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Fertility & Women's Health Center of Louisiana, Women's & Children's Hospital, and Sheridan Healthcare announced the birth of Hope Elizabeth Hughes, the first baby born as a result of the GIFT OF HOPE program. Hope Elizabeth was born April 14 at 6:46 p.m., weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces, and was 19" long. GIFT OF HOPE seeks to ease the high costs, both financially and emotionally, of infertility treatments for one couple per year who demonstrates both financial and medical needs for IVF. According to Resolve, the National Infertility Association, only a quarter of health care insurers offer coverage for infertility care. Depending on individual circumstances, IVF typically costs between $10,000 to $15,000 per cycle. As a result, as many as 50 percent of American couples who fail to conceive do not seek treatment due to financial reasons. Hope Elizabeth's parents, Laura and Terry Hughes of Lafayette, were the recipients of the GIFT OF HOPE 2006. The Hugheses were selected in May 2006 from more than 40 applications received from area couples seeking to be granted a free in vitro fertilization cycle in their efforts to conceive a child.