

Pooch Worries . . . Mother Laughs . . .
Clerk Becomes Midwife
By
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The midwife was a Chicago candy store clerk. The attendant was an anxious Dachshund.

And Mrs. Kay Mason, 26, just laughed her way through the delivery of her baby at her Cheyenne home last night.

The mother, wife of KFBC television staff announcer Bob Mason, the "Weatherman," and baby, 6 pound 13 ounce Karyl, were in fine shape today.

Not in such fine condition today were the still nervous father, a jittery dog, and the heroine of the hour, Mrs. Dorothy Dohra of Chicago, Mason's mother-in-law.

Mrs. Dohra, clerk at a Chicago candy store, arrived at the Cheyenne airport at 6:30 p.m. Monday to be with her daughter when the baby was born.

At about 9:03 p.m. Mrs. Dohra, who had never seen a baby born although she had two herself, delivered her healthy grandchild.

Mason said Mrs. Dohra had gotten into her night clothes and was talking with her grandson, Kevin, 5, when her daughter called from the bathroom.

She helped her daughter onto the closest bed, then placed hurried calls for an ambulance, doctor, and to Mason, who was at work at KFBC.

"She said she knew nothing about it," Mason said. "She said it was the first time she had seen a baby born."

Mason said after his mother-in-law called, he headed for the hospital, only to find everything ready and waiting, but no wife.

He was standing by the nurse's desk when the phone rang. It was his mother-in-law.

"The baby is here," she said.

It had been only minutes.

"I was sort of numb," Mason said. "I was frightened, worried about the baby and my wife."

Then his wife's doctor came in and the two headed for Mason's home, arriving just as the ambulance attendants were wheeling Mrs. Mason out of the house.

"Hi," she smiled up.

"She had a big smile, a huge smile," Mason said. "My mother-in-law said she laughed . . . She thought the whole situation was funny."

There was a problem with the family Dachshund which was very attached to Mrs. Mason.

He growled and kept jumping on the bed where Mrs. Dohra was frantically busy delivering the baby. She would take time to swat him away, but he would jump back on the bed again.

"He's attached to my wife quite a bit," Mason said of the concerned pooch.

Mason said before he knew it, he was back in the hospital where a nurse held up his new daughter for him to see, and talked with his wife a few minutes.

Mason said as he and his wife's doctor, Bane Travis, walked back in the hospital, the doctor quipped, "That's what you'd call natural childbirth."

"I didn't say anything," Mason said.

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**NOTE:** That article appeared on the front page of the Wyoming State Tribune newspaper on September 27, 1966. That afternoon, Paul Harvey announced the same information on his radio program. Karyl still has the original newspaper and a copy of the teletype from "The Paul Harvey Show."