

Holiday Greetings 2025

Every day is a gift! We especially appreciate days that we share with family and friends, that we find connection with the natural world, and that we are enriched by exploring, learning, and increased understanding. And we certainly appreciate each day that we are healthy. For these gifts that we have received in 2025, we are grateful.



Although Brian had recently started a new job as Senior Policy Advisor to U.S. Representative Jill Tokuda (Hawaii), he was able to take time off to join Jeff and us on a long-planned road trip to north-east Oregon and southwest Washington in September. We journeyed up the Snake River, explored Walla Walla, and attended the Happy Canyon Pageant and Pendleton Roundup. Let 'er Buck!



The Collins Clan, spread from Oregon to Montana, Colorado, Washington DC, Virginia, and Zurich, connected by Zooming. We welcomed Cillian, the first born of our niece Liz and her husband Brian, to the family.

In July, we hosted Kathy's dear friend Carolyn. A highlight of her stay was riding and learning about the amazing community-built carousel in Albany, Oregon.



We gathered on December 7 to celebrate the centennial birthday of Kathy's mother, Mary K. Compton.



In February, we hiked through the Tahquitz Canyon to Tahquitz Falls near Palm Springs.



On our acreage in Corvallis, we welcomed five fawns this spring and enjoyed watching them frolic and grow through the year.



On a beautiful spring day, we hiked the Tam-a-Lau Trail overlooking Lake Billy Chinook in Central Oregon with a view of Mt. Jefferson and other peaks in the Cascade Range to the west.



In April, we completed our quest to visit all 50 states by traveling in Mississippi and Louisiana. Starting in Memphis, we cruised the Mississippi River, at flood stage, to New Orleans. Highlights included the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, the food, music, and unique culture of New Orleans, and cruising with extraordinary musicians who performed and explained the complex evolution of music in the Mississippi Delta.



New Orleans Museum of Art
Sculpture Garden



In September, we visited Pittsburgh and explored important sites in the histories of the westward movement and the rise of the steel industry. Here we are overlooking the convergence of the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers, a natural phenomenon instrumental in both those histories.

Beignets and
café au lait at
Café du Monde,
in New Orleans' French Quarter.





Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth
Philip Johnson, Architect



Kimbell Museum in Fort Worth
Louis Kahn, Architect

In October, we journeyed to Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston, where we immersed ourselves in the abundance and richness of all the art and architecture oil and real estate development money can buy. We even experienced a shopping mall, NorthPark, designed to showcase the sculpture collection of the Nasher family.



Museum of Fine Art in Houston
Architects Watkin, Holl, Mies van der Rohe, & Others



Kalita Humphreys Theater in Dallas
Frank Lloyd Wright, Architect

We hope that this holiday season and throughout the new year you will receive gifts that bring you comfort and joy.

Happy Holidays!

Doug Kathy



The Glory Window
in the spiral-shaped Thanks-Giving Square Chapel
in Dallas, Texas
symbolizing the spiritual ascent from darkness into light