

To health & happiness in  
2024!

Geoff, Jill, Grace & Madelyn

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We enjoy seeing both girls' personalities unfold. With one teen and one almost-teen, we learn something new each day: the latest teen slang, which poses look best on Insta, how to successfully wear sweats in style, how our driving is wrong, and the many ways that we act old and uncool.



Madelyn is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year. She played basketball this winter, surviving early morning practices before school. She added even more dance classes this year, now doing contemporary and a heels class with pointe and combo. She still plays cello and enjoys volunteering and helping others with a preschool dance class and 4-H activities. -Maddie



This year's family vacay was D.C. & NYC! The White House and Capitol tours were the girls' favorites in D.C. In NYC we took in 2 Broadway shows, Statue of Liberty, 9-11 Museum, Intrepid, Central Park, and Macy's.



This last year was a blur in our household. We now have a driver, \*yikes\*, and have entered the full time taxi service stage of our lives. We no longer plan family activities, make evening plans, or wonder what we're going to do on any given evening. The bonus is a bit of time to catch up and chat with each girl during our little car trips around town.



Since we didn't have enough dance in our lives (?), Grace convinced Madelyn to join her in auditioning for the Nutcracker. Rehearsals all fall led to a magical holiday show. Watching them light up the stage together makes us smile.



Grace is now in High School in 9<sup>th</sup> grade! Outside of school, dance is her life. She is on the Ames High Dance team, and now dances 6 days a week. She has enjoyed Nutcracker this year, with roles of Snow, Chocolate, and Candy Cane! She has started to drive and was very excited to get her school permit in November.



We joined Geoff's mom, Donna in Cabo, Mexico in February for our first international family trip. The girls loved choosing a new pool to enjoy each day at the resort. Jill loved reading by the pool and catching rays. Geoff loved poolside drink service and taking pictures of whales from our deck each morning. It was a relaxing week with sand, sun and smiles.