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#### The Goodness of America

# Formula Brigade

When Shannon Bird of Alpine, Utah, found herself without any means of feeding her newborn baby girl, she turned to her only other option: 911. Thankfully, the dispatcher and Lone Peak Police Department came through for her.

It was 2 a.m. on January 28 when Shannon attempted to breast-feed her six-week-old daughter and discovered that her milk had dried up. The baby was hungry and impatiently waiting for food, but Shannon did not have any formula to supplement the baby's food.

Shannon couldn't leave the house at that hour of the morning to get formula. She has four other children — all of whom were sleeping at the time, and one of whom had a broken leg — and her husband was away on a business trip.

Seemingly out of options, Shannon tried her final resort: 911.

"I've been calling neighbors and no one will answer," she told the dispatcher, according to an audio file obtained by KSL-TV (Salt Lake City).

Shannon's desperation and disbelief was evident in her conversation with the dispatcher. "I've never been in this predicament ever. My milk just literally dried out. This is my fifth kid and this has never happened," she said, tearfully.

Officers with the Lone Peak Police Department were sent to Shannon's house and arrived with a gallon of milk they'd picked up from the grocery store. Of course, when they arrived at Shannon's house and realized the baby was just an infant, they knew milk would not suffice. The officers then went back to the store for proper infant formula.

"That's the same stuff we gave my daughter when she was first born, so hopefully it doesn't upset her stomach," said Officer Brett Wagstaff in audio captured on the officer's body cam.

## **Baby Shower Onboard (and Baby Too!)**

First-time parents Caren and Dustin Moore dove into parenthood, taking their adopted eight-day-old baby girl on an airplane from where they adopted her in Colorado to their home in California. But thankfully for the Moores, not only was the ride smooth and without incident, but they received an impromptu and lovely baby shower from the passengers and flight crew, CBS News reported.

"With clearance to return home to California, my wife carried our precious bundle, while I offered numerous apologies to passengers while maneuvering the aisle with 4 bags," Dustin recalled in a February 9 Twitter thread. "About mid-flight, our daughter awoke and politely informed us she wanted a new diaper."

Curious about the young and precious little bundle onboard, one of the flight attendants, Jenny, asked Dustin why they were traveling with such a small child. When Dustin told her that the baby had just been adopted, things unfolded quickly.

According to Dustin, another attendant, Bobby, then approached the little family to greet them and learn more about the baby's adoption. When that exchange was over, the new parents thought nothing





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more of it. To their astonishment, however, Bobby then made an announcement on the plane's intercom system and the entire plane erupted in applause.

Before the Moores knew it, nearly every passenger on board had written the couple handwritten notes of encouragement, at the suggestion of the flight attendants. The crew then read their favorites of the approximately 60 notes over the plane's intercom. One note read, "Make time for date night." Another read, "Always tell her you love her."

Later, Bobby and Jenny revealed what compelled them to make a celebration out of the event. They told the Moores that they had recently gotten married, and another crew of flight attendants did the exact same thing for them on their honeymoon flight. As it was something they would never forget, they wanted to do something similar for the Moores. They asked the Moores to one day pay that kindness forward.

Dustin's Twitter thread detailed just how much the kindness they were shown meant to him and his wife. "What all of those perfect strangers and attendants did not know was the emotionally tender state of two brand-new parents," wrote Dustin. "Parents who — after 9 years of trying — had been blessed with their first child. Parents who felt scared, but determined in their new role."

"The outpouring of love from that flight, brought on by the actions of two thoughtfully observant flight attendants... it exceeds my ability to describe what it meant to us. How much those wings and written notes uplifted two new parents determined to love their new daughter."

The Moores have placed the notes in a scrapbook that they intend to pass on to their daughter.

## Rose Rush for Valentine's Day

Twenty-nine-year-old Seth Stewart of Spokane, Washington, has made it his mission to deliver hundreds of roses to widows, military wives and significant others, and single women on Valentine's Day, and has been doing so for the last nine years, CNN reported.

Stewart and his brothers maintain a running list of all the women and mothers in his area to whom they deliver flowers each year, and they ask Facebook readers ahead of Valentine's Day to send them a list of additional women who should be added to the list.

When he initially began doing this in 2011, he would ask that requests come in via text or e-mail, but now the entire endeavor is run through the brothers' "Rose Rush" Facebook page and is crowd-funded through GoFundMe. Senders can request roses to be delivered to the special women free of charge, and may even include personal messages explaining why the recipient is getting the rose.

Stewart's idea has become so popular that he has been forced to hire drivers to help him distribute more than 500 roses a year on February 14 throughout Spokane.

But for Stewart, it's a labor of love.

"Every single year we do this, there are always one or two women who break down sobbing because it means so much to them," Stewart says.

— Raven Clabough



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