## A VERY SPECIAL CHILD

A handicapped child brings problems, worries, and joy to a family and others outside the family. In previous articles, we've shown how these extraordinary human beings can be of great help not only to their family but also to their friends.

Many years ago, a friend found the following poem online and sent it to my wife. Edna Massimilla wrote it. It says everything that a parent who has a child with any disability would like to hear.

## "Heaven's Very Special Child"

A meeting was held quite far from earth. It's time again for another birth. Said the angels to the Lord above, this special child will need much love.

*His progress may seem very slow, accomplishments he may not show. And he'll require extra care from the folks he meets way down there.* 

He may not run, or laugh, or play; his thoughts may seem quite far away. In many ways he won't adapt; and he'll be known as handicapped.

So let's be careful where he's sent, we want his life to be content. Please Lord, find parents who, will do this special job for you.

They will not realise right away, the leading role they're asked to play. But with this child sent from above comes stronger faith and richer love.

And soon they'll know the privilege given in caring for this gift from heaven. Their precious charge so meek and mild is heaven's very special child.

Author: Edna Massimilla This poem says much in a very simple way. There are real problems caring for these children, all causing parents and families real worries, but the joy they give to their family and friends is unique and special.

People tend to think that these children are sad and miserable. That is not usually the case. Their family has worries, but these children provide much love and what is called infectious laughter. I believe God sends them to do special services that are not always obvious.

Parents of handicapped children usually have real experiences of seeing how their handicapped child has changed the lives of people who thought they had significant problems; this was because the child's example of living with a handicap did, in a strange way, show them how to cope effectively.

Many a handicapped child has been responsible for all the family having a great sense of humour, charity, and compassion. The above poem by Edna Massimilla says it all.

We all know that God never does anything without a purpose, so never despair when you know of or see a handicapped person. We may or may not see the purpose, but because of God's unrelenting love and compassion, it will be there and will always benefit one or more people.