

[Kaiser Permanente Member Story: Baby Oliver's Journey](#) (The Border Family & Baby Oliver's Journey)

John Border: We had a little scare on a Wednesday night and they came in like okay he's coming in now we knew he's 3 months early. We've got the NICU here he was born about 10:20 1lb 8 ½ oz., spent the next 101 days here, various rooms, various procedures, tests, injections.

Melinda Caskey, MD: When they first come out I think they don't look like what the parents are going to expect or they are very skinny, they haven't gained any weight, and they look very frail. And Oliver looked very frail.

Julia Molony, RN: He was really little, I think about a pound little more but he was always pretty hardy.

John Border: And that tiny diaper was big on him, like it was up to you know his rib cage. As soon as he came we started reading, it's like what do we need to do to give him the best chance and it's always be there. Skin to skin contact is huge for their development.

Julia Molony, RN: What I remember is his response even as an early PREME to his parents touch.

John Border: Well after the first 5 minutes with the nurses you know they know their stuff.

Melinda Caskey, MD: You know we are a tight nit team they see the same people day in and day out the families start to think of the NICU family as an extension of their own family and certainly when they come back to the NICU follow up clinic to see me they talk about how much they miss the NICU and all of the people they made those really strong bonds with

John Border: KP.org or the app on the phone, the nicest part is the messaging system. Messaging doctors or just different departments the interconnectivity between the departments that everybody can know what's going on with you. One doctor is not going to prescribe you something that might interfere with another else another doctor did.

They remember him, I mean it's been 9 months since we've been in here and they still remember him and they come out and see him and ooo and aah over him.

Julia Molony, RN: But when you see those babies come back and the parents are so excited to reestablish that with you and say look at what we've done, its...I don't know what else there is, for me but I'm a NICU nurse.