

Goodbye 2025 – Hello 2026!!!

Wow! What a year. Where to begin.

Let's start in February 2024. We took Vegas to the Vet to have some skin tags removed. When they did the bloodwork, it was found that his liver enzymes were high. That was fixed with some medication, but it caused diabetes. We had to give him insulin shots every day. He went through all the appointments and endured the shots like a trooper.

In March 2024, Jayne had her 3-month MRI. It unfortunately showed her cancer had metastasized to her liver. We were, understandably, very scared of what was to come. The next few months were filled with testing and planning. It was decided that she would go through a procedure whereby they would implant little beads of Yttrium-90 in her liver to go after the lesions. They performed the first half of the liver operation in June and the second half in August.

When she was tested in September, the MRI revealed that the previously treated lesions had decreased in size, but new lesions had formed. So, the next option was immunotherapy.

So, starting in October, she started a two-medication infusion. She went every three weeks for four treatments. Her last one was in early December.

While she went through all her treatments, we had some issues with Vegas. He was found to have cataracts in both of his eyes, with one 90% covered and the other 60% covered. He was going blind. So, we went to see a doggie ophthalmologist (who would have guessed there was such a thing?). The doctor said Vegas was a good candidate for surgery. So, he went in and had the cataracts removed. Vegas, again, was a trooper. He got numerous eye drops in both eyes daily. He had to return to the eye

doctor every couple of days. He went through it without any problems.

On December 7, we noticed he was acting a little differently. The next day, Sunday the 8th, Todd had to take him to the emergency Vet. After a lot of testing, it was found that he had pancreatitis and liver ketoacidosis. It was not something he was going to come back from. So, he came home that Sunday night. On Monday morning, the 9th, we took him to the Vet and let him cross over the Rainbow Bridge. We were devastated. But we knew, when we looked into his eyes, that it was best for him. We bundled him up in his favorite blanket and took him to Parker-Kohl funeral home, where they were so good to us. He was cremated and came home to us the very next day.

It was so quiet around our house for that week. We went out to dinner that following Friday to celebrate Jayne finishing her treatment and having a great MRI scan, as well as mourning our loss of Vegas. Jayne asked if we should get another dog. Surprisingly, Todd said, "In a heartbeat." On Saturday, we applied for rescue dogs in Farmington and in Humboldt, Iowa. Monday morning, the 16th, one week after we lost Vegas, we received a call from the rescue in IA. The boy puppy (Maltese-Westie) could be ours. The rescue had called the vet we had been using for a reference and that was all they needed! They knew we'd take good care of the puppy. So, we took off right away that afternoon and headed to Iowa. It was about 2 ½ hours down. They went and got the puppy, and he ran right to us. We named our new dog, Jackpot! The ride home was a lot of fun (NOT!) as Jackpot had a cone on (he had just got fixed a day or two before) which kept hitting Jayne in the face as well as he got car sick and puked all over. But we made it home and he snuggled his way into

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our hearts. Oh, and his birthday – May 6!! Right between Jayne and Todd's

A week later, we went up to the Xcel Energy Center or X – now known as Grand Casino Arena, for our 25th year of watching Trans-Siberian Orchestra. We went with our nephew and niece, Justin and Crystal, again. That show never gets old!

Hello 2025! Jayne had her first single-drug immunotherapy treatment on the 4th of January. Everything went well with the treatment.

On Monday the 13th, Todd found Jayne in the bathroom incoherent. He called 911 and she got a ride to the ER by ambulance. After hours of tests, it was found that her liver enzymes were way out of normal and that was causing her mental issues. She spent 3 days in the hospital as they tried to get the numbers under control. We nearly lost her to liver failure. But with great doctors and nurses, they got things under control.

In February, we decided to take Jackpot to puppy school. He went to Muddy Paws to be evaluated. After going a number of times, he had too much separation anxiety (from Todd) and couldn't be taught! We've been working with him and he's doing so much better!

Jayne restarted her immunotherapy in late May. When she had her next scan in July, her lesions had decreased in size, and some had disappeared! It was a miraculous change from where she was a year before! Todd asked our oncologist if this was the norm. He said no. Todd said it had to be a God-thing and the doctor agreed. He called Jayne a miracle girl. We want to thank ALL the prayer warriors who have been praying for Jayne. IT IS WORKING!!

Since Jayne was doing so good, we decided to go to Las Vegas for the first time in a couple of

years. Our casino host had moved to a new casino, so we decided to take the chance and stay at the Silverton Hotel/Casino off the strip. It was an awesome stay! We went to the Sphere and watched, "The Wizard of Oz" and was amazed at the way they show it. We weren't big winners, but Jayne did come home with money (as is the norm) and Todd's GoFundMe didn't work to bail him out again! It was so good to get away for a few days.

Jayne continues the treatments once per month. She gets scanned every 3 months. We will keep our prayers going so that she continues to respond so well to the immunotherapy.

She also has been walking Jackpot (or at times, going for a pull!) every day through the warmer months.

Todd is finishing his 25th year with Intercontinental Exchange (ICE, Black Knight, and 16 other company names over 25 years). It's hard to believe it's been that long. His anniversary is February 9th.

Speaking of Anniversary, we celebrated our 30th Anniversary this year! God has truly blessed us over these 30 years.

We are optimistic that 2026 will be a good year. We are praying for continued good health for all three of us. And we pray that all of you have a wonderful 2026!

Todd, Jayne and Jackpot – December 2025