Fourth Generation of Babies Born at North Valley Hospital

There’s nothing more special than looking into your baby’s eyes for the first time. After months of carrying and providing for new life within you, hearing that cry and connecting on the outside for the first time seals an incredible bond. For Tiffany Gould, she created an even more memorable birth by delivering her son, Landon, at North Valley Hospital. He was the fourth generation of the family to be born there.

“It was really important for me to deliver at North Valley Hospital because of this,” said Gould, new mother to Landon. “I had to make it full term so my son could be born where the last three generations were born.”

Gould and all of the branches of the family tree are an extremely close-knit family. They plan and do everything together to create lasting memories as a family. Being able to have this experience to share throughout future generations was extremely special for everyone.

All of the sites North Valley Hospital has occupied throughout the last 75 years were represented in this family’s four generations of birth. The newest edition to the family, Landon, was born in the current hospital on September 29, weighing 8 lbs, 6 oz and measuring 20.5 inches. Gould was born at the former hospital located on Hwy 93 in Whitefish, north of the current facility. Gould’s mother, Brenda Fredrickson, was born at the hospital that was located on Park Avenue. And, Bessie Ingraham, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, was born in the hospital on Spokane Avenue. Ingraham’s mother is Ida Hunnewell who wrote for the Olney Brief’s for the Whitefish Pilot.

Recalling the experiences of each of these special ladies’ births demonstrated huge differences in what was allowed or even offered “back then” compared to now. One item that stood out for Gould that the others didn’t experience... the comfort of NVH’s queen-size Tempur-Pedic® post-partum beds. “We only had a hard, twin bed, “said Fredrickson and Ingraham.

Gould took the torch with her husband Sean supporting her the whole time. This also was a big change from 50 years ago when husbands weren’t even allowed in a delivery room when Brenda was born. “He wouldn’t have gone in there even if he could,” joked Ingraham.

Having a long labor was nerve-racking for Gould, especially it being her first and not knowing what to expect. Dr. Mirna Bowden, Gould’s OB/GYN, and Dr. John Miller, Landon’s family doctor, delivered and cared for mom and the new arrival. Yet it was worth every minute of it, she said. When Harpist Katy Meyers played outside her room, Gould said, “we went out and danced to the music.”

“We love the nurses here,” Gould said. “They were so nice and gave so much support. And, they gave advice that didn’t contradict the each other, which was very appreciative.”
Landon is the first great grandchild on Sean’s side and the fourth on Tiffany’s side. All four generations live in Whitefish. His middle name, Jeffrey, is named after Sean’s brother who passed away when they were teenagers. The Gould’s met when they were in first grade and started dating after they went to college. Their lasting relationship is another piece of strong ties over many years.