

# Spencer P. Herley

## A Wonderful Young Gentleman

Hi to all!

Before getting into transition from school to “beyond school”, we thought we would give you a quick, running history on our son. Spencer is 22 years old and lives at home with us. He has fine motor & gross motor delays, moderately-severe hearing loss and is introverted (like his dad). He continues to mature & make progress and likes to be involved around others, although not necessarily in direct conversation with them. He loves to text or email though! So development continues to march forward!



**Spencer at age 8 yrs.**

The Orange Unified School District has an adult transition program for kids that are out of high school, until age 22. So he has done that for the past three years. Some classroom, but primarily focused on life skills and mobility. Their mobility program is impressive as Spencer can now take a bus anywhere around town, even into other cities, and make it back just fine.

He is now attending “college”, which is sponsored through the community college system with several of his friends. Monday & Wednesday’s is a banking & finance class. While Friday’s is a basic cooking class (6 hrs), where they plan out the meal, go shop for it, come back & prepare it and then eat!

This is working best for him at this point in time, but we really struggle with what work scenario will work best for him longer term. We are concerned about where he will be safe (due to the hearing & response delays). We want him to feel important and fulfilled, yet not overly tax him. So quite frankly, we are still at a loss here! But we are early in this transition and

not worried about having to figure it all out tomorrow.

In summary, God has given us a very special person, who has required extraordinary amounts of time, energy and TLC. But it has taught us to be thankful for every “normal” thing God gives us. It’s taught us to treasure all the effort poured into him, yet makes us sad for the “normal” parents who don’t value their kids. You have to invest!

*Below, is a note composed by Spencer and unedited by us - thought you would enjoy seeing how he composes (and hates punctuation!!).*

Wishing you all well,  
Phil & Le Ann Herley

My name is Spencer im 22 years old I graduated from Adult Transition Program now I attend college 3days a week I take the city bus to and from college I still see some of my friends from Transition I like to watch tv, listen to music, and go to some sports events like Football, Basketball and Baseball I enjoy spending time with my family I hope you like hearing about me take care.

Love,  
Spencer Herley



**Spencer today**