

Joslin Diabetes Center
Medalist Program, Rm 359
One Joslin Place
Boston, MA 02215

This letter is to confirm the diagnoses of Type I diabetes for my brother, Alan Levine. I remember that it was the end of October, 1970 when he was diagnosed. He is 6 years younger than me and I was in the eighth grade. That morning, Alan complained of a stomach ache and wanted to stay home from school. My sister and I made fun of him because we thought he was faking illness because he didn't want to go to school.

Our mother was working at the time and I remember her saying that she was going to take him to the doctor's office and then to school.

I was surprised when I got home from school that day and our grandmother was there. She told us that Alan was in the hospital and that he was diagnosed with diabetes. Later, my mother said that after examining Alan the doctor asked to speak to her privately and told her that Alan needed to go to the hospital right away. He said that Alan was very close to being in a diabetic coma and if she had waited a few more days he could have died.

It was scary times for our whole family. When Alan came home from the hospital after 10 days our father gave him his daily insulin injections. We were told that we all had to

learn how to give him a shot and practiced on an orange. Eventually, he learned how to do it himself. It was a lot for a 7 year old.

I hope my memories help confirm his diagnosis 50 years ago. Sincerely,

Harriet Levine Hardy