

DRYNAN DISH 2024

and here we go again ... Tayler to Tie-the-Knot

He Asked



Can you say, “déjà vu?” It was a balmy afternoon on September 6th, when my phone vibrated to signal an incoming text. It was from Jalen. “Hey there!! If you and Tom are available the weekend of October 6-8th, I’d love to come see ya. The kids will be in Denver then (aka Tayler would be in Denver with her siblings).” I immediately yelled at Tom; and, upon showing him the text, it took him barely half of a second to look at me, drop his head and say, “oh no...I’m losing another (daughter).” Joking aside, Tom and I were both thrilled at the thought of Jalen marrying Tayler, and we quickly replied to J’s text— and the plan was set! Jalen flew over early on an October Saturday morning; and, after Tom’s grueling vetting process in our home office, we went out for pizza to celebrate, before dropping him back to the airport to return to Seattle so that Tayler wouldn’t know he was ever here. Fun Fact: While waiting for his return flight and surfing the net, Jalen stumbled upon the perfect engagement ring....

..and that’s the one he proposed with on Saturday, April 6th, one day before Tayler’s 26th birthday. He planned a birthday picnic at one of their favorite places in Seattle, Golden Garden’s. Dressed for a casual walk on the beach, they were approached by a photographer who claimed she needed pictures for her school portfolio. After taking several pictures of the two of them, the photographer asked Tayler to look at the water so she could get an individual shot; and, when Tayler turned around, Jalen was kneeling down with the ring. (Fun Fact: the ring barely showed up in time...afternoon before!) After lots of hugs, kisses and tears of joy, they finished their photo shoot and picnic. Since it was Tayler’s birthday-eve, Jalen told her to bring a nice outfit so they could change and go out to celebrate. Their first stop was M-Bar, which is the very place Jalen and Tayler had their first date.

He Proposed



We Celebrated



Meanwhile, several hours earlier (extending to Friday evening) and behind the scenes, both families, as well as friends, were driving/flying to Seattle for a surprise Engagement Dinner that Jalen planned intricately and beautifully. It was such a special evening, and what a blessing that Jalen’s parents could make the trek to the west coast! An added treat was that a few of Tayler’s close friends actually traveled to make this special event, including her lifelong friend Becca (and Matt) from LA, and her college teammates Claudia and Jess (and Jacob) from Canada. In a quaint venue overlooking the water, we ate Italian (spoiled by Jalen’s mom Tammie who made the lasagna), Fremont Cake, drank, toasted, and had a wonderful time celebrating Jalen and Tayler! (NOTE: this is NOT the same picture as on the Christmas Card.)

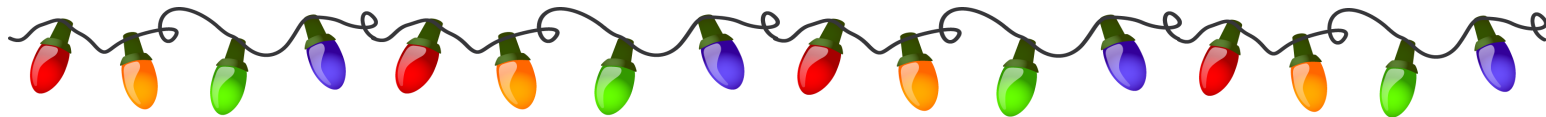
Aww Young Love: a year of continued wedding bliss for Alex & Kylie



Let’s just say...the honeymoon phase is NOT over! Alex and Kylie are working hard and playing hard! The two of them have been extremely busy traveling with both families and attending a number of weddings, some they’ve had to travel for, and two trips to Europe (one for business). They are so busy that Kylie created a color-coded Calendar/Travel spreadsheet so they can keep it all together. And you won’t hear them complain. That is one thing they have in common...their love of travel.

A second common interest is their love of football! I’ve lost count as to how many fantasy football leagues they are in, but they are seriously obsessed! So much so, I think Kylie could give ESPN’s Holly Rowe a run for her money!





OFF AND RUNNING: Nick and Noah join the family business



- AS IF GRADUATING WITH HONORS FROM COLLEGE LAST SPRING 2024
- WASN'T ENOUGH...
- AS IF THEN GOING ON TO PASSING THE CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER (CFP) EXAM WASN'T ENOUGH...
- AS IF OVER 9 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH TOM IN THE OFFICE WASN'T ENOUGH...

STILL...Tom, Kylie and Tayler deemed it necessary to put Nick and Noah through the "Drynan Strategic Financial Solutions" interview process! It did not take long to see the added value that Nick and Noah would bring with their innovative and modernized approach! Those five absolutely keep each other on their toes, always challenging one another to learn, grow and evolve the business, thanks to their 7 am Wednesday "Drynan Business Chats!"



Family Adventures Galore: We Just Can't Keep Still

Shortly following Tayler's engagement, Mom, Kylie and Tayler hit Nashville for a long weekend of girl-time fun! Since we had to cancel our original trip in 2020 due to Covid, we were fortunate to be able to rebook. Line dancing, high tea, pool time, great dinners, and a little wedding talk made for an amazing weekend!

In May, the entire crew snuck away to Arizona in a desperate search for some sunshine! There is nothing like natural Vitamin D to rejuvenate the soul, not to mention spending time with the family. We all worked poolside, played games, and enjoyed some dinners out. Such fun!

Since Mom grew up spending her summers at the Lake, our family got together on Lake Coeur d'Alene over the 4th of July holiday weekend. This trip came void of eating out; however, all meals were well-planned and everyone joined in. We thoroughly enjoyed tootles on the boat with Captains Tom and Alex, swimming, great meals, fun games, and even a little "Ted Lasso reruns" to end the evening.

Labor Day entailed a weekend trip to scenic Kalispel, Montana for the wedding of our oldest nephew and now niece. Fortunately, all eight of us were able to attend, and we had an amazing time celebrating the newlyweds and visiting with our Montana family and friends!

In September, Tom, Nick and Noah went to a Wealth Management Strategy conference in Las Vegas, and Mom tagged along, enjoying pool time in 90 degree weather. While it was a quick trip, it was great seeing the boys. You put those three guys together, and they are definitely in their Finance element!

With the holidays just around the corner, we will all spend Thanksgiving together in Seattle; will return the following week for Gonzaga's Battle in Seattle; and celebrate Christmas with everyone AFTER the 25th!



GO GO GO — Our Young Adults are Always on the Go

While the first half of the year was spent on family trips, the fall had everyone running in different directions. Tom and I still love traveling for football and basketball games, and this year was much of the same!

The boys enjoyed travel. Nick visited friends on the West Coast, while Noah met up with college friends over in Europe for a week. These trips were quickly followed up with plane rides to see additional college buddies at the Notre Dame v. Georgia Tech football game in/around Atlanta. If you know boys, you know they are last minute. Apparently, more travel plans are in their near future, although nothing quite confirmed yet. I imagine it'll be more sporting events and reunions with friends across the country!

Kylie and Alex joined Tom and I in Denver for the first home game (yes, we lost again). That trip was followed up with their two-week anniversary trip to Europe. It was Alex's first time in Europe, and the two of them had a blast, visiting different cities, enjoying amazing sights, food, and drinks!

To add to the craziness, both Kylie and Tayler were invited on a work trip to Paris, honoring the top advisers across the country. Tayler and Jalen jumped at the opportunity and flew over a week early to visit London, Dublin, and Amsterdam. Those two are foodies and love the outdoors, so they filled their days with sightseeing and food trials—which often yielded a two hour nap before dinner to catch their breath!

Meanwhile, Kylie and Alex returned back to the States for just ten days before traveling back to Paris for work...and Disneyland Paris, of course! Tayler and Jalen also visited the Park before their conference, while Kylie and Alex stayed the weekend to hit it after—with detailed notes courtesy of her sister!

