

Irene Chee

Dearest Charmaine,

There were many happy and unforgettable memories in my life, and I would like to tell you one which stands out very clearly and one which I will cherish forever. It was the day when you were born.

On the morning of 25 May 2000, Mummy had a slight pain in her tummy and she knew it was time for you to arrive. Daddy brought her to the Mount Elizabeth Hospital where she was warded. Throughout the day we were calling Daddy on his mobile phone to find out if you had arrived, but you preferred to be in Mummy's tummy a little longer.

Grandpa and I waited anxiously at home for the news, but when evening came and there was still no telephone call from Daddy, we drove to the hospital. We arrived at the hospital at around 8.00 pm. Mummy was in the delivery suite and Grandpa and I were not allowed in — only Daddy could be with Mummy. So we took our seats and waited patiently outside.

Grandpa and I were very excited waiting for the arrival of our first grand-child. We sat and reminisced about past events - the day when Mummy was born, when she went to kindergarten, primary school, secondary school, junior college and university, the day she started work and finally when she got married. It was not often that Grandpa

and I sat and talked and I would like to thank you for giving us this occasion to do so.

The minutes ticked by and soon it was midnight. We were contemplating on whether we should remain in the hospital or go home, but as we had been waiting since 8.00 pm, we thought we should stay on. By this time the hospital was very quiet and Grandpa and I were the only two people in the waiting lounge.

Just before 2.00 am we saw Mummy's doctor going into the delivery suite and we knew that you were ready to arrive into this world. We were really excited by this time. Suddenly we heard the faint cry of a baby and we knew it was you. Not long after Daddy and a nurse carried you out to show us. You officially came into this world at 2.11 am on 26 May 2000.

You were not a very big baby weighing only 3.07 kg, but you looked lovely. The first thing that crossed my mind was the remarkable resemblance between you and Daddy. I wanted to touch your face and carry you, but for hygiene purposes I was not allowed to. It was the happiest and most memorable moment of my life and I will always remember it. Although we waited for six hours at the hospital, it sure was worth every minute.

Being a grandma brings a great sense of contentment, fulfilment, gratification and satisfaction. Thank you for giving me all these wonderful feelings.

Today, you have grown into a bubbly, active and precocious 6-year old with abundant of curiosity and enthusiasm. There is never a dull moment with your endless questions, intelligence and tremendous zest. You are an absolute pleasure and delight to be with and never fail to bring a smile to my face.

As I watch you grow each day, I know that you will bring happiness and cheer to the family and no matter how old you are and wherever you are, you will always remain Grandpa's and Grandma's little pride and joy.

Grandpa and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you lots of love, happiness and confidence in whatever you do.

Love always

Grandma