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Thank you for this opportunity.

I'm going to start by saying I in no way blame Ashley for the death of our son.

Noah's death was a very sad and tragic accident. And I know Ashley is heart broken and shattered over the loss of our son. I also know if she could she would

take his place. Ashley has always been a great mother putting her kids needs in front of her own. She always

worked a full time job to give her kids everything they needed. Noah never wanted for anything in his life. She would spend weeks planning the biggest birthday parties for him, start shopping months in advance for Christmas presents to make sure Noah got everything on his Christmas list. She never neglected Noah.

She always worked with him to make sure he was prepared and had the tools he needed for every stage of his life. Rather it be Colors, ABC's counting change or knowing his address and phone number Ashley was there to teach him. She worked with him every day. Ashley loves Noah very much.

It was her idea to sign Noah up for basketball and he loved that game so much. Because of her Noah never missed a single game or practice. And Noah never forgot to thank his mommy after every game for signing him up for basketball. Just so she could be apart of his school

life every single friday Ashley would go to Noah's school and have lunch with him. He would look forward to that all week ask her a hundred times if she was coming to school to eat with him. She did things like that because she wanted Noah to know that she loved him and that he was special. Noah loved his mommy beyond measure. Everywhere ashley went Noah insisted on going with her and she was always happy to take him. Ashley was very proud of Noah talked about him every chance she got. But one of the most important things in a child's life is love. And our home had so much love in it.

From the day our little boy was born all he ever knew was love. Even after Noah's sister was born

Noah was never jealous cause he knew there was more than enough love to go around and because he knew that. Noah was a great and sweet big brother to his sister.

Noah knew no hate. He knew no pain in his life. If you ask anyone that ever knew Noah they would say he was the sweetest most unique kid I have ever known. Even his pre-school teacher fell

in love with him. After he moved on from her class she wanted to be apart of his life. She came to all his birthday parties that we had for him at the park

bare him gifts at christmas and we

always had to stop by her house on

halloween. She would say Noah is just

so sweet and unique she just cant

help but love him. Ashley also did all

the small things that only moms do.

Things like let him sleep with her when

he was sick. or reading his favorite

books to him over and over again till

he fell asleep. or making sure his

night-light was on before she turned

his bedroom light out. She did all

the little things that go unnoticed till later in life when you look back on childhood. and say my mom really loved me. But like everyone in the world Ashley is not perfect. She did for awhile have the demon of addiction on her back. But her kids never not one time went without because of that addiction. And for her kids she got help by joining the suboxone program. And she did amazing in the program. It changed her whole life. Even her doctor would tell ashley how proud of her she was. The suboxone program is amazing for people that want to overcome their demon. It's life changing and Ashley excelled in the program. Me her doctor, Her counselor were all so proud of her and I could tell Ashley was proud of herself. On March 22 me and ashley ~~decided~~^{made} the worst decision of our lives. We left our kids at home while I got a ride to work. I take full responsibility for that mistake cause it was me that had to go to work it was

me who couldn't drive and it was me who felt guilty for dragging my kids out into the cold at six in the morning. I thought by letting them stay home I was doing them a favor. I now know that what I did was no favor at all but a crime and I take full responsibility for the actions of that morning. It was the first and only time we had ever done that. But what I want you to know above all else is our kids were very loved. Noah had everything a kid could ever want. Noah was a mommy's boy and I loved that about him cause I to know how easy it is to love Ashley. The public, the web pages and the RA have all tried to paint a ugly picture of Ashley. A picture that is far from the true Ashley. She is not the monster they claim she is. They have tried to define a person they have never known by one mistake. But I have been with Ashley for 16 years that's half of my life. And Ashley is nothing like

the person that they try and make her out to be. Ashley is a kind and loving person who always put her kids first in life. Showed her kids everyday that she loved them. Noah was a very smart 5 year old and that was because ashley loved to work with him. Noah knew that if he set his mind to it there was nothing he couldn't do. Ashley taught him that. Ashley loves her kids very much and would do anything for them. These things I say are the real ashley the Ashley that I know. I wouldn't trade Ashley for anyone in the world. And I am happy and proud that she is the mother of my children. I thank God everyday for the family he gave me. I will love ashley for the rest of my life. And in closing I would ask you to look at the whole Ashley. The real ashley. Ashley is a unique and amazing person just like our son Noah was.

Paul
Thomas