



This is a photo of my family, chilling out in Sweetwater, TN waiting for eclipse totality. What a day! My kids chalk this up as one of the most amazing experiences of their lives. To quote my son, "I'm going to remember this day forever."

If you have never experienced a total eclipse, I strongly encourage you to prepare and experience the next one. It was SCIENCE! and surreal, and beautiful and spiritual all rolled up together. The entire horizon, all 360 degrees, turned the colors of a sunset. The bats came out. The birds got quiet. The colors of everything got muted, like a sepia photograph. The heat of Tennessee got noticeably cooler. And when the sun came back (because you know we were all holding our breaths), every person cheered! All together, we cheered!

In fact, the entire day was full of people experiencing joy – together! We were Christians and Jews, Yankees and Southerners, African-Americans, Asians, Hispanics, Whites, old and young, all together. We shared travel stories. We took photos of each other. We waited patiently in lines of traffic together. And when the sun came back, we cheered!

If there's a legacy I want to leave to my children, it's that experience. I want to teach them that this is the heart of being human. I want to teach them to teach their kids the same thing. In fact, I want to teach kids who aren't mine, too. That's why I carefully considered how I wanted to make a legacy gift. What could I give, and to whom could I give it so I could have this kind of impact? I've carefully chosen the organizations whose mission mirrors my goals, and you can, too. If we all work together, we can achieve more than 2.5 minutes of totality.