as a peer counselor to help bereaved moms and ran a support group called "Surviving Pregnancy After a Loss" for five years. She is currently on the advisory council of the Butterflies from Heaven Foundation, a nonprofit organization that reaches out to South Florida families who have lost babies due to miscarriage, stillbirth, or newborn death. In addition, she is a past president of the Board of Directors of Healthy Mothers-Healthy Babies Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Valladares also seeks to help others through spiritual teaching and counseling. She is an Angel Therapy Practitioner® certified by Doreen Virtue, Ph.D., and has been teaching a wide variety of classes and workshops in the South Florida area since 2003. She enjoys assisting adults and children in discovering their life purpose and moving forward fearlessly to create, live, and enjoy the life they were meant to live. Her meditation CD, "Healing and Manifestation with the Archangels," is being sold throughout the United States.

She and her husband Manny, and their two sons live in Weston, Florida.

Jonathan's Journey to Mount Miapu is a 2009 Gold recipient of the Mom's Choice Awards®, winner of the 2009 Coalition of Visionary Resources (COVR) Visionary Awards Book of the Year, COVR Visionary Awards winner in the Children's Books category, a Silver Award winner in the Florida Publisher's Association President's Awards, and a finalist in the *ForeWord Magazine* Book of the Year Awards. It is distributed by Baker & Taylor, New Leaf, Ingram, and Brodart Books. It is available on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.