

Julie, Lee & Thomas'

California Adventure

Saturday-Sunday, 28 June-6 July

1st weekend with Nalbandians in Tulare

Big trees, big feast, big family

They came, they saw, they got an eyeful.

Julie Meacham Jones of Pinehurst; Lee Meacham, her brother; and Lee's youngest son, Thomas – the only member of the Richmond, Va., Meachams who had not been to California – landed in Fresno, Calif., last Saturday to begin a weeklong family reunion trip.

We miss Mac Jones, Julie's husband, who was originally scheduled to come, who had to stay home. With the economy the way it is, the sows at the hog farm needed Mac to stay and take care of them.

Julie, Lee and Thomas stopped by the Circle N Ranch in Tulare to pick up Aunt Daisy Lee on Sunday morning, and then the four of them headed east into the Sierra Nevada to visit Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park.



Thomas Meacham and a giant Sequoia

This park is an important place for Daisy Lee to take visitors who come to the ranch because of the trees there.

They are Earth's largest – and among its oldest – living things. Not long after she moved
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to Tulare with Red, who died earlier this year, he told her there were two things on ear that convinced him there was a higher power: these big trees and her.

So it is a pilgrimage one is obligated to make when visiting the Circle N. Nowadays, it also gives the rest of the family left behind at the ranch time to prepare the Armenian feast that will be served once the travelers are back home.



Back row, left to right: Jim and Karen (Nalbandian) Waggoner, Nancy (Nalbandian) and Gary Crase, Charlene and Butch (Michael Jr.) Nalbandian, and Thomas Meacham. Front row: Lee Meacham, Daisy Lee Nalbandian and Julie Jones.

Lee and Thomas at a mountain overlook in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park.



Lee and Julie at the roots of a fallen giant tree