

Lost and Found

This story will help you regain your belief in kindness, connections, and good detective work. In the spring of 2010 our Raleigh School fifth grades headed to DC. While they were there a camera memory card, belonging to the family of Olly Duckett was lost on the mall. Another family who was in DC participating in an annual walk for the Epilepsy Foundation, saw the memory card, picked it up, tucked it away with the intentions of finding the owner.

Fast forward 10 years, when the finders moved to Chicago and re-discovered the camera memory card. This family, the Deans, scoured the card looking for clues to help them. This is how determined they were to find the owner, from Beth Dean, "We had a hard time at first. We started by tracking down veterans since Olly had taken a couple of pictures in front of the Vietnam Veterans Wall. That didn't pan out. We tried to find the TRS school in the Midwest since one of the kids had a Detroit baseball cap, and another was wearing a Blackhawks t-shirt. That didn't pan out either. But, my husband went back through the pics and saw "The Raleigh School" written on a board and that is how we got to you!"

Beth reached out to TRS, we of course remembered Olly and luckily, even though the family has relocated, his mom Tracey still has the same email address. We helped to connect the two families and Tracey shared her gratitude in a recent email to Beth, "Only someone with a pure heart would go to such lengths to return such a small, yet priceless item."

Olly Duckett, Class of 2010 is a senior at Ithaca College.