

2016 *Golf for the Gift* Golf Tournament

You are receiving this email from me because you have, in your own unique way made an impact in my life. I can only hope that I have done the same for yours. One rarely spends time to think about the path that his life has taken, the many twists and turns along the way and the people in their life who have literally changed their destiny.

Until recently I have been as guilty as anyone in terms of accepting my life's path as pure destiny; that was until last November when my wife Linda got involved in this very special organization called *The Gift of Adoption*. Linda was a Korean orphan with her brother Jim and sister Kathy and destiny to them, at that time, was completely unknown, until one day a couple from the States showed up to bring Jim and Kathy back to the States with them. Little did they know when they arrived that Jim and Kathy had a sister who was going to be left behind, and they were devastated at the thought of breaking the siblings up. Although they did their best to also include Linda in the adoption process, the paperwork was already completed for her to become part of a different family in the States. It is hard to imagine the emotion of that moment when Linda watched her brother and sister leave for the States, not knowing if they would ever see each other again.

Fast forward about fifteen years and that's where I come into the picture- the lunch counter of the Fairlee Diner where I first laid eyes on Linda. This beautiful young Asian gal with hair that went on for days was working as a waitress while she was attending college, and she had my immediate attention. From that moment on, my destiny was about to be changed forever.

So we married in 1977 when we were both young, I started playing with The Breakfast of Champions band at the same time, a year later I started my own business and in 1981 we had our first son Todd. So things were not boring in the early years of our marriage by any means.

One day in early 1982 we started talking about Jim and Kathy, wondering what their lives have been like and how great it would be to see them. Fortunately, the family who adopted Jim and Kathy had managed to keep Linda's family informed on their whereabouts but there had been little or no contact. At that time, Jim was a student at Duke Law School, and we just called him up one day totally out of the blue. As you can imagine, it was an interesting conversation but it led to us getting an invitation to his graduation from Duke. So, with 9-month old Todd in tow, we headed out for Duke to meet Jim and Kathy and their adopted family for the first time, not knowing what to expect. What could have been an extremely awkward meeting turned out to be just the opposite. After not seeing each other for almost 20 years, Linda, Jim, and Kathy were so comfortable with each other and their mannerisms and personalities so similar that it was somewhat surreal. This family

was finally one again, but it was an extended one as now, there were many more people who were impacted by the reunion of these three.

Here we are in 2016, 34 years after the reunion at Duke and many kids later between the three siblings. Our families became very close from that moment at Duke and remain extremely close today. There are so many other stories that I could tell, but if there ever was a perfect example of how destinies can be changed, then this is one for sure.

So, I think it should be fairly obvious to you now as to why the Gift of Adoption is a very special organization for my wife and me. When you attend these G.O.A. functions the main focus is all about the kids and their goals of creating opportunities for these kids to have a normal life with families that want children of their own, many of which have struggled unsuccessfully to conceive. And unlike many other non-profit organizations whose purpose is to raise funds to find cures for cancer, heart and lung diseases etc., the purpose of the GOA is to create a lifetime of opportunities, not just for the kids, but for everyone whose lives they will touch along the way. This is the point that strikes home for me.

If it were not for the adoption process I would not be sitting here writing this email to you and all my other friends who have impacted my life, as there is a very strong chance that we would have never met. Who knows what different paths I would have strayed down if I had not fell in love with Linda and created the life, family and incredible network of friends that we have built around us. And there are so many other kids and families who deserve the same chance to create a new life for themselves and develop their own network of friends that will last a lifetime.

So, in November of 2015, we started the New Hampshire Chapter of the Gift of Adoption and every penny we raise goes directly to families in NH who need help to complete the complicated and expensive process of adopting children. The first big event we are hosting is our *1st Annual NH "Golf for the Gift" Golf Tourney* at the Montcalm Golf Club in Enfield, NH on July 20th. Montcalm Golf Club is a very private and special place as many of you know, and they rarely allow large functions like this to take place. Fortunately the owner thinks the world of my wife and as a result has giving his blessings for this event. The tournament will be a 'Best Ball' format so you get to play your own ball from tee to green on every hole on this spectacular track.

As many of you know, I've been involved in lots and lots of 'Fun-Raisers' in my life, but this is my first official 'FunD- Raiser'. I am hoping that I can count on the people like you, who are impact players in my life, to make this event a great success by joining us for the tourney, sponsoring any of the various sponsorship opportunities, or merely giving an in-kind donation, if you decide not to play.

Please note that we are limited to 100 golfers for this event. This is only 25 foursomes so we are sending the initial invitations out to a limited list of folks. It would be greatly appreciated if you could let us know one way or another as soon as possible so that we can plan accordingly.

To register for this event please go to this link <http://giftofadoption.org/nhgolf/>
You can provide all the required information directly on this website.

I guess that is about enough rambling from me at this point. I truly hope you can be a part of this event in any way and I thank you for the part you have played – and will continue to play in my/our destiny.

Sincerely,

Jay Boucher
President
Defiance Electric & Crossover LLC.
[603-632-4982 x301](tel:603-632-4982)
Direct Line [603-678-4467](tel:603-678-4467)
jboucher@defianceelectric.com
Defiance Electric News, Projects, & Updates