**Grandpa Thom Christmas Gift Hunt**

**Grandpa Thom and I really loved Christmas. It was a fun time of the year. Of course, for us as little guys, having all the presents was like the best thing in the world. We even got gifts from relatives we hardly knew. Aunt Alberta was a cosmetic salesperson for Avon. She always wore a lot of perfume and makeup. Grandpa Thom and I would joke that we could smell here a mile away before she ever arrived at our house! Each year she would give us Avon soap-on-a- rope.**

**One Christmas, Grandpa Thom and I decided to do something different and make Christmas morning even more fun than ever. We had a gift for our mother. Instead of just giving it to her, we decided to make her go on a hunt for it. So, we gave her an envelope with a message inside of it saying, “Look in the hall closet.” When our mother went to the closet, she found another note that said, “Go to the bookcase.” The idea was to make our mother have fun by looking all over the house until she would finally come to the gift we bought her.**

**After about five trips, something went wrong. Her last note said, “Go to the television for your next clue.” Somehow, we didn’t get the next clue on the television and she didn’t know what to do. So, we simply got the present and gave it to her to open.**

**A few days later, our telephone that hung on the wall in our kitchen stopped working. The phone would ring but we could not hear a thing on the other end. Mom was frustrated and called the phone company to come and fix the problem. That day a repairman showed up with all his tools. Our mother explained the problem. Then, the repairman went to work. He started to take the phone apart to look at things. He undid the speaker part and everything was good. Then, he unscrewed the hearing part of the phone. As he looked around inside, he found a note. The note said, “Go to the bathroom.”**

**The repairman showed the not to our mother. Then, he said, “Mrs. Stevenson, I don’t need to use your bathroom. I went before I got here.” He told her the paper note was blocking our ability to hear people on the other end of the line.**

**Well, you probably figured things out. That note was one Grandpa Thom and I had put in the phone as part of our mother’s gift hunt. Mom got a big laugh out of it. The repairman thought it was very funny. Our Dad laughed like crazy when he heard about it. And, Grandpa Thom and I were just a little embarrassed that we caused such a telephone problem.**

**Part of Twin Power is doing things a little differently to make it seem fun and memorable.**