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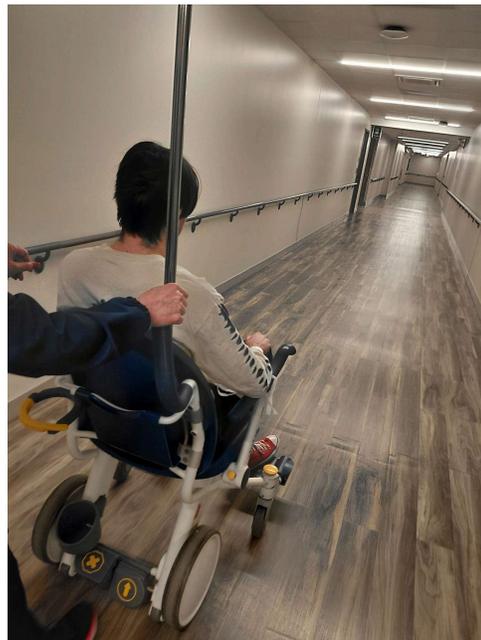
Noah's appendicitis



Some of you may have heard by now that Noah had an appendicitis and an emergency appendectomy. He is okay!

cramping that had taken place over the weekend. I suspected appendicitis and sent him to the campus urgent care. Thankfully his first class was cancelled so he was able to go immediately. The doctor there confirmed my suspicions and sent him on to the ER. All this happened for us between 9-11pm and 7-9am for him. We rallied the troops...we contacted Terry's sister Shari. She met him at the ER and stayed with him all day long.

We were texting Shari all night long. I fell asleep a little after midnight but Terry was texting some more. We both woke up between 3-4am to news that the CAT scan confirmed appendicitis and that they were preparing him for surgery. They had to wait longer than normal (about 8 hours) since he had breakfast that morning. We were up for about an hour waiting for surgery to happen but fell back asleep until 7 or 8am for us and 5-6pm for them. Shari had sent many messages about getting him ready for surgery and that it just happened right before we woke up and that he was in post-op. And in fact they were discharging him!





My mom and dad came to receive him from the hospital and take him to their house for the night. They had already taken his car home from the hospital for him. Once there he put his feet up and started emailing his professors about why he missed class that day. It's hard to believe this all happened in just one day.

People have been shocked he was discharged so quickly but honestly it's better to recover at home than the hospital. Once we knew he was safely at my parents house we had another nap until mid-morning and then we called him. Even though I had photos I needed proof-of-life video that he was okay.



He was sore and very tired. The night before he had tried sleeping in a fasted state but the pain and cramping kept him awake. He described it as delirium. So a sleepless night combined with emergency surgery exhausted him. He slept well at my folks but woke up with pain until the new meds kicked in and he fell back asleep. In the morning he was having gas pains from them airing him up for surgery. We called him this Wednesday morning (his Tuesday night) and cheered him up. We laughed so much I think maybe we forced that gas out. Poor guy - he needed that laugh even though it hurt.

So while Noah slept, life moved on for us despite the rough night. Ezra had his first basketball game. The plan was for him to get to the school independently. I was just going to get him a Subway sandwich for his drive home but I ended up going all the way to the school with him and being told that I could indeed accompany him to the game in Taipei. Despite being unprepared for a four-hour trip I went along. I spotted Evie on her way to choir class and then Samuel joined her for track later. We do all of this by renting bicycles and riding 1.3 miles to the school. It was cool and foggy and I didn't bring a coat since I wasn't supposed to be gone long.



Noah was sleeping. Terry was home alone working on the computer, Evie was at choir, Samuel was riding to the school, and Ezra and I were on a bus to Taipei.

Ezra played at Taipei European School and his team won 59-28. Ezra is *brand new* at basketball and is definitely still learning the rules. The poor kid learned on the go while on the court but he did make a basket (he's #41 in the photo)!

By the time Ezra and I got home, Terry had just left for his Tuesday evening excursion to Taipei for English conversation class at Aroma cafe. We almost passed each other. We were so tired by then. Even though Terry's attempt to take a "faster" bus to Taipei instead of the train backfired and took way way longer, he persisted and ended up having his best night yet at class. He was given his own table to facilitate and did a great job with it.

We went to bed late and slept in late. Once we were up we talked to Noah and accidentally made him laugh. So now we've come full-circle and you all know exactly what happened to Noah and what our day looked like afterwards. It felt insane! This was all in the same 24-hour period.





Yes it was very strange and surreal to walk through this halfway across the world. I wished that I could be there to take care of him. We're so thankful for Shari's help - she was a lifesaver. And thankful for my folks and the several people that visited him in the hospital and prayed alongside us. My folks even found a rolling backpack for him since he can't lift more than ten pounds for the next two weeks. We joked he needs to find a woman who will carry his bag for him like how Abraham's servant knew Rebekah was the one when she watered his camels. He could find a wife that way - two birds with one stone! Ha!

Please pray for Noah's recovery. Pray for his professors to help him catch up and be understanding. And please, if you have the nudge to help Noah, just act on it. He won't ever ask for help, like most people. You can text him directly. If you don't have his number, you can text or email us and we'll give it to you. Thank you for praying!!

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