

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Joe's (age 82) biggest challenges are health related. In February his weight decreased to 111 pounds and his doctor gave him 4 to 8 weeks to live. He is diagnosed with a very rare blood disease called VEXAS. His doctor prescribed Prednisone and now his weight is 137 and he is getting a round face (like the comic Peanuts). He has several other major illnesses but is on the mend. 17 out of 18 members of our immediate family got Covid at least once. Fortunately no one was seriously ill. He spent several weeks a couple months before the midterm election researching a document about losing our democracy and providing options to get involved. He sent this out to about 50 people and got some positive responses. He is concerned that unregulated social media is destroying the democracies of the world. Our family plan is to live in our beautiful place as long as his mind works (this is a very complex place to maintain). He is finishing his memoir and continually realizes how blessed he and his extended family are. In discussing life with his oldest grandchild, Katie, he mentioned that "Heaven is now". She replied, "But Grandpa Joe, there is no suffering in Heaven". After pondering a bit he replied: "There is joy in Heaven and joy here". Every day is a new day and he tries to fill it with joy. He is in the finishing stages of helping write the founding history of a community based nonprofit in San Jose called Sacred Heart Community Service. In spite of 115 degree heat the vineyard did well and all the grapes were sold. Because of health issues he is not making any more wine. However, we bottled 40 cases of last year's wine of 4 different varieties. Lastly, Joe got a new SPA. He rationalized it a bit as being for the grandkids, but he loves soaking every night and reflecting on life.

Judy (age 82) is in good health. She swims 3 days a week and goes walking with friends 3 days a week. She is thinking a lot about good and evil, truth and lying, love and hate. Two books she recommends are: The Whole Language The Power of Extravagant Tenderness by Greg Boyle and The Sociopath Next Door by Martha Stout, PHD, published in 2005. She also recommends the new movie Pinocchio which is in the theaters now. She went in the middle of the afternoon on a weekday when there were very few people. We still are avoiding indoor crowds and attend Mass online at St. John's Abbey. She still believes that love conquers all. She is confused by the decades-long alliance of the Christian right with the coal and oil industries. This year she planted 6, yes six, oakleaf hydrangeas. Right now they have big, red, oak shaped leaves just in time for Christmas.

Bud: We lost Judy's cousin, Bud, suddenly this year. He and Elaine have been our best friends in CA for almost 50 years. When I say suddenly, I mean we played cards with him and went for a walk the night before and ate breakfast with him that morning. That afternoon he had a stroke and died that night. Over the years we had so much fun with him and we miss him. Elaine has recently joined us in our online church discussion group, and we love being with her.

Trips: Our trips this year were all in the USA. We went to Nate's high school graduation and Katie's college graduation. Our trip this year to Kauai was with Amy's family. So much fun. We went to Louise Leaver's daughter's 3-day wedding in Santa Barbara. What a wonderful celebration. Josiah visited us for the wine bottling on Labor Day weekend and again for a 49er game. In the Fall we visited the scholars: Nate at Loyola Marymount, Anna at Point Loma and Emily at Cal Poly. We watched Tyler play water polo and Katie run a triathlon. On December 17 we attended Rachel's graduation from the U. of Montana. We went to Jennay's band concert when we visited Boise for Christmas.

Becky & Dave Lorenz: Becky continues to substitute teach from first grade to seniors in Veneta, Oregon. She is a big help with Joe's memoir and medical issues and grape selling. She loves light and spent Thanksgiving time putting strings of Christmas lights all over our place (beautiful). Dave has retired from over 30 years work for the State of Oregon forest service. He is exploring his family genealogy. His great grandfather was one of 5 people lynched in northeastern California in 1905. It was the last major lynching in the US. He has found the grave site and is improving it.

Mary & Frank Roller: Mary continues to teach 3rd grade in Saratoga and always gets positive, successful control of her class. Her boys both drive and that leaves her much more free time as they practiced swimming and water polo almost every day. Frank is a division manager of space programs at Lockheed. His son Will is getting married in Palm Springs April first. We plan to attend.

Amy & Mike Edmondson: Amy is finishing almost 2 years as a consultant doing her previous job at HP in Boise, Idaho. Her job ends at the end of January, and she is getting ready for interviews. She is the primary expert organizing Joe's memoir and also setting up his daily pills document. Mike was promoted to a cabinet level position for Fish and Wildlife for the state of Idaho. He and his partner have bought a second brewery and are in the process of refurbishing it. It triples their brewing capacity.

Joey and Belinda Tembrock: Joey's construction business is doing very well. He has started a "Wednesday evenings with Dad". He helps with physical tasks that Joe can't do, but most of all he is the transition person for all of Joe's financial processes. Belinda and Joey bought a new large house and her parents have moved in with them. Belinda's parents have health issues, and this is a good way to help support them. Joey remodeled the house and they are doing very well together. Belinda just started a part time job as the children's program support person at their church. They have fantastic programs from babies through teen years (our church could learn a lot about engaging the youth).

Grandchildren:

Katie Tembrock: Graduated Summa Cum Laude from Cal Poly University at San Luis Obispo (our 3 daughters graduated from Cal Poly). She is taking a year off and living in San Luis Obispo. She is working as a medical assistant in a dermatology clinic and without formal training is removing stitches and giving shots. She is a quick learner.

Rachel Edmondson: Graduated Summa Cum Laude at the University of Montana in 3 ½ years this December 17th. One of her plans is to get a law degree and work for positive environmental issues. She spent 6 weeks with us this summer with her two cousins Katie and Anna Tembrock working as guides on a local ZIP line business in the redwoods. She has two major illnesses: celiac and rheumatoid arthritis. She sings beautifully and Joe calls her his angel.

Josiah Lorenz: The pandemic was not good for Josiah. He dropped out of the University of Arizona at Tucson and lives at home. He is helping his dad fix up a rental house. He is brilliant in many areas. During this past Thanksgiving vacation he helped Joe get and install a much larger computer monitor & fixed a bunch of computer technical issues. We enjoy time in the SPA talking about lots of issues. Josiah and Rachel are both good Skat players (funny name but it is a German card game that our ancestors brought from Germany). Judy loves playing cards with them.

Anna Tembrock: Second year nursing student at Point Loma College in San Diego. She is part of a Christian group that weekly brings food to the homeless in San Diego. Her goal may be to be a nurse practitioner. As she progresses in her program she has volunteered to help Joe with his complex medical issues.

Emily Edmondson: After much family discussion Emily decided to attend Cal Poly. The cost is probably double the in-state Idaho costs. Her major is construction management, and she loves it. Paul Weber (college friend of Amy and Mike's and the architect of our house) is a professor at Cal Poly and her mentor. She calls him "Uncle Paul".

Nate Roller: Freshman at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles majoring in business. Nate is a people person with lots of good friends. He seems to have lucked out with his roommate and dorm wing. The guys say they got the best wing. They certainly look like a bunch of nice guys. He and his roommate both like to surf.

Tyler Roller: Tyler is a third-year student at Bellarmine High School in San Jose. He is a statewide water polo champion, and his team came in second in the top league of all northern California schools. He is an excellent student and time manager (thanks to his dad and mom).

Jennay Edmondson: Jennay is a quiet, unique person. She is organizing a school/community collection of hygiene items, like toothpaste and socks, for the homeless of Boise. She has put up collection barrels in places like Jersey Mike sandwich shops. She is an excellent cook and made two delicious soups for us during Thanksgiving vacation. She was planning to be an astrophysicist, but now is considering becoming a nuclear physicist because of the need for zero carbon pollution from nuclear reactors generating electricity. A year ago, she had 2 major concussions and with medical help she is recovering. Amazingly she can play the marimba in the band at an incredible speed.

May you have a year filled with joy.

Joe & Judy Tembrock



Bottom row: Anna, Rachel, Emily, Katie, Jennay
Top row: Mary, Nate, Belinda, Josiah, Joey, Judy, Dave, Joe, Frank, Tyler, Amy, Mike ,Becky



Joe & Judy & Grandkids



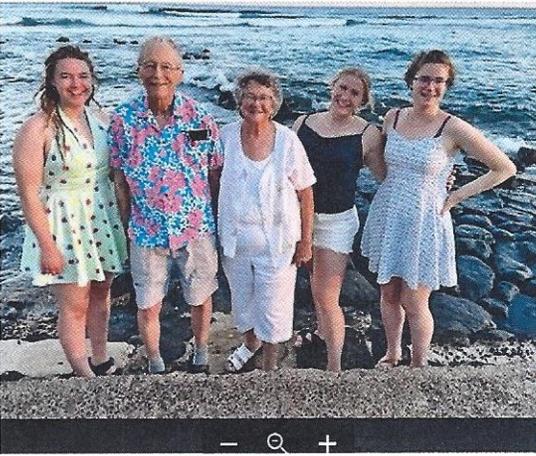
Christmas Lights (thanks to Becky who loves light)



Edmondsons in Kauai



Last Wine Bottling (~40 people helped ... Bottled 40 Cases)



Joe & Judy & Edmondson Granddaughters



Water Polo Champ: Tyler (scored 6 goals in the Northern CA semifinals)



San Francisco 49ers Celebration
at Mary & Franks house in Cupertino



Joe & Judy at Spyglass in San Louis Obispo at the end of our
recent "scholars' trip"