

12 December 2005

Dear Friends and Family,

This has been a rough year for the family, and especially for Debi. We lost Debi's mother, Rose Marie, in February to a cerebral hemorrhage. She died suddenly just two weeks before her 66th birthday and was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. In May, Debi's father, John West, lost his left leg to diabetes. We moved him to Tennessee in July and sold the family home. Debi is an only child, so all the responsibility of closing out the house, managing the family finances, and taking care of her father fell on her. Just a week ago, we learned that John had cancer. He passed away six days later. We will be returning to San Antonio as soon as we can schedule his burial.



In spite of the unexpected deaths and the added responsibility of caring for Debi's father, we had a pretty good year. We chartered a sail boat for the July 4th holiday and took a four day tour of Catalina Island off the coast of southern California. For Memorial Day, we went camping in the Great Smokey Mountains with friends. And for Thanksgiving, we spent a week in Florida with Ron's parents and sister. Debi is still working at the high school, and she got a new Jeep Liberty this summer. Ron got his software finished and on the market in April. So far, there has been a lot of interest by the Government, but not a lot of sales. We hope Document Detective sales increase quickly in 2006. Ron's guitar collection increased by two this year. He bought a solid wood classical guitar made in Spain, and an electric jazz guitar made in Korea. He had an opportunity to play a top of the line, \$13,000 Gibson in Nashville, but the Korean guitar was higher quality and sounded better.

Candi is still enjoying Tennessee State University. When she starts again in January, she will be classified as a junior. She performed leading roles in three TSU plays this year. In *Jar the Floor*, a sisterhood play done in black conversational style, Candi played the only white role as a lesbian cancer victim with a mastectomy. In the Greek tragedy, *Oedipus Rex*, she played the queen. Her last play was *Hedda Gabler*, where she played the second female lead, Thea Elvsted. Candi auditioned for a summer program at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles and was accepted. Hence the reason we were in California. She loved the school but hated LA. Candi has a new boyfriend, Korey Kilsdonk. She is going to Wisconsin next week to visit his family.



Our grandson, Hunter, is now 15 months old. Aaron, Christina and Hunter are the only family we have left in San Antonio. Aaron and Hunter were able to visit Tennessee this week to see John one last time. We enjoyed their visit, and we wish we could spend more time with Hunter.

We are planning a quiet Christmas at home again this year. Danni, our German exchange student from last year is returning for Christmas again. This time, she is going to stay and finish high school. The German school system didn't give her any credit for going to school here last year. She just needs one more semester to graduate from Lincoln County High School. She plans to start college in the fall, possibly as Candi's and Korey's classmate at TSU.

We hope you had a happy and prosperous year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Ron, Debi and Candi* 