

Summers Scrapbook 2012

It seems like only yesterday I sat down at the computer contemplating the events of the previous year. Now here it is almost 365 days later and I find myself once again staring at a blank sheet of paper contemplating where the last 12 months went. I invite you to pull up a chair and grab a cup of hot chocolate and follow along as we chronicle the events that took place in our family throughout 2012.

January

January began with a flurry that set the tone for the entire year. It started with Whitney celebrating her 18th birthday on January 2nd. She had a blast but lamented that this would be her last birthday at home before starting college next fall. Tiffany started a new job in the Tempe school district coaching the jumpers at Corona del Sol High School. This was especially exciting as Dakota would be trying out for track and wanted to jump. Besides coaching Tiffany is also competing in track unattached. She went to her first meet at Pima Community College and took first in the high jump going 5'1". As the month ended Dakota had his last high school soccer game for Corona del Sol where he started for the Junior Varsity as a freshman. He was done for a week before beginning track and resuming club soccer. Jeff began the year deciding it was time he lost some weight. He started a weight loss program on January 13th hoping to lose 15 pounds. Little did anyone know where this was going the end up. Ashley ran a half marathon in the PF Changs Rock and Roll Marathon finishing with a time of 01:56.56!

February

Tiffany competed in Tucson at a track meet to begin February. She did well in both the high jump and the triple jump. She was especially excited when one of her former teammates returned from Oregon to compete with her. Dakota is busy with track practice every day and soccer practices three times a week. Besides practices he has two soccer tournaments in February playing in the Desert Classic and the Blackhawks tournaments. Jeff and Trina were invited by the Arizona Diamondbacks to attend the Most Valuable Partner Award ceremony. It was a great experience and one that immediately had Jeff counting down the days until pitchers and catchers reported to Spring Training.

March

March was a very busy time. Spring Training began and with it Jeff spent nearly every week at the ballpark watching the Arizona Diamondbacks from his Spring Training season tickets above the dugout. Jeff's parents were in Arizona and shared his birthday at the game with him along with Trina, Mallorie, James, Tiffany, Whitney, Dakota, and the newest Diamondbacks fan Lily. Dakota was once again busy with soccer competing in the San Tan Ostrich Tournament and the President's Cup. Lily celebrated her second birthday and Jeff celebrated a week later and a whole lot older.

April

As April arrived Jeff had met his weight loss goal. He had started on January 13th weighing 212 pounds. By the first of April Jeff now weighed 166 pounds, less than he did when he graduated from high school. Spring Training ended for the Diamondbacks and Opening Day arrived with Jeff and Trina being at Chase Field to root for the team to begin the 2012 season. Trina's mother and sister came to Arizona where they picked up Trina and all of

Summers Scrapbook 2012

them flew to Indiana to visit her sister KayeLynn for her birthday. Tiffany is once again working for the Arizona Diamondbacks as a lifeguard at Chase Field. As April ended Jeff and Trina began a very aggressive home improvement project. They had their swimming pool remodeled, added an additional deck and a fire pit. The goal was to have this completed before school ended in May.

May

May was an especially busy and eventful month for the family. Ashley and Mallorie both celebrated their birthdays and Trina was showered with gifts for Mother's Day. As the month ended Whitney graduated from Corona del Sol High School. Jeff's parents were there as were Trina's mom and her sister JoAnn and her family. The swimming pool remodel finished just one day before graduation and in fact the pool was being filled during graduation ceremonies. The celebration did not end with the tossing of caps and gowns. The day following graduation the whole family boarded an airplane to Florida for 10 days in Walt Disney World.

June

June started with the family still in Florida enjoying the sun and Disney magic. Dakota was especially excited since every meal the restaurants thought it was his birthday and the characters would come out and sing to him and give him cake. Jeff and Trina celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary at the Happiest Place on Earth. Not Disney World but rather Chase Field. Jeff had it set up to take Trina to the Sedona Club and even got her on the Kiss Cam; it was the perfect date (according to Jeff). The month ended with Jeff flying to Newport Beach for meetings for work.

July

As the month began Dakota left for scout camp. He went to high adventure camp in New Mexico where they rode horses for a week. He came back with lots of pictures and stories of being a cowboy. Although it is the middle of summer Trina and Ashley began working at the end of the month returning to school to get prepared for the next school year. Dakota had a break of six weeks then began soccer once again. He is again playing for the Ahwatukee Foothills Soccer Club for the red team. From the looks of the first few practices they appear to be much better than they were a year ago. The month ended with Mallorie and James announcing that they were expecting a baby in April. This will be Jeff and Trina's second grandchild and they cannot wait to be able to spoil this one as much as they spoil Lily. Lily is excited too, she finally has someone to play with.

August

School started in mid-August. Trina is once again an Instructional Assistant at Sureno. Ashley is teaching second grade in the Kyrene School District. Dakota started his sophomore year at Corona del Sol. It is definitely different, his first year of school without Whitney. Whitney is eagerly getting ready to start college. Before she left she and Jeff attended the first doubleheader in Chase Field history. It's funny that Whitney was the one to go to that since she is the least interested of any of the kids in baseball but it was a special day and the ultimate daddy/daughter date. As the month ended Dakota had a soccer tournament in California but did not attend as he was going to Idaho with Jeff, Trina, and Whitney to take Whitney to college.

Summers Scrapbook 2012

September

When the family arrived in Idaho they found that Jeff's dad had blacked out and fallen breaking his ankle. Jeff decided to stay in Idaho a few extra days to help his parents until after his dad's surgery. Tiffany could not stand the thought of Whitney being at school alone and drove to Idaho to see her sister to say good-bye. Trina, Dakota, and Tiffany rushed home in time to get Dakota to his soccer tournament in Flagstaff. The team did very well taking third place. Tiffany started school again at Arizona State University where she is studying to be a sign language interpreter.

October

October had its share of challenges. Baseball season ended and the Diamondbacks did not make the play-offs. Everyone just assumed Jeff would go into depression until next February when baseball would resume. Jeff was once again travelling flying back to Newport Beach for meetings. While he was there he received a call from home late one night. Tiffany had an accident during a dodge ball tournament breaking her ring finger on her right hand. As if that was not bad enough she also broke her iPhone. Jeff believes she was more upset that her phone was broken than her finger. Fortunately Trina was there to pick up the pieces (literally) and get Tiffany the medical attention she needed. As October ended the kids had fun for Halloween. Dakota dressed up like an elephant while Lily was a princess (of course).

November

Jeff began November once again on an airplane this time to Minneapolis Minnesota where he had to host an architectural summit for Wells Fargo Bank. While he was gone Tiffany went into surgery to have pins inserted into her hand to repair her broken finger. That was not the only bad news the family received. Jeff's aunt Janet passed away following surgery for bladder cancer. This was only three months since Jeff's uncle Heb passed away from pancreatic cancer earlier in the summer. While they are both gone from this mortal earth they will remain forever in our hearts surrounded in warm memories of times we spent together. Dakota was busy on the soccer field playing in two tournaments this month. They played well placing in the Kick for the Cure and the Banat Challenge tournaments. November was also time for school soccer tryouts. Dakota had assumed he would again be playing Junior Varsity but as tryouts ended he found himself on Varsity in a dual roster position. He starts the JV and then dresses and plays for Varsity. He is having fun and doing very well. As Thanksgiving arrived Whitney flew home for the holidays. It was exciting to see her; the family was not the same when she was away. While it was great to see her, it was equally sad to put her back on a plane to go back to frozen BYU Idaho.

December

Club soccer is now on hiatus but the family is still at the soccer fields this time rooting for Corona del Sol High School. Dakota played in the Tempe Diablos Soccer Classic and gets his first Varsity game action. At the conclusion of that tournament Jeff and Trina boarded a plane going back to Orlando. Jeff has training for a week in Florida and Trina is going along for some much needed time off. They were able to spend a lot of time together and Jeff had a blast taking pictures of the Disney and Universal parks during the holidays. When they returned Tiffany had the pins removed from her finger and began her rehab. As one medical issue was resolved another began. Jeff's left shoulder is again causing him problems and he

Summers Scrapbook **2012**

has appointments with orthopedic surgeons for consultations, X-rays, and MRIs. As the year ends it is looking more and more like another shoulder surgery is in his future its just a matter of when. Finally Whitney arrived home just in time for the holidays to help decorate the Christmas tree and wrap the presents so Jeff doesn't have to.

With only a few short weeks remaining, 2012 is coming to a close and with it we say good-bye not only to the year but also to several people who were very close to us. While they may no longer be with us here on earth they will remain in our hearts where we are warmed at the joy they brought to our lives.

Although this year has brought more of its share of challenges, we have become closer as a family as a result. Each trial came with the understanding that the Lord would have a blessing even greater than our pain. We are eternally thankful for all that we have been given and are especially grateful for the ability to share yet another holiday season. It is our prayer that you will find joy and happiness in the coming year and that we may share that with you building memories for 2013 and beyond.

Jeff, Trina, Tiffany, Whitney, Dakota, Ashley & Lily

