

Dear All,

CHRISTMAS 1987

Joe: The kids are all home and our house is brimming with excitement..the tree is trimmed and Christmas carols are coming from the piano. I had such fun the first 5 months of the year landscaping a new house we bought in Hollister. I planted lots of citrus and roses and put in auto sprinklers and a drip system. It is planned as a no work, beautiful yard and so far it looks great. Judy and I spent 3 weeks touring Great Britain. Becky was studying in London and she traveled a lot with us and showed us the sights. Such a beautiful country and neat people. I didn't get enough time in the museums. We celebrated my Mom and Dad's 50th wedding anniversary in Minnesota last summer. The liturgy was beautiful. We all participated and the grandchildren brought up meaningful gifts at the offertory (like a garden hoe; a \$ bill; flowers; church books; etc.). We had a video person tape all 5 of us kids and Mom and Dad eating and talking at our home in Ogema. (I looked at the tape and I was enthralled. Such a beautiful time...we are truly blessed). Also, I had the best fishing ever, with an 8 pound northern landed and a much bigger one got away. I've resigned from Cupertino Community Services and am very active on the board of Sacred Heart Community Service in San Jose. Our mission is helping the nitty, gritty poor to live with with dignity. It's very exciting and challenging and we hold hands and pray at the board meetings for His guidance. I'm helping teach confirmation at our parish to juniors and seniors in high school. Neat kids, but I am deeply concerned for the future of my Church based on the faith I see in these kids. The Church here is too big. Work at HP is fair at best. I'm out of management and back in a more technical area. Some of that is great as I'm learning about PCs which I am applying in my rental business and Judy's Photography business doing the books. Ahh, the challenge of a big company for a boy from the country who still longs for the country.

Judy: When the girls are away at school our house quiets down considerably. Actually, the stillness is shocking. I'm glad that Joey plays the drums and has sleepovers at our house. I welcome the activity since we have had such a busy house for many years. My photography business is doing well. It is creative and I love it. I had to hire two men part time this fall to help me with the more mundane parts. I still do all the photography and planning with the customers. The new hires are doing fine but I miss the girls (Becky, Mary and Amy). They worked for me this summer. Last Saturday Amy assisted me with a wedding and that felt good again. Our trip to England was broadening for me. I liked all the history and architecture and best of all seeing many of our dear old friends who now live in England.

Becky (21): Hi all, I hope 1987 treated you all as well as it did me. This past year was one of great adventure. In the beginning of April I flew to London for my Spring quarter of school. It was fantastic! I was able to study Shakespeare in "Shakespeare country". London is a cultural center and we were able to see operas, plays and ballets for only 4 to 7 pounds. (\$7-\$11) After spending 3 months studying in London, my roommate flew over and the three of us backpacked through Europe. We stayed in Ireland, than went to France, Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Austria and Germany. It was all truly beautiful. The most breathtaking was hiking in the Swiss Alps among the glaciers and looking down to the little chalets and flowered window boxes. From London I flew to Minnesota for two weeks of more playing. Then back to California for my friend's wedding. Lots of traveling, lots of fun. The only problem now is that I've got a traveling bug and want to go off galavanting again. But first I'm graduating in June and starting my teaching credential program in the fall. I hope you all have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!!!!

Mary (20): Hi everyone! I'm now a junior at Cal Poly and it's a scary feeling knowing that soon I'll be out in the "real world". This past school year has been hectic as my studies are difficult and I'm involved in many activities. I'm still doing water polo and this year I'm the president of the club. It takes a great deal of time as there is much organizing and planning to do. During spring quarter we will compete against colleges all over California. This past summer I lifeguarded and taught swimming lessons again. We also went to Minnesota for 2 weeks for my Grandparents 50th wedding anniversary. It was great relaxing at the cabin on White Earth lake. We went water-skiing, hydroslliding, and I attempted to teach my cousins to play water polo. It was fun seeing everyone. I'm still majoring in Liberal studies and will be minoring in psychology. Hopefully next year I will begin student teaching in an elementary school in the area. I will do this for 2 quarters. It should prove to be challenging yet exciting and will give me experience in the field. I'm living in a house downtown with 7 other girls and there is never a dull moment. It gets pretty crazy at this time especially because we only have one phone line! Have a Merry Christmas!!

Amy (18): Hi everyone! I'm now a freshman at Cal Poly and I'm having a GREAT time. I'm majoring in Industrial Technology and I'm definitely doing more studying now than in high school. I'm meeting a lot of fun and neat people in the dorm. Lately it seems like I've been having a bit too much fun and I keep on finding myself around the dorm talking or playing Pictionary late at night instead of sleeping or studying. I'm still managing to get good grades though and learn a lot of information in the process. Last quarter I played both intramural soccer and volleyball. We had really fun teams and made it into the championships in both sports. Next quarter I decided to go for something different and I'm going to play basketball and indoor soccer. I also had a fun and exciting senior year. The most interesting thing I did was go to Rancho Santa Marta (an orphanage in Mexico). I went there for a week with a service club from my high school. During the week we dug ditches and played with the kids. It was a really interesting experience for me, and hopefully I'll be able to go to Mexico again this summer with a church group from Cal Poly. This summer I worked for my Mom and also was a camp counselor. First I worked at the YMCA and had 4th through 6th grade girls and guys; they were wild! Then I had 8th and 9th grade girls at a church camp and was also Bible study leader. I couldn't believe the difference between the kids. I enjoyed being a counselor at both camps and hopefully I'll be able to do it again next summer. Well, I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!!!

Joey (13): Hi! I am in the 8th grade now. Last quarter I got A's and B's. School is very challenging and my hardest class is History. I am in the A Band at school and I play the drums. Last year I got a five piece drum set and cymbals. I like to play loud, but sometimes my family dislikes it. I am on a select traveling soccer team. Last tournament out of 12 teams we came in first. One team was from as far away as Connecticut. My friend Terel and I like to go fishing a lot. We caught about 8 bass one day together.

Audrey,
I know you live in Oregon but I don't have your address. I hear Monica is in San Luis also. What a different life we all live now. How are you doing? What little I hear from your kids suggests you love the country.

Love
Judy & Joe