

# The Fertility Institute's 200th Baby Welcomes Twins 32 Years Later

*The field of fertility has advanced from when Leta Fletcher conceived her daughter with FINO's help to now, when that daughter would start a family of her own*

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES, November 30, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As Leta Fletcher crawled out from the wreckage of her crashed vehicle – 27 weeks pregnant with the child she had struggled seven years to conceive – she thought her dreams of having a family were shattered. Little did she know the baby inside of her was not only alive but carried perfectly healthy eggs that would become Leta's twin grandchildren 32 years down the road.

Julie Mincey, Leta's daughter, was conceived with help from the medical pioneers at [The Fertility Institute of New Orleans](#) (FINO) in 1989 through a gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT), a precursor to in vitro fertilization (IVF). She was born, bruised but healthy, 11 weeks after her mother experienced a head-on collision. As Julie grew older, she longed for a family of her own.



Julie and Leta with husbands and babies.

With her mother's fertility history, Julie assumed she would need to undergo treatment in order to conceive. On February 1, 2021, after working hard to prepare her body for a tropical vacation (and unwittingly for a healthy pregnancy), she noticed changes in her cycle and sense of smell. Julie took a pregnancy test and learned she was pregnant. Julie was amazed that her body was able to conceive without fertility treatment after what her mother had endured to have her.

"It's amazing how far we have come with reproductive science since Leta was our patient," says [Dr. Jay Huber](#), FINO medical director. "While the GIFT procedure was cutting-edge technology in the '80s and had a 10%-20% success rate with high chances of twins, we now have IVF with success rates as high as 50%-60% in some cases. And we now have the ability to perform elective single embryo transfer, which significantly reduces the risk of becoming pregnant with multiples."

Back in the '80s, Leta had experienced two miscarriages and had undergone surgery for endometriosis before she and her husband, John Fletcher, finally decided to visit the fertility specialists at FINO. They discovered that in addition to Leta's endometriosis, there was likely a hormonal imbalance that could be contributing to her miscarriages.

In February of 1988 Leta underwent the GIFT procedure at FINO in hopes of having a successful pregnancy. The procedure removes a patient's eggs, combines them with sperm, then immediately places them in the fallopian tubes where the eggs are fertilized. It worked, but around the tenth week of Leta's pregnancy an ultrasound showed there was no heartbeat.

Leta had been on so many medications that her body had begun to grow cysts where her follicles should have grown. FINO doctors performed surgery to remove Leta's cysts, and in the fall Leta underwent another GIFT procedure. This time, despite a horrible car accident, she gave birth to daughter Julie.

Julie entered the world in style. She was the 200th baby to be born with help from FINO and received a black-tie party at the Crowne Plaza. Doctors from across America came to celebrate her birth. A special brick with Julie's name and the number "200" was placed in the French Quarter leading up to the aquarium. After everything Leta and John endured to have Julie, this extravagant celebration of her birth was more than earned.

Thirty-two years later, it all came full circle when Julie became pregnant. She is thankful her mother took action with her fertility, ultimately leading to the birth of Julie's daughters Fletcher Ann and June. Julie says the twin girls will grow up knowing the story of their grandmother's fighting spirit and FINO's dedication to building Leta's family.

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About The Fertility Institute of New Orleans

Founded in 1976, The Fertility Institute of New Orleans (FINO) is the first fertility clinic in Louisiana, achieving many fertility medicine advancements in the Gulf South. FINO continues to provide cutting-edge patient care informed by physicians who teach the latest in fertility medicine at LSU and Tulane medical schools. The staff's care philosophy is to first, and continually, educate patients about infertility and their individual treatment options. FINO engages with people beyond conventional doctor-patient interactions to forge relationships, while offering competitive costs and treatments other area clinics don't. [FertilityInstitute.com](http://FertilityInstitute.com)

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