

December 12, 1979

Dear Family and Friends,

Another year has come and gone. We are writing to our family and friends again to wish you a Happy Holiday season and a healthy New Year.

This year we encountered many new challenges and learning experiences as human beings travelling through this span of time that has been allotted to us. We are thankful to Him who gives us the time to share with you some of the memory moments of this year.

Our boys are no longer boys but young men. As the Holiday ended for 1978, Kenneth, our youngest son, continued his studies in seventh grade on the Honor Roll and was involved in sports at the school. He did not get to skate this year with Yale Pee Wee Hockey, his favorite sport. He played basketball at school and won a trophy in the Jr. Division of the North Branford Park-Rec, 1979. During 1979 Kenneth has continued to be on the Honor Roll and the Honor Society. This pleases us all very much to have the youngest be one of the top ten in the North Branford Intermediate School.

Kenneth also turned thirteen this year and took on more chores around the house; he is such a blessing to the family.

Jeffrey, our third son, was very active this year with school and hockey. Jeffrey got his driver's license in January and that's a moment he won't forget. He was a junior in school and a right defenseman on the hockey team and had to be on the ice each morning at 5:30 a.m. It meant a lot to Jeff to be able to drive himself to hockey practice through the snow and ice. He is doing good in school and expecting to graduate in June 1980. After being active in school and sports, Jeffrey still helps with the chores around the house. This summer Jeff worked at a local restaurant full-time and part-time at Yale University. Jeffrey is a blessing also to the family in many ways.

It was good to have Gregory, our second son, home for last Christmas holiday from Johnson and Wales College in Providence, Rhode Island; where he was studying Data Processing. Greg finished the semester and came home for the summer and began working at a factory and a local restaurant and also at the Yale Computer Center at the end of summer. He likes working at the Computer Center, so he decided that he would remain there for awhile and give him time to think about his career and future. It's good to have Greg home with the family again; working one to two jobs at a time, he is a source of inspiration to us.

Last, but not least of our sons, Marvin, who is twenty-one now, is still at home with us, working at Yale in the Biology Department. Marvin is relatively happy here at the time. He is also at a crucial decision-making time of life; sometimes he talks about getting married. Marvin is still in the Army Reserve; he goes away two weeks out of the year. We are thankful that we are blessed with the support and strength that he gives the family.

Of course, our family would not be a family without Thelma and Johnnie. We are

especially thankful to God that we are blessed to have Thelma as wife and mother and Johnnie as husband and father. We are still enjoying our work at Yale. We often reminisce about many of our friends that touched our lives as they spent time in the lab.

Early this spring, to our surprise, we discovered that the roof on our house was leaking. "Guess what." Yes, Johnnie and Thelma with some help from the boys installed a complete new roof, twenty-one squares of shingles. This project was combined with tilting and planting the garden. We also built a new combination chicken house and tool house sized 12' x 8' x 8'. Thelma and Johnnie put many hours in doing these projects.

This summer our camping vacation trip took us, Thelma, Kenneth, Johnnie, and Jimmie Moore, Thelma's nephew, to the Poconos in Pennsylvania. We spent five lovely days at Blue Mountain Christian Retreat in Ringold, Pa., this was a time of refreshing for us. Our bodies and minds were rested.

Leading up to our Twenty-second Anniversary, we went to Baltimore, Maryland and spent a couple of days with Thelma's father and other relatives. Thelma got to visit one of her best friends from High School which she had not seen for many years. We spent our Anniversary in Elmworth, Maryland. Then we proceeded to Washington, D.C. and spent four days there with Thelma's sisters touring the city. Our tour continued down in Virginia to Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown, where we spent two days. It was nice and we got lots of exercise. There we saw how the early Americans lived and endured for their freedom. From Jamestown we went to North Carolina for a short visit and to our surprise we attended a family reunion of Johnnie's mother's family. It was good to taste the southern food and to see relatives and friends that we had not seen for many years.

Leaving the family reunion, we headed back to Connecticut in time to spend Labor Day with friends in Danbury. Then back to the regular schedule.

Jeffrey is a senior in High School. Kenneth is in eighth grade; and Johnnie is at the Yale Divinity School.

Thanksgiving we spent the day with Johnnie's sister and family in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

This year we were especially blessed to go many places and shared the love of God with others. There were no major tragedies, not even a death in our family this year. This brings us to a time to simply say thank you to He who controls life and death, for our families and friends like you.