Weekend at G-Maâ€™s Part 1: 4th of July

Description

Okay, itâ€™s getting back to normal at home after our extended stay over the weekend. And by normal, I mean constant chaos from a mobile baby on the verge of teething. We keep blaming her fussiness on the possibility of her cutting a tooth, but have yet to actually see a tooth.

I guess since Going Mom is still breastfeeding, sheâ€™s probably not trying to rush those chompy incisors too much!

Our 4th of July weekend started with us frantically gathering random things around our house and putting them in the car to take to G-Maâ€™s (i.e. packing) all while doing our best to manage Avery and give her the attention she *needed*.

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Yes, attention, I NEED it!

I credit my awesome wife for tending to Avery most of the time and Iâ€™m not sure what I would do without my beautiful partner in ~~crime~~ parenthood.

Eventually, we had everything packed, including all of the cloth diapers we own, and were on our way to G-Maâ€™s. With virtually little to no traffic (uncommon for I-35W), we made it in around 40 minutes and were exchanging hugs with G-Ma and her boyfriend Paul.

Avery enjoyed a short nap on the drive and G-Ma wasted no time getting her Avery hug time in. But now that sheâ€™s a crawler, Avery was anxious to get down and explore new territory.

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Our long-time friends and neighbors just a few houses down always have a 4th of July party, so we were going to head down there to swim in their pool and watch the fireworks at night.

G-Ma lives in the country where anyone can shoot off their high powered artillery. Kelley and I were excited for this because it would be the first time Avery gets to experience fireworks. #StupidNewParents

After a failed attempt at getting Avery to nap, we walked down to Tim and Melissaâ€™s, our friends/neighbors, to go for a swim. I just finished an intense workout in the heat, and was in yearning to jump in!

We all spent a few hours relaxing in the pool and having a few drinks as Avery made her rounds.

Tough to please, but she kinda smiles if you tickle her a little. But not much!

She started to get cranky, even after Kelley fed her, so we decided to go back and try for another nap before heading back down to eat and watch fireworks that evening.

Avery had different plans; how about no nap and just staying up with everyone else. She had 10 minutes of this, which looked promising, but then woke up crying.

Suckers, Iâ€™ll wake in precisely 10 minutes!!!

I guess she really wanted to see G-Ma! Despite her resisting sleep, Avery kept showing all signs of being tired, but she remained stubbornâ€¦and awake.

Caught with a yawn.

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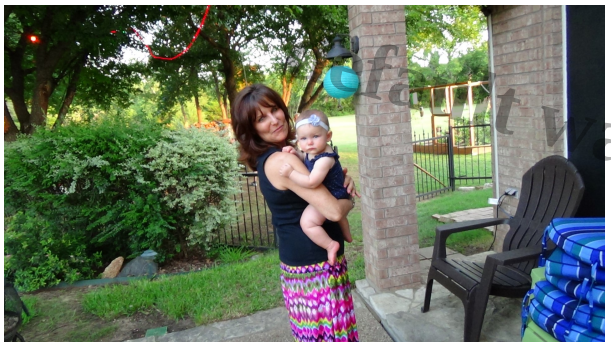
With the sun starting to set and fireworks on the mind, we walked back to our kind hosts to enjoy food and fireworks. But first, we tried another picture with G-Ma in hopes of a smileâ€¦fail.

Tim and Melissa have 4 boys with the oldest being Uncle Prestonâ€™s age and the youngest just about to graduate high school. Every year, for as long as I can remember, they would buy massive amounts of fireworks and always put on a big show. But this year, they said they were going to keep it low keyâ€¦.

Ummm, yeah, not sure what happened there.

Maybe we have different views of what â€œlow keyâ€• means, but that looked like a lot to me. Oh, and that was just what they could fit in the wagon, there were more fireworks waiting to be loaded.

After eating grilled chicken and a colossal salad topped with their homemade salsa using veggies from their organic garden, we impatiently waited for it to get dark enough to have the fireworks begin.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G-Ma holding down the fort/crabby baby.

Yes, â€œimpatientlyâ€• because we had an increasingly fussy baby who needed to get some quality sleep!

But not before we made her wait to see bright lights and hear loud booms. Both great things to introduce to a sleepy baby, right?

Finally, the fireworks had begun, and instead of us watching as they exploded in the air, Going Mom and I were glued to Averyâ€™s face to see her expression. G-Ma boldly held her as she actually showed a little sign of enjoyment!

The loud sounds and bright displays of light had her attention, but she hardly reacted as they went off. Not quite what we were expecting, but I guess thatâ€™s what happens after a long day of no sleep but

a lot of swimming and having a fun time with G-Ma and Paul.

We hung around a little longer just to let â€œthe experienceâ€• set in before Kelley and I returned to G-Maâ€™s for Averyâ€™s bath and bed time.

Probably the last smile of the night.

As we walked back, it sounded as if we were in the middle of a warzone with the fireworks shattering in brilliant displays of light; not the best setting for a babyâ€™s bed time.

With our white noise and a fan set on the highest setting, we hoped for the best as Avery was laid down for the night. There were fireworks still going off past midnight, but Avery actually slept through it all.

Kelley and I had to share the same room with Avery, which was difficult to try the whole â€œlet them cry 10 minutesâ€• thing, but we survived to speak of it today! Iâ€™ll share the day after in tomorrowâ€™s post, and will leave you with what we woke up to first thing the next day.

How was your 4th of July?

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Do you have any babies that got to see fireworks for the first time, or remember when your kids experienced them?

Date Created
2014/07/08