



### **These are my Footprints**

(Author unknown)

"These are my footprints,  
so perfect and so small.  
These tiny footprints  
never touched the ground at all.  
Not one tiny footprint,  
for now I have wings.  
These tiny footprints were meant  
for other things.  
You will hear my tiny footprints,  
in the patter of the rain.  
Gentle drops like angel's tears,  
of joy and not from pain.  
You will see my tiny footprints,  
in each butterflies' lazy dance.  
I'll let you know I'm with you  
if you just give me the chance.  
You will see my tiny footprints,  
in the rustle of the leaves.  
I will whisper names into the wind,  
and call each one that grieves.  
Most of all, these tiny footprints,  
are found on Mommy and Daddy's hearts.  
'Cause even though I'm gone now,  
We'll never truly part."



# Joshua

"God Rescues"



Joshua entered this world on March 26, 2010. While he was only with us to love and to hold for 16 beautiful days, his impact began long before his birth. Joshua was from the very beginning a fighter and was full of personality. Kelli, in the early days of her pregnancy, almost lost him a couple of times due to bleeding. However, God had a plan to use little Joshua and kept him safe in his mother's womb. Soon Joshua would grow and we were blessed with many 3D ultrasound pictures each week. It was evident that Joshua had a big personality. In many of these pictures Joshua showed himself...he would wave, show his manhood (so well that the ultrasound specialist had to make copies of it as it was the best they had ever seen!), covered his face, hugged the placenta, and he even opened his eyes. Joshua even let his mommy know when he didn't like something. He did not like her to lie on her back and would kick her so much that she would move. He also tried to kick off the baby monitors that were placed on her belly to see if she was having contractions. He did not like those tight belts and he let everyone know it!

Each week Kelli and Jeff would go to the doctor and would learn bad news. Yet, Joshua's heart would beat normal and strong. He would kick and swim about as any normal child would. If mom had a little bit of caffeine, he would be kicking around so much that Kelli would get sore! Kelli and Jeff were told by the doctors that if he were born before 34 weeks, he would most likely be stillborn. However, Joshua was born at 30 weeks and came out kicking and squeaking! Even after being told of his bowel rupture that he would likely not poop, after 10 days he graced us with at least five poopie diapers! He showed the doctors that he was a fighter and was not going to give up easily. Joshua himself would have stayed with us. This was clear during his time with us on this earth. However, his little body was not nearly as strong as his spirit. Joshua left us teaching us all many things...never say never...the spirit is stronger than the body...God uses our weaknesses to make us strong...God uses the weak to teach the strong how to live and appreciate life...Trust in the Lord for He is our strength when we think we can't go on...God rescues!