

Joshua Tuggle Family Letter

This will mark the first family letter for me and I'm excited to write it! I was supposed to write one last May but couldn't bring myself to write about my life that month. We lost my dad, Bill Tuggle, the 7th of May last year. He sure was a large part of my life and I miss him every second of the day. I can't tell you the amount of times I wanted to call him and ask him about anything. Yeah, I said "Anything" because he would know about it. Like:

Hey Dad, "Betty is making a sort of "bbbrrrrrrmmmmmmcccccbbbbb" noise when I start her, what do you think?"

He'd say, "Aww yeah, just change your spark plugs and rotate your tires clockwise"

I'd think to myself "Umm, yeah, ok...", but it would work. He just knew so much about anything.

Gosh I miss him. I wish I would've called him more.

Not sure how to begin one of these letters so here goes nothing!

JUNE 2019:

Mariah and I decided we better go visit Hannah in her new small community called NYC. Mariah flew in from Minneapolis and I flew in from Atlanta because that was close to where I was working at the time. Hannah had to work Friday a bit so we went off by ourselves and did some touristy things like. We saw Wall Street and went to the 911 memorial campus. The next day we woke up early and did a kick-boxing class, super fun! The rest of that weekend was full of festivals, brewery's, and good clean family fun!





JULY 2019:

WOW, July was a busy traveling month for me! Got it kicked off with the best Sigourney holiday known to man, THE FOURTH! Always a great time in Sig on the fourth and something new this year that we did was RAGASS (Did I spell that right?). What a great event and me and all the other cousins had a genuinely good time!

The weekend after that was the “Engineers Getaway” which was just a weekend down in PCB, FL with all the engineers and interns on my jobsite. It was a little more humid than Southern Georgia (hard to believe) and it rained a couple times, but we made the best of it and had a blast of a time!

Last up was a long weekend at the end of July when I did three days of RAGBRAI with Matthew, John, and Kyle, then headed over to Panora with Mariah’s family for a “Staycation” at the family lake house! RAGBRAI was a hell of a time (per usual) because biking is awesome (am I right Matthew??) and it is always great when you can do it with good company!

The Cate’s Family Lake House was awesome! Tried my luck at wake boarding, surfing and knee boarding; took a bit, but I got the hang of it. Mariah’s nieces were there for part of it too and we had fun building sandcastles and playing Spikeball. Good times!

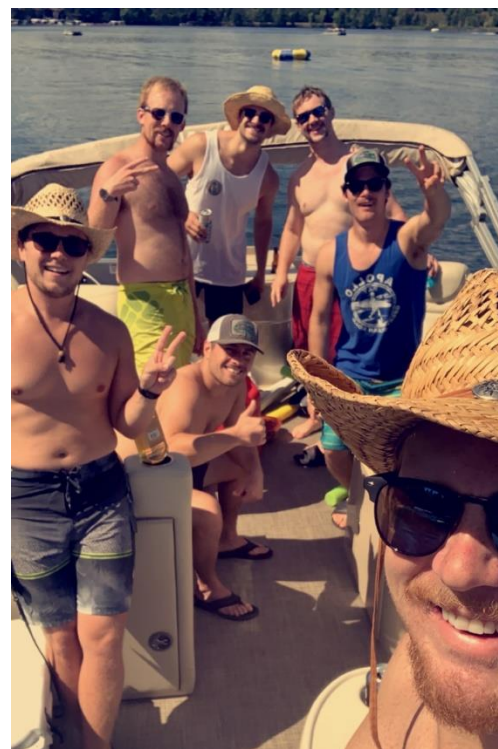






AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019:

This was a really busy part of our project in Georgia so I didn't have too much free time away from work. Our completion date was early November and that was fast approaching. I did get to go back to Minnesota for our annual "Cabin Weekend". This trip is when all of my good college friends get together at Jake's family cabin up in Crosslake, MN. This is always a great time catching up with everyone and seeing what is new in their lives. Everyone lives in different states; Georgia (me), Minnesota (Kyle), Colorado (Josh), Iowa (Jake), Maryland (Sam), South Carolina (Jack), Washington (Adam), Florida (Pat), and Illinois (Dillon). It is really good to see that everyone flies/drives back once a year to hang with the old crew.



OCTOBER 2019:

Started October off on the right foot when Mom, Mariah and Jake came down to visit me in Georgia! It was so awesome for them to come see me. Jake and I did a Spartan Race one morning and we explored around Atlanta the rest of the weekend.

Later in the month was the infamous COUSIN TRIP! What an absolute blast of a time that we had. I'm sure everyone has heard about it already but we went up to Duluth and stayed in a cabin to do some hiking and exploring. We also had the opportunity to do the *Out of The Darkness Community Walk* in Duluth that weekend. It was such an awesome and emotional day. It was so great that everyone wanted to join and that we had such a presence there; very memorable day. The rest of the weekend was full of family, fun, and good times. I am PUMPED about the next one this year to South Dakota! If you haven't already booked your spot, you can contact my receptionist at matthew.j.tuggle@gmail.com





NOVEMBER 2019:

Not a lot of people know this, but I had a very tough time at the project I was on in Georgia and it took a toll. With having a strenuous time with my position, I took to lateral move in the company and eventually got transferred to a different project. I was heading to a project that was about to start in West Texas. They were still in the planning phase of the project which was in Mortenson's regional office in San Antonio. So, I figured out my new start date with my manager, packed up Irene (my Motorhome), and said my goodbyes to my Georgia team. I can't say enough how I appreciate my fellow Engineers on that project; we were all so close and worked together so well, it was VERY hard to leave them. We did have one last "going away" trip to wrap it up though. It was a camping trip up to the Chattahoochee National Forest in Northern Georgia. After our camping trip, we headed back south and a little west to visit NOLA. After stuffing ourselves full of Southern Cajun food for two days, it was time to head to San Antonio to my new home with Irene.





DECEMBER 2019:

Another busy month and boy was it a great time seeing family and friends. Got to spend some time at home on call for Jury Duty, which was fun. Got to help Nathan build a modern garage-holder-organizer thing and hang out with the nephews; always a fun time seeing them! Next I got to go skiing in Park City, UT with some of my longtime Construction Engineers and I even dragged Mariah out there to test her skills. She did great!

I got to take off most of the time between Christmas and New Years which was awesome for all the Christmas celebrations and family time!

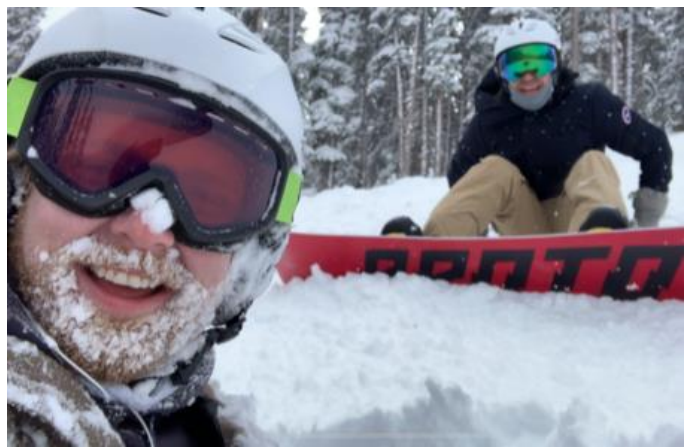
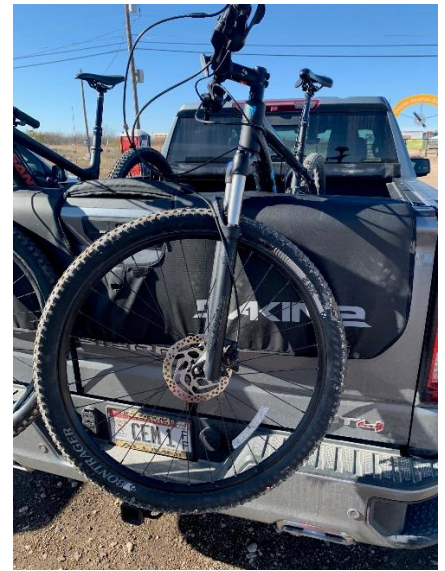
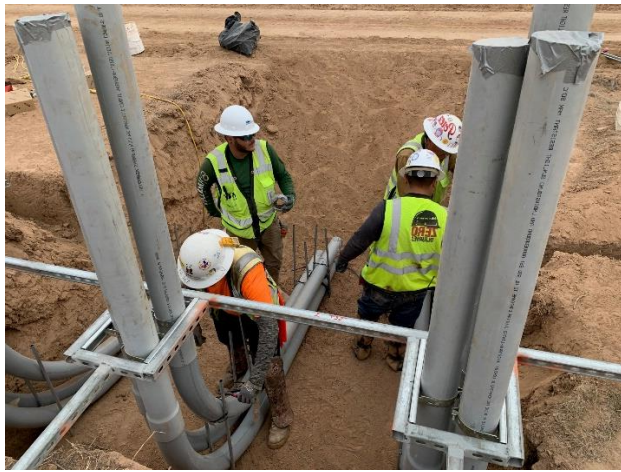




JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020:

After the holidays I hopped right into my roll at my new project called Greasewood Solar in Girvin, TX (Population 30). I moved into a RV park in Fort Stockton, TX, which is 25 min away from the project and where I now call my home. Got pretty cold in the late winter getting down to 32 degrees and actually snowing. Our jobsite shutdown for two days because of the weather, how crazy is that!? Met my new engineering team at thenproject and right away got to know them all. We went on a few weekend trips hiking and exploring West Texas.

I went on my annual skiing trip in February again and it was a blast as usual. I go with a bunch of Matthew's college friends every year. Matthew unfortunately couldn't come this year because he was taking time off to spend time with Mom in January and couldn't afford the additional PTO. Usually people ask me, "Isn't it weird that Matthew isn't coming, and they're Matthew's friends..?", which I promptly respond with, "Ummm, who's Matthew?" and shortly followed by "Lol, but nah, I'm good friends with them too!". It is always a grand ol time with this bunch of friends, they are some great guys!



MARCH/APRIL 2020:

March was spontaneous; mostly because I bought a truck quicker than I thought I would. I saw a pretty good deal on Craigslist and thought I'd check it out; came out of it with a 2010 Ford F-250. It's in old oilfield service truck that this guy had for his company that he was selling. I still haven't named her yet, so if you have any suggestions, let me know!

The rest of March and April were pretty bland because of the COVID-19 outbreak. Our jobsite was still open, but we just implemented several guidelines per the CDC. Most of my scheduled trips were canceled but tried to make the best of it by doing work on Irene, woodworking and playing disc golf. Just an FYI; I've always been better at disc golf than Ryan, but all this practice is just widening the gap 😊



MAY 2020:

May has been crweosome (Crazy&Awesome) so far. I'm learning a ton at work, and enjoying every bit of it! We started to install the actual solar panels in May. Guess how many there are on the Greasewood project?? 851,000 solar 410watt panels! It will take 1,128 semi trucks to delivery all these solar panels. This is the biggest project Mortenson Solar has ever done and I am honored to be apart of it!

I also got to take a week off at the beginning of May to head back home for a while. Since I didn't want to fly, I decided to drive Betty (my 2003 Buick Regal) and she made it the whole way like a champ. The week I was up in the Midwest, I got to see lots of family and friends. It was totally worth the drive.





I hope you all enjoyed reading my first cousin letter, Love you all!