

**Subject:** Fwd: Christmas thoughts for you Charles  
**Date:** Saturday, December 22, 2012 at 12:24:00 AM Mountain Standard Time  
**From:** Randy Kendrick [REDACTED]  
**To:** david schmidtz <schmidtz@u.arizona.edu>

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Randy Kendrick [REDACTED]  
**Date:** December 21, 2012, 3:45:02 PM MST  
**To:** "koch [REDACTED]" <koch [REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Christmas thoughts for you Charles

Dear Charles,

As our year reaches its important family crescendo, my thoughts have turned to you and what you have meant in my life. I still haven't wrapped all the Christmas presents but I just have to stop right now and send you this note. I have thought of you so many times over the years and especially this year, but often I fear bothering you. I am constantly amazed that something you did, often long ago, has influenced me, guided me or provided insight to me along the way in sometimes surprising ways.

Of course I didn't even know you existed when I was learning about the many ideas that prompted me to start donating small amounts to the Institute for Humane Studies. I didn't know you existed when I read the many books that your support made possible over the years. I didn't know you existed as I learned about so many ideas that have helped me make sense of the world. And yet you did exist and your intellectual leadership helped me become the person I am.

Of course I learned of your existence when I went to see Vernon Smith receive the Nobel Prize in 2002, followed fairly soon thereafter by my first Seminar. All the ideas presented at that meeting have played a role in our life from that day forward. What I learned about enforcing donor intent, the role that Mike Wiggins played in rabble rousing in Minnesota, or the new education reform efforts led by John Walton, Bill Oberndorf and Rick Sharp, the presentation by Nancy Pfothenaur about state action through Taxpayers Bill of Rights---all of it stands out clearly in my brain to this day. Mostly I came to understand that fighting for our ideas will require my own personal energy and skills within my own state. It isn't enough to give money to policy groups without the political will and effort to make those policies become reality. I realized I had a role to play and you helped me see what that role would be. I can never adequately thank you.

Naturally the most important role you played was in 2009 when I decided that I would take on a clearly impossible task and oppose nationalized health care, no matter what the form and no matter who joined me or not. You helped our fledgling effort and of course when I faltered and [REDACTED] prevented me from further effort, your organization carried the ball. You knew better than I ever guessed what a risk that undertaking would be for so many,

especially your own family. I am still in awe of the fact that you knew what it meant and still undertook the risk. My gratitude goes beyond words.

[REDACTED] I am ready to face the fight we have for our values in the coming years and in fact I am ready to put even more effort and money into this fight. I hope to have additional time after my children graduate from high school next year. I want to work with you and others both in Arizona and nationally to promote our ideas. I know I join many others who feel we are literally fighting to save our country.

And I feel strongly that despite this recent set back, we will learn from this, we will double down and we will win next time. Without your leadership I don't believe any of us would have a trusted network into which to put our energies and effort. Thanks to you, we do. Like everyone I have my own views of what our mistakes were and what tasks we have yet to master. But this is merely process and I have faith in our mutual powers of observation and information exchange. I feel my voice will be heard by people who really care and I will put more effort into providing good feedback to Sean, Kevin, Rich and the others.

For today I just wanted to reach out and say my fondness and respect for what you have accomplished goes right to my core. I won't say I would feel lost without your leadership--- that's too much of a burden to place on you. But there is an element of truth to that also.

I found some words that helped me get through the election. I saw them the day prior to the voting and offer them to you in hopes they may provide some comfort to you as well.

But there is suffering in life,  
And there are defeats.  
No one can avoid them.  
But it's better to lose some of the battles  
In the struggles for your dreams  
Than to be defeated without ever knowing  
What you're fighting for.

Thanks to you Charles, I do know what I'm fighting for. And for that and all the rest, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Randy Kendrick