

Brian Wesley,

October 10, 2005

I think about you daily and wonder how that little, highly-energetic, and quite emotional little curly-headed, blonde-haired boy is doing at the age of 8. Are you quiet and bashful, noisy and bold, outgoing and adventurous, sneaky and tricky, smart and studious, clever and coy...who is Brian and what is his character like at 8? That's what I wonder and think about!

Though you are only 8, but soon to be 9, I do not know you as you are...only as you were at 3 or 4 - you have changed much and no doubt, remember little of me and my role in your life. Still, I will not forget those days and will not forget that the child of 3 and 4 is the boy of 8, 9 and beyond. Brian, I have not and will not forget you; not now and not ever, for I am forever and always your father. From conception, to the birthing room where I held you for the first time, to attempts at changing you when you squirmed, to anything and everything that I have and will remember...always your dad - it's that simple and that certain.

Brian, if I could see you now, I would grab a football and through it to you; I would cheer when you caught it and through it back; I would bid you to chase and tackle me, than I would fall gently to the ground after a bruising hit, laugh, and grab you up and say with a big shout - "it's Brian Wesley and he's 8 years old and, you know what...he is my child and I love him". Than I would dust myself off and we would go bike riding, hiking, swimming, fishing, hunting, rope-climbing, or anything else you might want to do. At the end of the day, I would log that I spent the day being 8 again - it was great and we are great; Brian, Ben, Abby, Matthew, Me...we are great and than I would say good night and give thanks once again for Brain Wesley Rainer for just being you. How I love this boy; 3, 8 or any other age, now and forever.