

September 2013



Dear Friends and Family,

We wanted to write a quick letter announcing the birth of our baby girl! Nicole Marie Gutierrez was born on August 22nd at 8:15 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs 9 oz. She and her mommy are both doing well.

From Samantha

She is finally here! I have been waiting since January for my sister to arrive. I knew the whole time the baby was going to be a girl. Before we went to bed that night, Mommy said that the baby was most likely going to be there the next day. When we woke up in the morning for school, we found Halle at our house. He got us ready for school telling us that Mommy was at the hospital having the baby. Papi picked us up from school telling us that we had a new sister. That evening we all went to the hospital to pick up Mommy and Nicole! It was the best day.



From Anthony

The baby finally came out! I had been asking Mommy for awhile when this baby would be coming. And now she is finally here. She is really cute and I like to just look at her, but she doesn't do very much. Before the baby was born I had told Mommy that the baby was a girl many times. One day Mommy asked me, "But if the baby is a boy, are you willing to share your cars and trains with him?" The answer was easy, "But Mommy, the baby is a girl!" Even so I have tried to share my cars with her, but she cannot even hold them so I guess I won't have to share after all ☺.



From Thomas

On August 10th Amanda started having contractions that she thought might be the beginning of labor. They lasted quite a long time that day. When she told me how she was feeling, my first response was "No, Baby, not today." Halle and Kathy were gone for a wedding, Amanda was still 3 weeks early, and both Amanda and I had hoped to get the kids started back at school before the baby was born. I guess the baby heard my plea because they turned out to just be Braxton Hicks. Twelve days later Halle and Kathy were back, the kids had been in school for over a week, and Amanda was much closer to her due date, and that is when Nicole decided to come. The hardest part was heading to the hospital at 2:30 a.m. and having to wait there sleeping in the car until 7 a.m. when I heard that things were getting closer. Under the national insurance, most hospitals do not allow husbands in the labor room since there are other women in there too. I did have permission to be there at the birth, but everything happened so fast at the end that I did not make it. The nurse came out to show me the baby and tell me that I had a new baby girl.



From Amanda

What a blessing to have Nicole with us! In the last weeks leading up to her birth many people told me to enjoy being pregnant because once the baby comes, everything changes. To be honest, though, I was ready to be done being pregnant and could not wait to get to know our third child plus I was very excited to see how Samantha and Anthony would be as older siblings. Dealing with lots of Braxton Hicks in the days prior to labor made me even more ready to be done being pregnant. Finally, I went into labor on August 21st but everything was a little slower this time compared to Anthony's birth which was just fine with me. Once we arrived at the hospital at about 3 a.m., I was checked in and Kathy stayed with me in the labor room. It was such a blessing to have one of my closest friends and a mom of three (so she had been through this before) there with me throughout the labor. After I delivered Nicole, the doctor put her on my tummy with her back facing me but no one said whether she was a boy or a girl. I finally had to ask the doctor, "Could you tell me what the baby is since it was a surprise this whole time?" The doctor looked surprised to find out that I had not known, and she promptly lifted one of Nicole's legs and told me, "Es una niña!"



Seeking Him for life,

Thomas, Amanda, Samantha y Anthony Gutiérrez



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