

# THE CAMPEN FAMILY

Christmas 2019



## 2019 in review

We have some good news and some bad news, what do you want to hear first?

Let's get the bad news out of the way...Marci's dad, Gary, passed away in March. As you may remember, last summer he was diagnosed with Vascular Dementia. At the beginning of this year he declined rapidly with increased struggles and care needed. The second week in March he had a couple episodes (most likely strokes) requiring trips to the ER. The second trip to the ER he was unconscious and would never regain consciousness. We are all deeply saddened to not have his presence in our daily lives but are thankful his struggles with dementia no longer control him.

On to the good news...

Hannah graduated from high school! The year was a blur of last concerts, musicals, and celebrations of her hard work and achievement in high school. This fall we settled her in at University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire where she is doing wonderful.

For spring break, we traveled to Hawaii. The timing was right after Gary's funeral so it was a week of mixed emotions but the beauty of Hawaii and the time together as a family was a gift amongst the sorrow.

Jacob is on track to graduate from Iowa State University and has a full time job already lined up!

Amira has been busy with dance and performing in a children's chorus in our high school's annual musical review program (Spring of 2019 and Fall 2019) along with horse camp, soccer and Bible camp this past summer.

Dave and Marci celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary. We enjoyed getting away together with a trip to Waco and San Antonio, Texas for a few days.

Cooper joined our family! Cooper is a mini Golden-doodle who was born on September 1st. He currently is just over 7 pounds and will grow to be about 15 pounds. It is a good thing he is so cute and sweet as at this point he is a lot of work and a bit of a trouble maker. But he has captured all of our hearts!



## Jacob's Jottings

Hello! Boy does time fly! I'm currently a senior at Iowa State University, about to start my last semester, studying Electrical Engineering with a minor in music. I can't believe I'm almost done! I'm still involved in the Iowa State Singers and keeping busy with classes and clubs. In the past year I've had the opportunity to sing with the Iowa State Singers at a National ACDA convention in Kansas City and at Carnegie Hall in NYC. Both are memories that will last a lifetime! I spent this past summer as an Electrical Engineer intern at Ecolab in Eagan, MN, and I'm very happy to announce I've accepted a full time position with Ecolab following graduation! I'm excited to start my career and post-college life in the Twin Cities. For now, I'll enjoy my last semester of college and look forward to some very exciting times ahead! Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Jacob*



## Hannah's Happenings

Happy Holidays to everyone! This has currently been the craziest year for me so far as I moved into college at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire this fall. School has been going really great so far, and I am still able to participate in choir and shows at school which is fantastic! I am still currently a Kinesiology major in order to become a physical therapist, and I am really liking all my classes so far! One cool thing that I did this fall was went on tour with my choir to Madison, Wisconsin and got to sing and sight-see around the area, which was fun because I had never been there before. It's been an exciting transition for me so far and I hope the rest of the year holds the same embrace of change and transition! Everyone have a happy and healthy holiday season!

*Hannah*



## Amira's Anecdotes

Hello! I am in fourth grade. My favorite subject in school is writing. I love my activities of dance and piano. In piano right now I am getting ready for festival. In dance we are soon to be performing Winterfest which is our winter recital. My dream of getting a dog came true. My dog's name is Cooper. He is the best dog in the world. In September we went to San Francisco. In San Francisco we went to Alcatraz. It was very interesting and historical. My favorite thing from our San Francisco trip was eating at In-N-Out. I loved sharing with you what I did this year. Happy Holidays everyone!

*Amira*



**We hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy, and peaceful New Year!!!**

*Dave & Marci*