



*"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." - Numbers 6:24-26*

## 2023: Flynn Family Year-In-Review

We hope you enjoyed a merry Christmas season with those you love, and that you are blessed in the new year.

2023 was a year of gratitude as well as transition for our family.

The spring was mainly focused on Logan as he approached his graduation from Live Oak Classical School (see his paragraph below for more glorious details). In June, while Logan & Mia served in Honduras on the Youth Group summer mission trip, Chantal accompanied Carl to the Christian Scholars Conference in Houston and enjoyed reconnecting with many friends, as well as spending her birthday at the Houston Museum of Natural Science (let's hear it for King Tut's Tomb, dinosaur fossils, and butterflies!). Summer Youth Group activities for Logan & Mia included swim days, VBS, and summer camp. At the end of the month, Logan, Carl & Chantal attended Baylor Orientation and then Logan attended Baylor Line Camp where he learned about Baylor traditions, made deeper connections with other incoming Freshmen, and was challenged to think about his development over the next 4 years.

In July we enjoyed 10 glorious days in the sun & water, visiting Carl's family in Arizona, celebrating Carl's dad's 75th birthday, and getting to see cousins Stan and David (who, we're quite sure, appreciate being mentioned by name!) in Palm Springs. We ended the summer with a "last hurrah" adventure to Schlitterbahn Water Park with some of our best friends, the Prather family, and a couple of days later Logan and Chantal went together to get their first tattoos.

We moved Logan into his dorm room at Baylor in mid-August, and it was surprisingly unemotional. He was so ready and excited to start college, and we knew that Baylor was the right place for him. In the fall we enjoyed our annual Friendsgiving with a few other families from church, and on December 12 we celebrated our 31st anniversary! We sadly lost both of our Guinea pigs this past year – Mr. Nibbles in June and Leo in early January. Our small animal count is now at 5 chinchillas.

**Logan (18)** has transitioned well from high school Senior to college Freshman. In February we celebrated his Basketball Senior Night as well as his Senior Thesis oral presentation. He and his fellow Senior classmates had an incredible experience on their class trip to Italy during Spring Break in March, and Logan played a great season of golf in the spring. In May, we enjoyed a very meaningful Senior Sunday at church that included a slideshow, luncheon, and Chantal's reading of our parent letter to Logan. Graduation itself was made all the more special by Carl's dad, Carl's mom, and Carl's brother Jim flying out for





the occasion. Logan is currently thriving as he lives his best life at Baylor. You may have seen him on a TV broadcast running the Baylor Line before several football games this past season or cheering in the stands during football or basketball games. He matured during his first semester, learning to navigate new levels of responsibility both inside and outside of the classroom. While he just barely missed his goal of where he wanted to end up academically at the end of his first semester, toward a business marketing major, he worked more diligently than ever on the bookends of the semester. It was wonderful having him at home during Christmas Break. As he returns to school for the spring semester, he has a better understanding of what it takes to succeed at this level. He plans to rush a fraternity, excel in his courses, and experience the new Foster Pavilion where you may see him cheering on the men's Baylor basketball team!

**Mia (15)** is the quintessential 15-year-old. She is maturing by leaps and bounds both in and out of school and has already informed us that she is the most responsible of everyone in the family! In the spring she threw discus and shot put in track and field and improved from last year. In August she received her learner's permit and has been getting a lot of time behind the wheel so that she will be ready for her driving test in July. She continues to excel in her studies, reminding her parents of themselves with the way she holds herself to high standards and always striving to maintain high grades. She played on both the JV and Varsity teams in volleyball and basketball this school year, growing in each sport. While Logan has been away at Baylor, she's had her parents and the house to herself, which she seems to like while simultaneously missing Logan. It's been a blessing to watch her become really good friends with Logan over the past year. She has started thinking about colleges and looks forward to going on some campus visits in the next year. Currently her interests are interior design and architecture.

**Carl** enjoyed another good year that saw growth at Baylor, with all of his clients in the Libraries returning to near pre-COVID levels of activity, increasing marketing and communications' needs on the Information Technology side of the university, and teaching a Media Design class for the first time for the Journalism, Public Relations, and New Media department. He is grateful for his colleagues that make working at Baylor a joy each day. He returned to the SXSW Conference in Austin after a year away and loved being at ground zero for the emergence of AI innovation across multiple sectors. For the first time in many years, he attended and presented at the Christian Scholars Conference in Houston and was glad to have Chantal with him and to spend time with so many good friends. He served as assistant high school volleyball coach at Live Oak for his 11th season and loved working with his fellow coaches and players (including Mia) through a season hampered by player injuries, making it to the first round of playoffs. He also enjoyed working with an amazing team of teachers at Crestview Church of Christ to plan and teach several impactful Bible study series throughout the year and kept things in order on the church website. The congregation nominated him to be an elder this year, but he decided that it was not the right time with Mia still in high school. For the 5th year Carl also served as one of the visual designers for the Deep in the Heart Film Festival (now the Waco Independent Film Festival). For Carl there is (clearly) never a dull moment, but amidst all of the activity his favorite moments remain quiet times watching movies/TV shows or otherwise hanging out with Chantal, catching Logan coming and going on the Baylor campus or at home, spending time with Mia in and out of volleyball season, and catching up with family and friends as often as he is able.

**Chantal** is now in her 12th year of working at Live Oak, where she continues to serve as the Operations Manager (as a colleague said of her, "She's the straw that stirs the drink, and it's a good drink"). She is thankful to be in Mia's world and on her same school schedule. She also continues to serve as the teacher's assistant in the babies & young toddlers Sunday morning Bible class at church. Logan's semi-frequent phone calls, FaceTimes, and encounters during the fall semester warmed her heart. She is blessed to be part of a Formation Group at school and a Life Group at church. She LOVED watching Taylor Swift's ERAS Tour Film twice – the second time with some of her closest friends – and dancing & singing in the aisle. She also can't recommend the Apple TV+ miniseries "Lessons in Chemistry" highly enough (she's watched the final episode 3 times and cried each time). She is planning on and looking forward to improved health & wellness in the new year.

Cheers to 2024!

Chantal Carl Logan Mia

Carl: (254) 366-4432 • carlfflynn@me.com • @carlfflynn (Facebook & X) • @carlfflynn (Instagram & Threads)  
Chantal: (805) 338-8775 • c2flynn@yahoo.com • @c2flynn (Facebook) • @chantal.flynn (Instagram)  
Logan: @logan.flynn11 (Instagram) | Mia: @miajoyflynn (Instagram)