



Written by [Staff](#) on December 6, 2022

Published in the December 26, 2022 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 38, No. 24

The Goodness of America

A Season for Miracles

What's in a name? As Shakespeare once posed the question, the naming of things and people can be irrelevant, but not so for 10-year-old Miracle Moore of Jennings, Missouri, who helped deliver her "miracle" baby sister after her mom went into a fast and premature labor at home.

Jayla Moore was born healthy but three weeks early on October 23, after 30-year-old Viola Fair started the delivery with no time to get to a hospital. Fair's eldest daughter, Miracle, acted quickly, dialing 911 and telling dispatcher Scott Stranghoener, "Hi, I think my mom is in labor," as reported by [TODAY.com](#).

Stranghoener stayed on the line with the fourth grader, guiding her through instructions for her mom, which he said she "followed to a T." The call lasted for 11 minutes, and while waiting for the first responders, Miracle told her mom, "Don't sit on the toilet," and "Mama, they said lay on your back in the center of the bed or on the floor."

As her mother's cries of pain could be heard over the recorded call, Miracle kept comforting Fair and reminding her help was on the way. "It's OK, Mama, it's OK!" Miracle said, then telling Stranghoener: "I think her water broke.... She's coming! She's coming!" The child encouraged her mother to lie down, and then she saw her sister: "She's here!... Her head is here," screamed Miracle.

With help from Stranghoener, Miracle did as instructed and helped deliver baby Jayla. "Be very careful, don't drop the baby, OK?" Stranghoener said.

Jayla's birth was a "miracle," said her mother. Of her extraordinary eldest daughter, Fair said "I am very thankful."

Farmers Rally to Save Neighbor's Harvest

Paul Baker wasn't a master harvester, but he sowed his seed in faith, and even after he passed he reaped a bountiful harvest. With the help of more than 100 farmers and community members in the tightknit town of Creston, Iowa, Paul's crops were saved after he tragically and unexpectedly died from lung cancer at the age of 66.

A native of Creston, Paul had owned and operated more than 500 acres of farmland in this small city of less than 10,000 residents. He and his wife of 46 years, Lynn Baker, raised cattle and grew soybeans and corn. In March, Paul fell gravely ill and doctors discovered fluid had developed on his lungs. A biopsy told the unthinkable: Paul had lung cancer. "He passed away about four days later," Lynn said in an interview with *The Epoch Times*. "We didn't expect it to be anything like that.... I think we were all very sad and shocked."

At the center of Paul's life was his Catholic faith, explained Lynn. He trusted God and worked the farm up until the day he was admitted to the hospital. He died on October 20 at age 66.

The couple's daughter, Melissa Baker, said the community knew something was wrong. "Farmers and friends had already worked with my uncle John to harvest the soybeans while [Paul] was in the hospital. They just volunteered, nobody asked them to do it.... That's what happened with the corn, too."



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The charity and goodwill of some 100 people who volunteered their time and equipment showered the Bakers with blessings and kindness during a time of great personal loss. From the local businesses that donated breakfasts and lunches to the working farmers to the town's St. Malachy Catholic School, where students crafted thank-you cards, people showed up and showed they really cared.

"It was really emotional. Of course we cried a lot, but we were just overwhelmed and felt very loved," said Lynn. Truly, there is something very special about a small-town community.

Strangers Celebrate Seventh Thanksgiving Together

What are the odds that a text message sent to the wrong person could unite two total strangers? Likely pretty small, but for accidental friends Jamal Hinton and Wanda Dench, that one-of-a-kind encounter would change their lives and remain an indelible memory in their hearts forever.

The grandmother and high-school senior met in 2016, when Dench, of Mesa, Arizona, texted Hinton, then 17 years old, inviting him to Thanksgiving dinner at her house at 3:00 p.m. The message was meant for Dench's grandson, who had a new number, and Hinton was in class in Phoenix when he received it.

Dench then sent a selfie to Hinton when he asked her to prove that she was his grandma. To that message, Hinton replied with a photo of his face, stating that in fact she was not his grandma, but could he "still get a plate tho?"

"Of course you can. That's what grandma's do ... feed everyone," Dench replied, with a piece of cake emoji, according to Breitbart News, which first published the heartwarming story.

Since their first Thanksgiving together, Dench and Hinton have captivated a growing social-media audience, who have been following their friendship over the years. They told [azfamily.com](#) that one of the great benefits of the gift of friendship is asking nothing in return.

"I would have missed out on a wonderful relationship," Dench said when asked what would have happened if she hadn't invited Hinton over years ago. "I've changed my view so much on the younger generation, and now that I've reflected back on all these years, I didn't change their life; they changed mine."

This year, the two celebrated their seventh Thanksgiving together, and their viral friendship may even have inspired a Netflix film, portraying a rare bond set to last well beyond the holidays.

— Annalisa Pesek



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