

The Child:

Tanner Cash Paintin  
Born on June 2, 2008  
1 pound 15.4 ounces  
28 weeks premature

Parents:

Chase Paintin  
General Contractor / Owner  
Paintin Construction  
Elsie, NE

Jessie Paintin  
Stay at home mom

Grandparents:

Chris and Kim Cople  
Elsie, NE

Jim and Sheila Paintin  
Burlington, CO

Great-Grandparent:

Ron Cutler  
Elsie, NE

Hobbies:

Playing outside, riding his pony, playing with tractors, and his two dogs. He also likes to rope like his daddy.

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11840 Nicholas Street  
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Lincoln Office:  
315 South 9th Street  
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# Reflections

from a

## march of dimes ambassador family

Shortly after Christmas of 2007 we found out that we were expecting our first child. My pregnancy was picture perfect until about 26 weeks, when my blood pressure began to climb. At 28 weeks, we saw my physician in North Platte and were shocked to find out that we had to rush to Lincoln that very day. Two days later, Tanner was born twelve weeks premature because of preeclampsia.



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*"We quickly learned that a stay in the NICU is like a rollercoaster ride."*

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The NICU was a whole new world to us, as neither of us had ever even seen a premature baby. We quickly learned that a stay in the NICU is a lot like a rollercoaster ride. We would go from feeling like we were on cloud nine with Tanner's progress, to not even knowing if Tanner would survive the day. In Tanner's first few hours, he received surfactant to help his lungs develop. He was doing great right after birth, and then developed a small tear in one of his lungs, requiring him to be placed on the ventilator and have a chest tube put in. Tanner was also diagnosed with NEC and several weeks later a "mystery" illness that nearly took his life. A few days later, through the power of prayer and modern medicine, Tanner turned the corner and never looked back. He went home on oxygen and with a monitor three days before his original due date. Today, Tanner is a happy, healthy little boy who never seems to run out of energy!

While Tanner was in the NICU I read a quote that said "If God brings you to it, he will bring you through it." No matter how sick Tanner was, we never lost faith in those words.