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One mother's miracle

Alvarado couple finds new solution for infertility

By **CAYLA SMITH**
TIMES-REVIEW WRITER

ALVARADO — In April 2002, Sheri Denny and her husband, Craig, went to the Dallas Spine Center for Sheri's chronic lower back problems. Dr. Travis Rader planned to use the NUCCA chiropractic method, which attempts to align the spine to a balanced position, but warned her that pregnancy was a possible side effect.

But Sheri, 36, quickly dismissed his warning. The Alvarado couple had been

married 12 years, and for seven years they had tried unsuccessfully to have a child.

"We tried everything short of in vitro fertilization," she said.

It wasn't but six weeks later that Sheri got pregnant. She carried the baby for 10 weeks but then miscarried. Sheri and her husband, 41, said they did not even try to have a baby after the that.

"It was just emotionally really tough on us," she said.

But just as the doctor had ordered, Sheri became pregnant again in June, and this time it lasted. She gave birth to Jalie Brook Denny on Feb. 16.

"It was an unexpected blessing we

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Staff photo/Cayla Smith

Sheri Denny of Alvarado and daughter Jalie Brook Denny will share their first Mother's Day together today.

MOTHER

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never thought we'd have," she said.

Today, Sheri and her daughter share their first Mother's Day together. It's a day Sheri never thought she would be a part of, and she is not alone.

According to the April edition of the Dallas Spine Center Bulletin, more than 6 million couples in the United States have fertility problems. A misaligned spine could cause nerves in female reproductive organs not to function properly.

According to the center's Web site, repositioning the spine "re-activates the transmission of healing messages from the brain to the affected part of the body so the body's natural self-healing process can begin."

Rader is one of only 200 NUCCA chiropractors in the world, the Dennys said.

Sheri is an events coordinator for the Texas Conference for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The couple moved to Alvarado from Amarillo in December 2001. After struggling to have a child, she tried to change her priorities and threw herself into her work.

Craig gave up his television media career for his wife and currently works at Carter Blood Care in Bedford. He said when he found out Sheri was pregnant he decided he needed to find a job that could better provide for his family.

"He's the one who has done the sacrifices, giving up his career for me and the baby," she said.

After the baby was born, the couple decided to take turns baby sitting while the other worked.

"We had absolutely determined we wanted to have a parent with our baby all the time," she said. "We just want to raise her ourselves."

Sheri works the day shift Monday through Thursday, and Craig works nights. They don't plan to have any other children because of their age, but they are grateful to have Jalie.

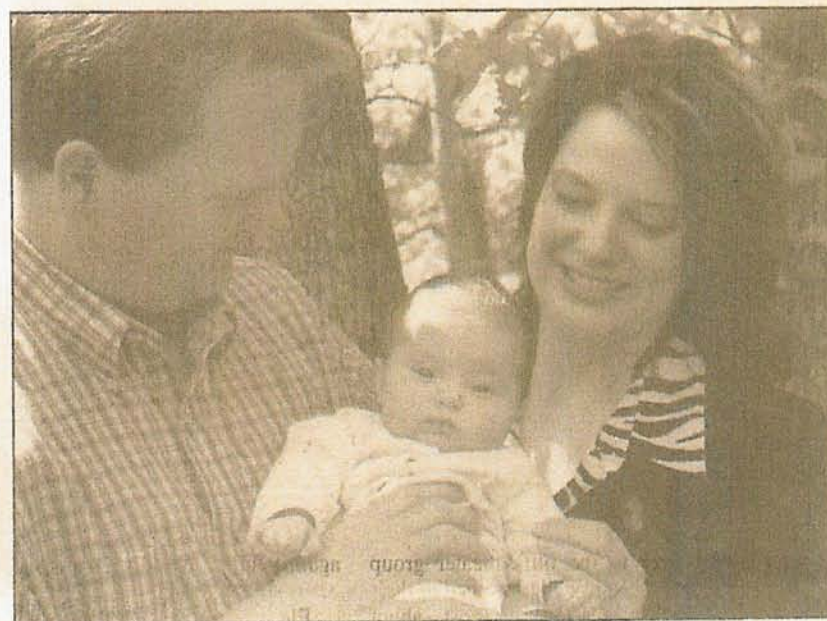
"We were so ready for it," Sheri said. "We had been through all the things we wanted to do as a married couple."

"We have experienced every drop of joy like we never could have five years ago."

The Dennys have day-dreamed about the various activities their daughter can one day enjoy and the life they will now be able to share with her.

"We don't know that chiropractic care can help everyone, but some people it has proven there are links to helping," she said. "So if that's the case for other people, what a miracle for them too."

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Craig and Sheri Denny cherish their daughter, Jalie Brook Denny, outside their Alvarado home.

Staff photo/
Cayla Smith