

Hi Ya'll :)

Hope you are all doing well and have been enjoying the changing of the seasons, and all that God has blessed you with.

It's been a while since my last update and so much has been going on that I'll do my best to keep this short of a novel.

August turned out to be a lot of fun as I ended up in Cloquet, MN helping a lifelong friend build a garage for the community theater. I've never done a new structure as my work has always been remodels. I enjoyed all I learned as I lead a crew to build a 30'x 40' garage. What a fun challenge and experience.

After my time up north Hunter and I got to house sit and watch a friend's dog as they went on vacation. As I had extra time on my hands, they were able to come home to a freshly painted Living room. Hunter and Rocky seemed to have a love hate relationship and it was quite entertaining to watch an old dog (Hunter) try to teach a young dog (Rocky) doggie respect. They were a hoot to be with!

September saw me heading out to visit my grandson in Oregon. I was a bit Leery about pulling a trailer across the mountains but was assured that after all my truck issues last year that I indeed now had a truck that could do the job.... (it did I might add). Along the way through a group called Harvest Hosts I was able to stay with and meet several wonderful Hosts that open up their property for travelers to stay at. I also found this to be a good way to find areas of need as when I was in Wyoming sharing my story it was shared with me about fires that were caused by lightning. These fires burned hundreds of thousands of acres and in the process burned down all the livestock fencing. All this fencing needs to be replaced and if I hadn't been on a tight schedule this would have been a place to lend a hand.

The drive for the most part was wonderful, and I never had to drive in the rain. Every day was sunny and 80-90 degrees. There were however a few areas, where with me being afraid of heights, that got a bit intense. One of them being a bridge in Idaho which I hope I never see again. It was 1/4 mile long and hundreds of feet above the lake below. I was introduced to it by the sign just before crossing that said, "caution frequent high gusty winds" and there was a windsock hanging on it. The windsock wasn't moving thank God, but my heart rate soared higher than the mountains I was crossing as I drove down the middle of two lanes and prayed frantically all the way across.

On my first stop in Oregon, I had the honor of a visit from my nephew Terry. I hadn't seen him since he was probably 10-12 years old (he's now around 40). During our time together I learned that he has had a tough time throughout his life :(I also learned that one of his fondest memories was receiving a dinosaur for Christmas from me. I made me realize that that was probably one of the very few highlights in his memory. What was reaffirmed to me and sharing with you all is this....

Never underestimate the impact you have on the lives of others with what may seem like the simplest of words or gestures.

Off to Portland to see Matthew. Here is a young man I'm really proud of as he has ventured out into the world on his own. We had a couple of days to catch up, see where he worked and lived. Our highlight was going out for a burger and a beer where we spent 4 hours just catching up with each other. I had the opportunity to speak wisdom into his life and he was able to share many things with me. The one thing I will never forget was when he shared one of the things he admired about me was that no matter where I go 'I take a piece of everyone I know with me'. That brought a tear to my eye as thought of all of you being here with me. Thank you so much for your support, encouragement, friendship, and love. I love you all!!!!

Being on the west coast found me close to a ministry partner that I have only interacted with on-line. We have been meeting for 5 years, and Linda is one of the friends who has encouraged and supported me as I've made this latest transition in life. Linda asked if I'd ever thought of visiting Northern California. Next thing I know I'm headed towards the San Francisco area. One of the most beautiful drives a person can take is a drive through Oregon....just sayin. When I reached Linda and Jessie's place, I was greeted with awesome hospitality and the next thing I know is that were off to fulfill one of my bucket list items. We drove down the coast (which was stunning) to a park filled with giant redwoods. I've always wanted to see them, and I saw a tree that was 17' wide and over 200' tall. What a thrill that was. We ended up going out to dinner at a wharf and Linda and Jessie prayed a blessing over me, Hunter and my truck. It was wonderful to spend time getting to know someone in person that I'd only known online.

Look out Denver here I come. Next on the list was my trip to a golf course in Littleton, CO to honor my friend Larry's request to place his remains on the 13th hole. While in the area I was able to connect with Kevin and Kris Tjaden, friends I had met at Hosanna, we went out for a fun evening of catching up and dinner. The day of golf turned out to be very, very, very windy and I had a blast with two guys I was partnered up with. They were very supportive of my mission and there's no doubt they were meant to be part of it. It was quite the course, and, on several holes, we were greeted by deer as they wondered all about. The 13th hole was a par three that was downhill. Larry had never hit the green and neither did I :(I did find a nice resting place next to the base of a tree that overlooked the green. I saw it as a great final resting place for Larry to have a view of the green.

My final stop on the trip was in Omaha to visit the friend that I had met in Florida last year. Jim's his name and he was very instrumental in helping me through the rough time I had after Larry's passing last January. For some reason I was having a tough time connecting with him prior to my arrival. Come to find out he was in the hospital for what they thought was RSV. Turns out he has since been diagnosed with cancer :(As difficult as the timing seemed to be it actually worked out well as I was able to be there for him and help in many ways. He has his own pool business, and I was able to help close up pools for the season for him. I also helped finish some home projects that had

been on the list for some time. One of the projects really put my cabinet making skills to the test as I added to existing cabinets to make wall units. All the while I was there, Jim kept sharing how much it meant for me to be there. I believe I was there at a perfect time to help comfort him as he came to grips on the newly diagnosed cancer. The thought that kept coming to me while I was there, was the words on my trailers tire cover, "Help Me to Help Others" . This ability to help Jim was possible because of all of you. I found that it's not only going to be in areas of natural disasters where I will be helping other, It will be wherever the Lord leads as We travel from place to place helping others and spreading the Faith, Love, Hope, and Peace of Jesus.

Thank you all so much for your support and encouragement.

Up next: I'm headed towards Chiefland, Florida to meet up with some people that are helping out with relief efforts after Hurricane Helene.

Praying you all are blessed on this day of Thanksgiving! I and Hunter are thankful for Jesus and each and every one of you as we continue to help others

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Randy and Hunter



Nephew Terry



Linda and Jessie bless the truck



Kris, Kevin and me



Me and Matthew



Larry's resting place



Larry's view of the green



Jim and new island



Jim's new countertop



Jim's wall cabinets