**Grandpa Thom and Pokey the Dog**

**When Grandpa Thom and I live in Monterey Park, California, we had a neighbor that owned a beautiful short-haired hunting dog. The owner, Mr. Rodman, was so proud of his dog. It was obedient. The dog would obey every command from its owner. For example, if Mr. Rodman would say, “Sit.” The dog would immediately sit down and not move until the owner gave him permission. When Mr. Rodman would throw a ball through the air and say, “Fetch,” Pokey the dog would run as fast as he could and retrieve the ball. The dog was amazing!**

**However, there was just one problem. There was a chain link fence between our property and Pokey would constantly dig a hole under the fence and come over to our yard. Mr. Rodman would see that he was missing and would come get him and then, apologize for the dog coming into our yard. Mr. Rodman could not figure it out. Pokey always did what he was commanded to do. Mr. Rodman would tell his dog to not dig holes, especially along the fence line. Yet, Pokey always managed to get to our property.**

**Grandpa Thom and I had a secret. We would go to our mother’s food pantry and grab a can of tuna fish. We would open it up and then go out by the fence where Pokey’s dog house was located. We would call our friend over to the fence and let him sniff the tuna fish. You could see him get excited and drool over the thought of eating the delicious canned fish which was so much better than the horrible dog food his master would feed him.**

**We would put a little bit of tuna near the fence on the ground. Pokey would start to feverishly dig at the dirt on his side of the fence. Before too long, he would dig far enough to grab the tuna fish with his tongue. Then, Grandpa Thom and I would put some more tuna fish just a little farther away from the first part of the hole Pokey had already dug. Again, he would scratch and dig like a dog half starved of any food at all. Again, he would reach the tuna fish and inhale it like it was the last bit of food on earth.**

**We did this until Pokey was all the way under the fence and safely onto our property. Once he was all the way through, we would reward him with the rest of the tuna fish. He loved us!**

**Poor Mr. Rodman was fit to be tied for many years to come. He just could not figure it out.**

**Twin Power is having good fun without being destructive or mean to people or animals.**