On a hot day in July, Natasha and her grandma drove up the mountain to Kiwanis Camp. Natasha had been to camp several times before and always loved it, but she was still nervous on the first day. Soon, she would meet the counselors and campers who would be in her group this year. The excitement that comes right before arriving at camp will give just about anyone a big, happy case of the jitters.

When asked what she thinks of camp, Natasha exclaims, "Camp is fun!" Natasha seems to have fun every day of her life. She lives with her grandma, Darlene, in Salem. She works at Rockwest Training Company. At work, Natasha practices job and daily living skills. Her favorite chore to do at home is the laundry. She does all of the household laundry.

Natasha has several hobbies, including riding her bike and bargain shopping. But, Natasha’s passion is music. Natasha habitually totes her CD player and headphones so she can listen to music all day. She likes a variety of music, including country, pop, rap, and Christian rock. Natasha’s face perks up when she hears a favorite song, and she likes to sing along. Her whole life, she has found music to be inspiring. Natasha was born prematurely and had to spend some time in hospital care. One day, there was a radio playing next to her bassinet. Baby Natasha proceeded to wiggle her way to the side of the bed closest to the radio, and Darlene as the tiny, delicate baby was visible soothed by the music. Aside from being the moment Natasha discovered her passion for music, this event also earned her the nickname, “Wiggleworm”.

On holidays, birthdays and other special occasions, Natasha visits with her extended family. For one of Natasha's birthdays, they celebrated at Chuck E. Cheese's. Natasha loved eating pizza, playing games, listening to music, and most of all, opening presents. Year round, Natasha leads a fulfilling life with gratifying work, leisure, family and friends. That said, an Important highlight of each year is the week she spends at Camp.
This year, Natasha was more than content watching and cheering on fellow campers as they partook, which was perfectly okay. Putting on a helmet and a harness was plenty of adventure for Natasha. She was proud of herself, and everyone else was proud, too. At this camp, every single person pushes their personal limits, but it's okay to push gently in a way that feels safe. In regards to her someday attempting the obstacles, she promised with an unconvincing smirk, "Maybe next year."

However, some parts of camp can bring on jitters that are less happy and more scary. Before we even arrived at the famous Adventure Course, Natasha declared with enthusiasm, "I don't do that stuff!" Natasha was referring to the course's intrepid obstacles, including the Flying Squirrel, the Zipline and the Stream Crossing. Her counselors tried to talk Natasha into attempting the obstacles, but she stayed coolly resolute: "I don't do that stuff!"

However, Natasha eventually did make a major breakthrough. At the corral, Natasha would have been content to just pet and brush the horses. Yet, after much encouragement from counselors, Natasha moved slowly and cautiously up the mounting platform. Even though she was jittering with fear, Natasha sat on a horse! The experience was frightening, exhilarating and even spiritual to Natasha.
Enjoying Every Moment

After her heartbeat and nerves calmed, Natasha said something intriguing about how she coped with the challenging feat. She stated plainly with a big smile, "I saw Momma up there." Natasha's beloved mother passed away about ten years ago. A few weeks after camp ended, Darlene confirmed that Natasha had said the same thing when telling about her achievement. Darlene doesn't quite know what her granddaughter means, but she says that Natasha occasionally reports that her mother helps her in times of great difficulty.

Everyone was amazed by Natasha's bravery. Sitting on the horse was one memorable moment from a fun week at camp. However, Natasha seemed to enjoy almost every moment of camp. Even at ordinary times during the daily routine, like mealtime and downtime, Natasha was having a great time. This is because Natasha simply loves being around friends. She likes to joke, laugh, and hang out. She loves camp because she gets to spend a week around happy, nice, and positive people, just like her.