

# Grandparents

**W**e are proud grandparents of nine grandchildren. Each is unique and special. Our Emily was born with Down syndrome. She is a precious child who is very sensitive, bright and curious. She loves movies, baseball, music, dancing and horseback riding. She is very dear to us and we feel our lives would not be complete without her. Not only has she enriched our lives in countless ways, but the lives of our family and friends. Emily is a blessing to all she meets. We know your new little one will be a joy to your family as well.

~ Barry & Carol

**I**n 2004 our grandson, Sam, arrived a month early in a very unassuming, undemanding way, amidst tornados and raging storms. He arrived with 1 extra chromosome in each cell, three holes in his heart and some characteristics we didn't anticipate. In his unique way, he seemingly set out to surprise everyone. He learned to eat and thrive, he learned to smile and mesmerize adults, he learned all the important things that babies need to learn, including how to love and torment his older brother. He learned volumes of sign language and how to charm and flirt, how to welcome and love a little sister! He is now able to do most all the things that typically developing little boys do – all he needs is love, help and practice – the same things we all need.

While accomplishing so much, Sam also teaches us. He demonstrates a beautiful spontaneity, honesty, warmth and acceptance of others. He also inspires us to step back and enjoy life itself with his unabashed belly laugh that prohibits any straight faces. At the same time, he is gentle, patient and tolerant. The most important thing that Sam is teaching us as he grows is his open, vulnerable, forgiving acceptance of family, friends and strangers! Sam is God's reminder to all of us how we are all capable of loving.

~ Cynthia & Alan

**T**he lessons our granddaughter has taught us carry over into all areas of our lives. Because of her, we are better able to live in the moment, rejoice in the little things and put worry aside. She continues to teach us and bless us. We hope you will learn all you can about your new baby.

Good luck to you as your child enriches your lives and helps you discover your own blessings and joys.

~ Tom & Mary

