

## FACES & NAMES

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### A gift from the heart for Michael Jobe

Michael Jobe has had the rare opportunity to see a lifelong wish come true, and chances are he'll never be quite the same.

Jobe, 28, of Cromwell, has long been a fan of famed actress Julie Andrews — ever since he first saw “The Sound of Music” as a little boy and loved it. Now, he watches it at least once every couple of months.

In November, Tammy Jobe contacted a foundation called “Gifts from the Heart for Downs,” which grants wishes for people who, like Jobe, have Down syndrome. The group was founded in January 2010 by Kimberley Adams of Tillson, N.Y.

“When Tammy told me about it,” confessed Jobe’s mother, Sue, “I said, ‘That will never happen. Julie Andrews is huge.’”

But in May, Adams called Sue Jobe and said, “You’ll never guess who’s coming to the Twin Cities .... Julie Andrews!”

Andrews would be at the Barnes and Noble at Har-Mar Mall to promote the children’s book she and her daughter wrote, “The Very



Michael Jobe enjoys his time meeting with Julie Andrews (seated) as the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. Accompanying him are family members (back, from left) Sue Jobe, Tammy Jobe, Lilly Wiklund, Jonal Wiklund, Wayne Jobe and Ashley Jobe. The Gifts From the Heart for Downs Foundation arranged the visit, which took place at a bookstore in the Twin Cities.

Photo courtesy of the Jobe family.

Fairy Princess.”

Adams arranged a meeting of more than the usual 10 seconds-per-book-signing for the Jobe family.

“She kept pursuing it, and finally she called me back and said we’d get 10 minutes with Julie Andrews after the book signing was over and we could take two pictures,” Sue Jobe said.

When at long last the time came to go in and meet Andrews, Michael Jobe walked up to her and said, “Hi Julie, nice to meet you.”

And then he turned over her hand and kissed it.

“Literally, when you see her, she’s still just beautiful,” said Sue Jobe, “though I believe she’s going to be 76 years old.”

While they were getting organized for the photos, Sue Jobe said to Andrews, “I have to tell you, Michael absolutely loves ‘The Sound of Music.’ He watches it all the time.”

As they were parting, Andrews said, “Come back and see me sometime.”