

The History of This Cradle

October 2025

GDad's 79th Birthday

This cradle was designed and lovingly crafted by my grandfather, Marcus Tally Davis in the Spring of 1970. Granddaddy or "Great Pop" as he was called by our children, Scott and Sarah Jo, was a cabinet maker and auto body repairmen. He built the cradle at the request of my wife, Dale, in his workshop garage at 4713 Terrace R, Central Park, Birmingham, Alabama. Dale was pregnant with our son, Scott at the time. Scott was born at Vandenberg AFB, California on November 1970, and he was the first baby to use the cradle. The cradle was also used by Sarah Jo in Springfield, Virginia as she was born at Fort Belvoir, Virginia on December 1972. The cradle has traveled across our country from Alabama to California, back to Alabama, to New Jersey, to Florida, to Texas and now back to Alabama.

As a result of all the moves, the cradle had become in need of repair and I had it restored in September 2025 by Tommy Beard at Auburn Furniture Repair in Auburn, Alabama. The cradle is given to my grandson, Gabriel Marchio and his wife, Riley to celebrate the birth of their first child and my great grandson, Lawrence Gabriel Marchio on September 2025. My hope and prayer are that Gabriel and Riley will lovingly use the cradle to care for Law and future children and to preserve the cradle for future generations of the family. God Bless!

James Lawrence (Larry) Fillmer

GDad

