

## **Ian's Words**

Firstly I'd like to thank you all for attending today.  
The number of you here shows just how many peoples lives one little boy has touched.

When we first found out that Samuel was poorly and would not get better,  
we thought our lives had crashed in around us.  
We were told our little boy was to be taken away from us almost straight away,  
but Samuel had other ideas.  
He wanted to see something of the world and to get to know his parents, in order to  
do this he had to fight on, if only for a short while.

Helen and I consider ourselves to be incredibly lucky.  
By the strength of our son we have had the opportunity  
to do what parents do  
To Love him,  
to cuddle him,  
to feed and change him,  
to take him for walks,  
and if only for a short while to watch him grow

Although Samuel's time with us has been cut short,  
We still have these experiences to look back on and remember.

We will also never forget his infamous spikey hair, how much he enjoyed his baths  
and the surprised look on his face as we washed his hair.

Many people are far less lucky than this,  
so we consider ourselves to be fortunate.  
Samuel is a very special little boy and we feel privileged to have been part of  
his life

Samuel was also a very lucky little person.  
A good friend said to Helen just a few weeks ago, that if Love  
could make Samuel better, Samuel would have been fixed  
ten times over.  
Samuel was loved by so many people they are far too numerous to mention, but  
needless to say, the love of  
The parents and family  
The wonderful nurses and doctors who cared for him  
Our friends who have attended today  
The hundreds of people who have sent us messages and the thousands who have  
read his diary,  
would have fixed him 100 or 1000 times over if this had been possible.

If I was to read out the final entry in Samuel's diary,  
it would tell of the wonderful time Samuel had in those few short weeks.  
How he did not suffer, was not in pain, was constantly loved and cuddled and  
enjoyed everything babies do, experiencing new things and playing with their family.

If you find you are thinking of Samuel and feeling sad,  
ask yourself who you are sad for, Baby Samuel or those he left behind.  
If you are sad for Samuel think back just a few moments to the words in his diary  
and you will realise you don't need to be sad for him.  
If you are sad for those he left behind, including yourself,  
please remember you have the opportunity to to make things better for these  
people, whether that be helping others or treating yourself,  
let Samuel's memory be your motivation.