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I am so happy that your little girl was able to smile during all that she had to endure. Watching a child being happy is something that always puts a smile on the face of the onlooker. These small gestures can change someone's day, life, or perspective. I hope that I have been able to put a smile on a few faces or changed someone's day by the things I have done.

I believe that service gives a smile to all who do the service and receive it. I am very active in my community, at my school, and my church. In the first grade I joined American Heritage Girls and my love for service began. I was the little girl in the red vest, standing outside the Wal-Mart and Kroger, holding the money can. We collected money and food for Reach Out Lakota and St Raphael's. I have made care packages, cards, and written letters for soldiers. I have helped supply needed items for children going into foster homes and cleaned up parks. I have worked at Matthew Ministries and Kids Against Hunger. I have spent many hours watering trees, washing walls, and cleaning at my school. Everything I do, I do with love from the bottom of my heart, hoping that someone will smile from my actions. I have always been a shy and quite person, so it is hard for me to draw attention to myself. Doing service takes courage for me, but it fills my mind, body, and soul with hope that I am a good person and doing the right thing.

At school, one of the things I am involved with is music ministry. I love music, and play the saxophone and piano. Being able to share my talents at school is a great feeling and I know our principal and music director appreciate it. I also reinstated and coordinated the pop tab collection at school for the Ronald McDonald House. Getting up in front of the whole student body to talk about the program was scary, but I was able to do it because I believed in what I was doing.

I think Aubrey Rose would have loved Sunday school classes. I know she would have put a smile on someone's face like the children I work with. I love to see the children having fun doing a craft, singing songs, or learning about Jesus. I have been helping with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School since I was 7 years old. I have always liked helping out more than participating. It is a great feeling to know that I have had something to do with a child learning the good news of God.

Over the years I have kept track of my service hours and have been awarded the Presidential Service Award every year since the first grade. That first year I earned fifty hours and received a bronze pin. I was proud of myself, but more so, I was happy that I did something to help someone else. During the last couple years I have done approximately two hundred hours of service a year. It is amazing to me that I have had a part in helping people in so many ways. Mother Teresa once said, "A life not lived for others is not a life". I feel blessed that I am able to do what I can to help others.

I am grateful that your family has decided to share a small part of your daughter's love by touching so many lives. I have always tried to make my life the best it can be. I have studied hard, obeyed my parents, followed the rules at school, and been kind to everyone I have met. I love doing service and plan to continue through high school and beyond. It is a part of who I am, how I think, and hopefully it will bring a smile to someone's face.