

Date: Fri, 09 Oct 2009 03:56:39 PM EDT

Subject: For Andrew on October 9, 2009

Hi Andrew,

Three and a half years ago you were born in Queretaro, Mexico. We expect that you will someday ask "Why was I born in Queretaro, Mexico rather than in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (in the U.S.A)?", so we are going to answer that question for you in this email. We will keep it with all of the other emails we have written to you so that you can read them in the future.

In August 2005 we were living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Your parents were living and working in northern Wisconsin/Michigan, where they had been married on August 9, 2004. They told us that they were expecting a baby, which turned out to be you.

During the Fall of 2005 your father and mother moved to Milwaukee, moving into the house that your father owned with his friend, Doug Schwartz. They also both found jobs as engineers in the Milwaukee area, which provided medical insurance to cover the costs of your mother's prenatal care and your birth.

They found a hospital/clinic in Milwaukee for your mother to go to for prenatal care and to give birth to you. They decided to have your father involved and present at your birth, which required them to go together to childbirth education classes. Your Grandpa Richardson was involved and present at his son's birth on May 25, 1971 in Milwaukee. So your father was following in the footsteps of his father.

Because your mother was from Mexico and your father respected her culture and language, he enrolled in Spanish conversation classes after they moved back to Milwaukee. You would be a Hispanic-American, and your father wanted you to know and to respect the culture and language of your mother.

Your mother stopped working at the end of 2005, about three to four months before you were born. She told us that her mother was planning to come from Queretaro soon after you were born in Milwaukee to help her care for you. Everything seemed fine.

Suddenly in March 2006, about a month before you were born, we learned that your mother was flying back to Queretaro. She told your father that she had to go home. He didn't want her to leave him, but he couldn't change her mind about going. We were all sad and upset that she had left pregnant with you. We didn't know when we would see you both again. This is why you were born in Queretaro, Mexico rather than Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Love and prayers,

Grandpa and Grandma Richardson