

This baby wasn't waiting; dad aids delivery on the lawn

By JAMES F. LOWE March 12, 2009



Tyler Boudreau with son Jake and baby Jesse in hospital.

NORTHAMPTON - Call it a lawn birth.

Suzanne and Tyler Boudreau were expecting to deliver their third son Tuesday night, but not before they got to the hospital. Earlier that day their midwife had predicted the baby would be born that evening, six days ahead of schedule.

They called a friend to come look after their boys, Jake, 5, and John, 7. Then Suzanne went out for a walk in their Leeds neighborhood to, as Tyler put it, "get things moving."

It did the trick.

It was only a two-minute drive to Cooley Dickinson Hospital, but before they could even leave the driveway, Jesse Adlai Boudreau entered the world. Time of birth: 7:41 p.m.

"She said there was a head, and I thought she was just crowning," Tyler Boudreau said in a phone interview Wednesday.

"I reached down and there was a whole head there. So she lay down in the grass and had the baby, right into my hands."

Tyler called 911, but it didn't seem like an emergency.



Suzanne and Jesse Boudreau

"She was in good spirits, nobody was stressing out - it was really a happy occasion," Tyler said.

A Fire Department ambulance arrived at their East Center Street home a few minutes later.

"It was one of those good, exciting calls you get to go on," said firefighter Daryl Springman, who with three others from the department's Florence substation helped tend to mother and newborn.

Ambulances from fire headquarters off King Street are usually the first to respond to medical calls. But when Jesse Boudreau was born, all the other ambulances in the city were occupied, necessitating a shift from the routine.

Springman hopped aboard the ambulance with Capt. John Garriepy and firefighters Scott Flynn and Vincent Rojas. Others from the substation followed in a fire engine.

"Any time you get dispatched to a call like that, you have two patients, so we thought we might need some extra hands," Springman said.

City ambulance crews handle a few deliveries every year, but Springman said this was the first he's seen where the birth was complete by the time firefighters arrived.

Suzanne and Jesse Boudreau spent the night at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, and went home Wednesday afternoon.

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<http://www.gazettenet.com/2009/03/12/baby-wasn039t-waiting?CSAuthResp=%3Asession%3ACSUId%7CCSGroupId%3Asuccess%3A8MXqS%2F%2Bu2CgUwWQmEAFgy%3D%3D&CSUId=41627&CSGroupId=7>