



Ayelet's Story

When our son was born he had some oxygen issues and the nurses decided he would need to go to the NICU. As they were bringing him over to me to meet for the first time (before having to take him away), My Midwife Claire told me to speak to my son, touch him and give him a kiss. This might sound hokey, but in that moment I felt the knowledge of every midwife that ever graced the earth come through in her voice. Her wisdom felt other-worldly. I followed Claire's direction and immediately my son started to regulate his breathing. Without Claire by my family's side, guiding us, I am certain he would have been taken away to NICU.

I also had the extraordinary experience of skin-to-skin time in the OR, which I am told is rather rare. It was Claire who advocated that my son should be unwrapped and put on my chest. I cannot properly express to anyone how important that moment was for me. My husband and I are not planning on having any more children, and not being able to have a vaginal birth with either of my children was difficult to accept; however, in that moment, when Claire put my son Doren directly on my chest, only minutes old, she gave me back a sense of motherhood that I thought I'd never get. We are all made mothers in different ways, but for me, that skin-to-skin moment was everything I always wanted; and dare I say, it was something my soul always needed to feel complete. It was restorative.

I am beyond blessed that Claire was on call that night. She made what would have been a very difficult ordeal a joyous one that still makes me well up with happy tears.

As I said to my husband: midwives are magic.

Thank you for having such an incredible group of midwives available to the Nashville community. We are all richer for it.

~ Ayelet B.

