



*Taylor's Way:
A Father's Very Special Relationship with His Son*

If you are reading this book, you are probably asking yourself, why is this man writing this book and what can I possibly gain from reading it? Well, that is a very good question, so let me try my best to answer it.

I am a Dad of a special needs child who has advanced cerebral palsy, severe mental retardation and autism, who is an “adult” but functions at a 1-year old level. As I write this forward on my relationship with my son, Taylor (who turned 18 years old this year), I feel nervous and anxious, and maybe scared. Ok, I am really scared for him (18 chronologically, not in mental capacity) and the hundreds of thousands of children who exist in our society today. Yes, there are many, wonderful organizations, state and local governmental bodies, companies and individuals who are doing everything they can to help...but, unfortunately, they cannot keep pace with growing needs from this underserved population. Truthfully, it seems overwhelming, but not without hope.

What I want you to take away from this book is that many things have impacted my views on our lives, how to build a family, how to engage the special needs community, understanding how my relationship with Taylor was formed and how it continues to grow and those external groups and others that have shaped my past and on-going views. It is a nice chronology by month of some of the special events and activities that have formulated Taylor. Those same events also show how I have grown as a Dad, or at least I hope you see that. Finally, I believe *TAYLOR'S WAY* is also about where, if you are a special needs parent, that you

might go for on-going support and resources. The book reads like a casual conversation, but I inject a lot of my personal feelings and emotions about all these subjects. Perhaps unlike any other book that you read, it is written directly from my son's personal journals and from my heart.

My sincere wish is that this book will be an inspiration to all that read it.

Happy reading.

Christopher L. Myers
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