

Toomey Times

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 **David** and Jae's crew have been spending a lot of time at Thanksgiving Point, where the kids have made several friends. Recently, they have been meeting with the same ones almost weekly.



Ronan was baptized on the first Saturday of December. It was an exciting day for him.

David has been busy automating and building ham radios. Jae is finishing the year with a septoplasty with turbinate reduction on Dec 12. It could make Christmas interesting this year.



 **Jonathan** has had quite an adventure this year, starting with a long drive up to BYU-Idaho with just him and his ESA buddy, Geo. Jonathan loves solo road trips, and this one did not disappoint. Among the favorite road trip experiences were driving through a blizzard in the Wyoming mountains, taking in the beautiful scenery, and watching Geo roll around in the snow.

At BYU-Idaho, Jonathan has enjoyed gaining a stronger bond with Geo and teaching him practical tricks, like looking both ways before

crossing the street, which Geo now does without being prompted. Jonathan has learned a lot about being out on his own (beyond being on a mission), for instance, researching and applying for housing, how to pay utility bills, and learning to manage his time and energy better. He is majoring in Civil Engineering, but is looking into other majors.

Jonathan says he misses his family, but he enjoys nightly family scripture study with his family in Texas, via mobile phone. He also appreciated a visit from Heather and Holly this summer when they brought him his bed and a few more things for his current apartment.

 **Andrew**'s big milestone this year? He's survived 30 years! (Seriously, if you knew the Toomey boys, you would realize what an accomplishment this is.) He has enjoyed several concerts this year: Hozier, ELO, Billy Joel, and Stevie Nicks. He continues to enjoy working at the 13th floor haunted house. This is his third season with them—fun (side) job with wonderful people. Lulu continues to be a cutie and is living her best life. She likes to sit in the backyard for hours and chase any squirrels running along the fence, and it doesn't matter if it's great weather or snowing. (Must be the Siberian Husky in her blood.) Andrew has also enjoyed many visits from friends and family, getting to show them Chicago—visiting the museum, the beach



(especially Dog Beach), and other areas of the city.



Heather says, "This year brought a mix of joy and change." She welcomed two new female ferrets — Pegasus and Bueller (yes, Ferret Bueller, by Dad's request!) — joining Pabu in the family. Sweet Mochi passed away in early December, and we miss him dearly.

Heather also completed her Master-level Reiki practitioner certification, which in the Japanese system is Shinpiden. She visited Utah a couple of times and was able to spend meaningful time with her best friend. Heather's been writing fan fiction and role-playing stories with custom AI GPTs she created, which has been energizing and fun. She's still studying and planning for the Sudbury-style school she mentioned last year, now with a clearer vision of starting it in Okinawa, Japan, and reading books by serial entrepreneurs first.

Harold enjoyed a month-long vacation with Holly this summer. They traveled to Chicago to visit Andrew, then did a lot of family history and camping on the way back to Texas. First and foremost, Harold went from 250 lbs. to 180 lbs., mostly through diet and Wegovy. And to reclaim his youth, he purchased a mountain unicycle and plans on mastering it, as he did in junior high school. He's also been working as a Dallas Temple ordinance worker every Thursday with Heather and is an elders quorum counselor in our church ward. This year, he also finished his second bachelor's degree (BA) in mathematics at snuhu.edu. (This is on top



of his BS and MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering at BYU.) In 2026, Harold will begin working on his MS in Mathematics, which is a step toward working on his PhD in Mathematics. His retirement plan is to be a math professor at a university.

Currently, Harold tutors a dozen students every week in STEM: mostly calculus, physics, and cybersecurity. (Check out his 80+ free STEM cheat sheets on www.toomey.org/tutor.) He also teaches high school physics twice a week at Ancora Academy in McKinney. This is the same school where he taught high school chemistry last year, much like his father did in Nephi, Utah, where he met Marcia (Harold's mother).



Holly re-tore her right shoulder's rotator cuff, but this time it was a full tear. However, before she tore her rotator cuff, she happily succeeded in losing 73 lbs. in the last year-and-a-half, which has greatly reduced her back pain. She can now take short walks with Benny instead of using a scooter. Holly's favorite adventures this year have been three trips.



The first was a month-long road trip she took with Harold. They traveled from home in Texas up to Chicago, Illinois, to see Andrew. Sticking with the Toomey-Morrow tradition, some fun was had along the way, but visiting Andrew was the highlight of the trip. They enjoyed the dog beach with Andrew and Lulu, had a tremendous educational experience at the Griffin Museum of



2025 Quotes of the Year (Guess who said which phrase. Answers found on pg. 3):

1. "Verily, I say unto you—Geo get out of the garbage!"
2. "Confucius say I gotta go to the bathroom."
3. "Who needs a snake in my boot; I've got a ferret."
4. "You're here on earth to conquer your stupidity."
5. "I may be old and slow, but I can see when someone's trying to kill me."

Science and Industry, and took in every moment they could with Andrew. After Chicago, they headed to Indiana and Ohio, where they camped in our car tent and did some good old-fashioned family history research, trying to bust down a 40+ year old brick wall.

The second adventure found Holly and Heather towing a trailer of furniture from Texas to Idaho, visiting family, friends, and Salt Lake City's Family Search Center along the way. The final destination was Rexburg, where they delivered furniture to Jonathan for his new apartment and spent a couple of days with him and Geo. Holly and Heather headed back to Texas.

For a third adventure, in December, Holly, Harold, Heather, and Jonathan traveled to Utah for Ronan's baptism. Holly loves being able to visit with family and friends outside of Texas.

Our feelings about Christmas echo those of the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in their 2015 Christmas Message:

“We find the real joy of Christmas when we make the Savior the focus of the season. At this time, particularly, let us follow His example as we love and serve our fellowmen.

“Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is because we have found peace in the Savior’s teachings. It is the time we realize most deeply that the more love is expended, the more there is of it for others.”

**May you all have a very
Merry Christmas and an
amazing new year!**

*The Texas
Toomeys*



Contact Information:
4701 Forest Cove Dr.
McKinney, TX 75071

Harold (801) 830-9987
Holly (801) 830-9986



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Top to Bottom, and Left to Right: Lulu, Benny, Geo, Mochi, Pabu, Bueller, Pegasus.

Quotes of the Year Key: (1) Jonathan, (2) Holly, (3) Heather, (4) Jonathan, (5) Harold