

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

19 *“It’s a girl!”*

Our first child was born in 1950, while I was in Law School. Housing facilities were scarce due to thousands of returning service men. We lived in the upstairs of an old home with linoleum floors and shared a bathroom downstairs with the 90 year old landlord and his wife. Ellie’s pregnancy made it difficult for her to use the stairs, so we reverted to a makeshift porta-potty.

The delivery room was in the basement of the old hospital at Lawrence, Kansas. Husbands were not allowed, so my wife’s parents and I congregated in the hall waiting for the news. Occasionally the delivery room door would open and I could hear the doctor whistling while he worked! For him, it was another day’s work. For me it was trauma!

I suppose everyone has deep memories of the delivery of their first child. Mine is indelibly etched. The doctor charged us \$75, just half of the regular \$150. Not much now, but a mountain, then. Sensing my anxiety, my father-in-law asked if I wanted to borrow \$500. I’m not sure who felt the most relieved when I said, “No!”

When she finally arrived and they announced *“It’s a girl!”* I was overwhelmed. I voiced silently, but thankfully, “God has allowed me to be involved in the creation of a life!” Truly a miracle!

In later years He brought us four more miracles. Each one has been a blessing and I am still overwhelmed at His goodness.

Thanks, Lord, for trusting us to be involved with You—and for the beautiful lives you brought into our lives!

From Grandpa With Love

A Note From the Writer

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2016 Marvin J. Martin