

Testimonial #1 -C. L. Dolan

Miss Tish was a God-send for me and my family. If it not had been for her involvement in our family, who knows where we would be now. I owe so much to her and her phenomenal work.

We first became acquainted with Letitia Stanton (Miss Tish) while stationed at Naval Air Station in Sigonella, Sicily, Italy. As part of the early intervention program offered, we had our son (Patrick), who was just over one year old, evaluated for his development. Even though Patrick was determined to be at or above age-level in most areas, he showed marked delays in both gross motor and verbal/expressive communication skills. Re-evaluation a few months later confirmed his delays. As there was no speech/language pathologist on staff at the time, Patrick initially only received physical therapy. After a few months the new speech/language therapist was on staff. This was Miss Tish. She immediately went to work with us and Patrick, ensuring he was given extra help because of the severe delay he exhibited in communication. (At nearly two years old, he still had not said one word.)

Miss Tish not only worked with Patrick, she educated my husband and me on the methods/techniques she was using. She thoroughly explained everything she did and was doing, and ensured we would be equipped to help our son for life. She also recommended some fantastic resources for us to peruse. Her knowledge is exceptional. This has paid great rewards, especially since we currently reside in a state that will not provide services for our son (since we have chosen to educate him at home); they will only provide services in his IEP if the child is enrolled in public/government schools. Since we were so thoroughly trained by Miss Tish, we have been able to assist Patrick, and he, although still exhibiting a delay, is effectively

communicating on his own. She helped us help Patrick without coddling him; it was a painful struggle for me at times, but her encouragement made it bearable. She was personally and professionally involved, and showed genuine concern for our entire family.

Additionally, Miss Tish also ensured our daughter (although 18 months younger) was involved in Patrick's therapy/treatment. Through involving Patrick's baby sister as well, the entire family was on board with respect to helping Patrick.

While working with Patrick, Miss Tish made some observations which ultimately resulted in Patrick's early diagnosis of Autism. Another therapist may not have been so observant, and for this I am most grateful. Patrick's diagnosis resulted in his receiving specialized care in the schools when we first returned to the United States.

I will be eternally grateful that we had the professional assistance of Miss Tish. She will always hold a special place in my heart, and I don't think I could ever thank her enough for being there for us, all of us.

C. L. Dolan