Subject: Fwd: Christmas thoughts for you Charles

Date: Saturday, December 22, 2012 at 12:24:00 AM Mountain Standard Time

From: Randy Kendrick <

To: david schmidtz <schmidtz@u.arizona.edu>

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Randy Kendrick <

Date: December 21, 2012, 3:45:02 PM MST

To: "koch

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 Pfotenhaur about state action through Taxpayors 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 my health 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,