

Years ago, while at a regular OB appointment, the Dr. decided to do an ultrasound exam on my fourth child. When he did the exam his face got very serious, and he sent for another doctor. After they conferred, my doctor told me, "Your baby has serious brain abnormalities and a severely enlarged skull." The OB then told me, "The only way to deliver your baby is to break its skull!" I replied to the doctor "I do not break my baby's skull."

As my original doctor would not attempt a delivery otherwise, I began a search for a new OB to deliver my baby. I finally found a very experienced former army doctor who skillfully delivered my sweet son Daniel alive. He had many health problems, and low brain function, and did not live long, but he lived long enough to be loved by two sets of grandparents, my husband and I and his three siblings. Before Daniel passed away, we held him and named him, took family photos, and when the time came, said goodbye. We were able to have real closure with a loved child we will always remember.

Abortion, especially in the third trimester is never the answer. Had we acquiesced and allowed the first doctor to perform a partial birth abortion, Daniel would have lost his opportunity to live, and we would have lost our opportunity to know him, and to say good bye. A baby, even with very special needs is a member of a family and deserves to be known, loved and remembered. He or she is not a lump of flesh, to be cut away, but a human being who deserves to live, and be loved.

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