

Emersyn Paige Klomp

It is hard to believe that on April 7th 2016 it will be 7 years since our beautiful daughter Emersyn Paige passed away at 7 months old from SMA Type1. Emersyn would have been in Grade 2 this year and not a day goes by when we don't wonder what she would be like today. Our lives since losing Emersyn have been forever changed. Our lens that we view the world with has been completely altered. We understand that the gift from pain is the gratitude for the joy when it comes.

We understand what it is like to receive an earth shattering diagnosis for your child and become a fierce advocate. We know what it feels like to hold your child for the last time. We know true suffering but we also know what it feels like when joy seeps into these moments the same way it did during Emersyn's beautiful life.

We understand what it is like to have two more beautiful children in the wake of grief with the birth of Isla in 2011 and Callum in 2013. We understand that although Isla and Callum did not physically know Emersyn they love to honour their sister and they do it naturally in the most symbolic ways.

We understand what it is like to wonder if you can reinvest in life again. We understand what it is like to be having a joyful moment or "regular day" and one song or sight of a little girl with big brown eyes and dark hair can take us right back to those early days of soul crushing grief. We understand what it is like to smile at a rainbow, talk to a butterfly, get lost in a sunset and search for signs of Emersyn in sacred nature and in the hearts and actions of others like at the Rebecca Run each year.

We cannot pinpoint a moment or a day in our journey over these past 7 years when things became easier. The truth is our pain has remained the same but our ability to carry it has become stronger. We know that we will forever feel a counterbalance of joy and pain and strength and fragility. We understand that our family is unique in that we parent two beautiful living children and one special girl in heaven. We hope that our family's story including the pain and the joy inspires people to never give up hope in your journey wherever it may take you. Our grief journey is a reflection of our love for Emersyn and our broken pieces have also become a beautiful mosaic that is our Family of 5.

Sincerely with Comfort & Hope,
The Klomp Family

