Happy New Year!

We hope 1999 was a good year for all of you! We got even more behind than usual, so this has become a New Year's letter instead of a Christmas letter!

Matt is now a senior at Irvine High School. He is still playing trombone in the marching band, and has gotten accepted into Jazz Band and Wind Ensemble playing bass trombone. He also sings in Chorale and Men's Chorus. The Chorale sang at the Orange County Performing Arts Center on March 16th and Carnegie Hall in New York on March 28th. Matt sang in the chorus of the IHS production of "Brigadoon". The Chorale sang with the Pacific Symphony at the Orange County Performing Arts Center in December. He also sang a solo in the church Christmas concert. If that isn't exciting enough, Matt will be in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Band for the opening ceremony of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia! Once again his parents will be going along as chaperones as they did in New York. He complains, "You won't even let me go halfway around the world by myself!"

Dale has spent the year getting the computer system, etc., at Kawasaki Motors ready for Y2K. Just to keep busy, he has also been running the sound for the house concerts for Shade Tree Stringed Instruments, The Living Tradition, and for the Laguna Beach concerts in Bluebird Park. In August he broke his leg while packing up after a concert. It's been slow healing but he's off the crutches and walking with a cane. He is hoping to take the brace off soon!

Sharon completed the coursework for her Masters degree in May 1999 from Cal State Fullerton leaving only the thesis to go. She has again (!) changed schools but is still teaching students with severe disabilities, still finding it to be challenging and rewarding. She has been interviewed in the paper about one of her students who was in a tragic accident last year, so I guess that was her 15 minutes of fame!

Dale & Sharon again sang special music at the University United Methodist Church, and continue to sing with the church choir.

We hope you had a Merry Christmas! May God's glory shine upon you brightly in 2000!

Love from Dale, Sharon, and Matt

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