

## THE PETERSEN FAMILY

CARTHAGE, MISSOURI



*Alexa Petersen was born two months early on June 19, 2008, and weighed 2 lbs. 5 oz. After first deciding not to stay at Ronald McDonald House, after a few days, Alexa's parents (Melissa and Trevor) changed their minds, having experienced the exhaustion of driving back and forth every day from Carthage to be with their baby in the NICU. They stayed 41 days.*

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We were amazed at all the volunteer service that was given at the house. We hardly had to worry about cooking, as volunteers almost daily came and fixed meals for us. But probably the best part of the house was the camaraderie and love we felt there from the volunteers and other families like us. We made friends with other families staying there that also had children in the NICU. Although we were very excited to take our little girl home, we were sad to leave our new friends at the house behind.” – Melissa Petersen

