

## Baby delivered with help over the phone

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Baby delivered with help over the phone

Father is still running on adrenaline after delivering baby at home

(NECN: Josh Brogadir, Charlestown) - A truly special delivery for a Massachusetts couple.

Labor pains turned into the real thing, their baby girl born in the comforts of home.

Of course, that was not the plan.

There's a great ending to this, and to think they used to deliver babies at homes all the time.

Perhaps it was fitting to be born in an old historic home in Charlestown.

Meet 12 hour old Caroline Hafer with her mom Susanne.

Now meet the guy who delivered the baby, who, by the way, also happens to be the baby's dad, Zach.

"I'd just seen (Michael) Ryder score the overtime goal. We're talking, my wife are having a normal night," Zach Hafer said.

And he thought Bruins overtime was stressful, having no idea what was about to happen next with his family.

Let's set the stage - late Thursday night at their home in Boston's historic Charlestown neighborhood, his wife in labor.

"It went up from a 3 to a 10. And she said, I am going to have this baby right now," Zach said.

In desperation, Zach calls friend and neighbor Wendy Cloutier to come over to help.

"I walk in and Susanne was ready to go. She was on the floor and she looked like it was coming very soon," Cloutier said.

Then Zach calls 911, with his wife Susanne about to deliver, to ask the EMT dispatcher if he should make a dash to the hospital - or if the medics should instead come to the house.

"He was totally calm, he was reassuring. The thing that I kept saying is, I can't get this wrong. That's really what was going through my mind. Once I saw the head it was, we don't have any other options right now," Zach said.

Six minutes later, Caroline was born on a yoga mat on the living room rug, whisked away by Boston EMS to Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Now one day later, big sister Leah, baby Caroline, Mom, and the delivery guy, who they call Dad, are all doing well.

"I really think I had the easy job last night. I was here listening to a trained professional on the phone. It was an uncomplicated birth and so, she really, I think, had the much harder and challenging job," Zach added.

He learned the right things to say - well done.

Zach, who is a lawyer, far from a doctor by the way, says all told it was only a 16 minute labor start to finish after Susanne's water broke.

We tried to interview EMT dispatcher Chris Johnson.

He wasn't available, he has to do the overnight shift, starting again, at 11pm, likely not helping deliver any babies over the phone tonight.

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