

A Snowfall in April

Strangely, an unexpected, unpredicted snowfall occurred in West and Middle Tennessee on Tuesday, April 13, of this year. I can now tell you how it happened. This amazing story is related by Stacy A. Hayes, financial services representative of Union Planters Bank in Paris, Tennessee, a neat little city on the Tennessee River in the western part of the state. It was passed along to me by Charlene Bennett in Medicare Claims. Stacy writes:

"It has never snowed this late in the year in my memory. Daily temperatures were already over 70 degrees. We have a repair guy who works on our building and does maintenance. He's here every day for awhile and is the sweetest guy. Last week, he missed a couple of days but no one ever said anything. This morning, when he got here, Candice (the bank's branch manager) asked him if everything was okay, because he was quiet and he never misses work. So he shared this story with her about his niece.

"He has a four-year-old niece who lives in Milan, Tennessee. She was diagnosed with cancer shortly after her birth and has been getting treatment from LeBonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis. Two weeks ago, the doctors sent her home and told her family that there was nothing else they could do for her.

"After they got home, the Make-A-Wish Foundation came to their house and asked her family what she wanted. They said she could have anything she wished. When they asked her, she said she wanted to play in the snow. Of course, this took them by surprise because they were expecting toys or a vacation. They scrambled around trying to figure out a way to get this little girl to a place that still had snow.

"They called the family and said it was next to impossible to do and to ask the little girl for another wish. The mother was crying and said, 'We have three inches of snow on the ground and she thinks you made it happen.' The Make-A-Wish woman was stunned. So the little girl played outside all day and the mother had to make her come inside that afternoon.

"Although he (the repairman) said that she died Friday (April 16), she got her wish, which everybody said would be impossible. That just reinforced to me that we are not in charge here on earth. I believe that little girl's family needed that snow to make it through last week and God made it happen."

And so do we, Stacy, so do we.

--Beecher Hunter