

# *Builder and Developer Liable For Worker's Death*

**O**n August 10, 2001, a Broward County jury rendered a verdict on behalf of Samantha Calves, who tragically lost her husband while he worked at a construction site. The defendants in the case included Lennar Homes and Triple S Associates, South Florida builders and developers. **Continued on page four.**



**Baby Sabrina, Samantha and John Calves on Sept. 18, 1992.**

## **Builder and Developer Liable For Workers' Death**

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On July 22, 1998, John Calves was operating a front-end loader, removing debris and preparing some land for the construction of new homes. Much of the property at the time was covered by standing water from recent rainfalls. While operating the front-end loader, Mr. Calves fell into a concealed depression on the property, and the machine fell on top of him. A fellow worker struggled to rescue Mr. Calves from the depression, but too much time passed. Mr. Calves died six days later at a Hollywood, Fla., hospital.

Attorneys Jack Scarola, Darryl Lewis, and Rosalyn Sia Baker represented Mrs. Calves. The complaint, filed on January 20, 1999, alleged negligence on the defendants for failing to render the property safe and for failing to warn Mr. Calves about the dangerous and hidden depressions.

After three weeks in trial, the jury, comprised of four women and two men, held the builder and developer liable for \$2.04 million. Compelling testimony was given by Mrs. Calves regarding her loss. She shared with the jury that she still had the exact coins recovered from her husband's pocket and that his photograph and ashes have remained on her nightstand since his death.

Mrs. Calves, who resides in Ft. Lauderdale, will use the proceeds from the verdict to care for her family. ■