



*Hani and her daughter, Lucy*

**H**ani is a friend of mine from Seona's Bible Study at Park Street Church. I met Hani in 2000 when I joined her almost all female group. In 2001 she moved back to Texas. She's been married 4 years to her husband, Dennis. While X and I visited with her, she fed us fresh baked chocolate chip cookies. Hani is a proud Mom and supportive wife. She is a great friend too! I really enjoyed our visit.

**L**aurie is a college friend. She lived in my 7 person suite my senior year. Her favorite phrase was "Oh Jim" in response to my shenanigans like baking chocolate chip corn muffins. Laurie and X support our alma mater, Tufts, by interviewing prospective students in the Dallas area. I finally met her husband, Manny, and her 4 month old son, Gabriel. I made her chicken piccata on my visit.



*Laurie recently became a proud Mom!*

I went to  
Dallas,  
**TEXAS**

courtesy of my friend  
The X

Feb. 4th --- | --- Feb. 8th



*Eric, nicknamed "X", was my host: he's an eXceptional friend!*

**E**ric bought my plane ticket, hosted me, and drove me around on this vacation. We also played cards and he beat me every time. I met Eric my junior year at Tufts. He was nicknamed "X" because he was an ex-engineering major, an ex-math major, etc. We lived in the same dorm and did things like wrestle in the common room, where I broke X's tooth. We still call each other freaks to this day. X has been a wonderful friend, and stuck by me through 17 years and many changes. What a long, freaky trip it has been. Thanks very much for the great trip, X!



*Marney and I in Mexia, TX*

**M**arney is a friend I met on the Odd MtOdd TV board in 2003. He stuck up for me when I posted stupid things. I met Marney for the first time in Seattle in 2004, and now for the second time in Mexia, TX, where he cooked us all skirt steak fajitas at Fort Parker. His wife, Kristin, and two daughters, Charlotte (6) and Sophie (1½), joined us. His daughters are beautiful & well behaved.

**O**ne of the many blessings of my life is knowing so many wonderful, supportive friends. I love to make friends, uplift people, and bring them together, locally and all over the country. This trip was one of those rare opportunities to do all of that. It was a weekend

where I could totally step outside myself and my problems and just really enjoy the friendships God has given me.



*My pose in tribute to the "X"*