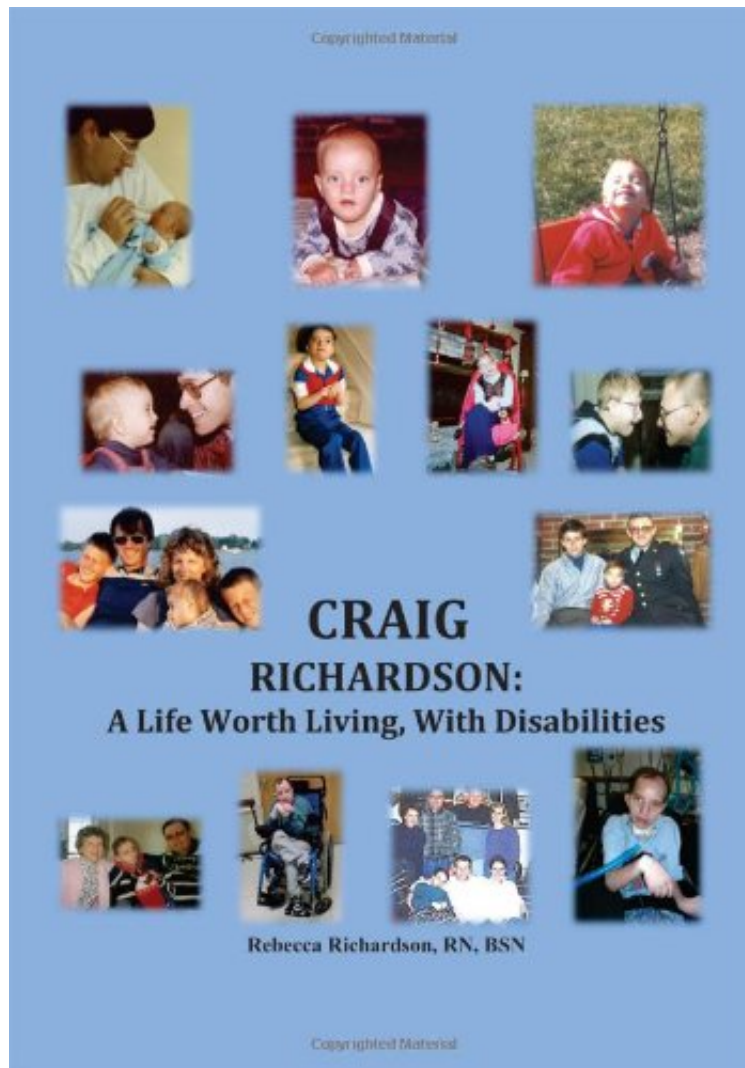


## Craig Richardson: A Life Worth Living, with Disabilities

*Rebecca Richardson Rn Bsn*

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**Rebecca Richardson Rn Bsn : Craig Richardson: A Life Worth Living, with Disabilities** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Craig Richardson: A Life Worth Living, with Disabilities:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thought provoking By Irene Shepherd This book is not only heart warming, but poignant and informative. I don't have children but I volunteer for people with learning disabilities, so can only imagine the sheer frustration, intense love, heartache that the author and her family endured. I smiled a lot, but also shed a few tears while reading this. I am not a great reader, but I was captivated and finished it in double quick time. Can't recommend it enough, I felt like I was reading fiction, but had to keep reminding myself that this was

indeed the realities of coping with a profoundly disabled child. I kind of fell in love with Craig, and reckon I would have liked him. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I love this book!! By Leanne Yates I also have a son with Wolf-Hirschhorn Syndrome. Becky was one of my first contacts when we found out my son had this syndrome. We also have struggled with the seizures, small stature, feeding issues and he is also non-verbal. My son will be 25 yrs old this August. He reminds me so much of Craig. We were lucky to meet Craig at the first conference. We are also looking forward to the 20th yr conference this summer in July. Thank you Becky for all you have done for our children and for this GREAT book.. Leanne Yates

**CRAIG RICHARDSON: A Life Worth Living, With Disabilities** Born in 1981, Craig Richardson was soon diagnosed with a chromosomal deletion, and its grim prognosis. Within a year, he had stopped breathing, and began having devastating seizures. In this account, his mother, a registered nurse who had worked in neonatal intensive care units, relates how their family coped with the exhausting challenges during Craig's twenty-five year life span, with medical insight, and the quirky humor which helped them survive emotionally through the years. In 1983, she began networking families with Craig's rare syndrome, Wolf-Hirschhorn or 4P-; the beginning of the 4P- Support Group which has connected over 500 families, as a national organization. The book promotes the author's belief that every couple needs to pro-actively work to strengthen their marriage for crises that occur, especially those with difficult situations. In their marriage, they have coped with four cross-country moves as an FBI family, numerous prolonged hospitalizations, the balancing of the needs of three uniquely different sons, with their launch into adulthood, and "The Final Frontier: Retirement." The memoir details Craig's birth and his death processes, and the years of coping with frequent crises, constant emotional stresses and the uncertainty of the future. A strong faith in God shared by the author and her husband was their source of needed support in their many "Hours of Need." The book addresses the contemporary social issues of abortion, quality of life, National Health Insurance, euthanasia, and the potential for "Death Panels" to evaluate, and possibly eliminate, those whose lives are adjudicated as not worth living.