

Merry Christmas!

December 2002

While the world around us seems to get crazier by the day, we have managed to stay crazily happy, enjoying life with all its ups and downs.

In June Matt turned 20. I haven't figured out how he has grown up while I haven't gotten any older! Still, there he is, looking down at me and treating me like his "little mother" just the way I remember my brothers treating our mother (and they still do treat her that way!). He is still attending Irvine Valley College, taking his general education courses and singing in chorale. He has taken two geology courses and his professor is trying to convince him to major in that subject. He enjoys it, but cannot picture himself being a geologist. He loves music, too, but doesn't intend to make it a career. He is leaning toward a major in computer graphics (I think!).

In August we went to Hawaii for ten days to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, thanks to my folks and Dale's mom. We enjoyed sightseeing around Honolulu and on the Big Island, where we were overwhelmed at the sight of lava flowing down the mountainside into the ocean! This was really an incredible experience, one that made very clear the power of God in nature!

Dale is still at Kawasaki taking care of computers, and still running sound for concerts at Shade Tree Stringed Instruments. He also does maintenance on the church's sound equipment.

I am still teaching children with special needs in Placentia. My students are ages 9-13. I "only" have seven this year, but at times it feels like many more! This position continues to be my passion in life, and I know I am doing what I was born to do, even though I work long hours and come home exhausted (and usually with more work to do!).

All three of us are still singing in the church choir and being active in church in other ways as well. It is such a joy to go to church every week as a family, to discuss our beliefs and insights with each other, to know that we have that foundation.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior, let us pray the prayer the angels sang on that most wonderful night-----Peace on Earth, Good Will to All People! May 2003 bring God's Kingdom closer to all of us.

Love from Dale, Sharon, and Matt McCart