

Christmas, 1971

Dear Friends and Relatives:

It does not seem possible that a whole year has passed since we last wished you a Merry Christmas. At first it seemed that this had been such a quiet year that there was really nothing to tell you, but our recollections found this not to be true.

The ranks of the Tracy Hall grandchildren were doubled by the arrival of Daniel Hall Bartholomew, born January 6, 1971 to Sherlene and her husband Dan in Chicago. Ida-Rose got her first taste of grand-mothering and found it to her liking, especially since it offered an opportunity to get better acquainted with her son-in-law Dan.

Things were rather quiet from then until graduation time, and then a very special and completely unexpected event happened to Tracy Sr. The Brigham Young University awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Science Degree. I suppose this proves that a prophet (scientist) is NOT without honor in his own country. And because BYU is his own country, so to speak, this was an especially heart-warming happening.

June was a hectic month. Elizabeth's husband, Marty Neil, received his Master's degree from Stanford, and Sherlene's husband, Dan, received his Master's degree from the University of Chicago. Ida-Rose had planned to do some more grand-mothering in California when Tracy Jr. and his wife Betsy had their second child and our first Granddaughter, Zina, (June 9), but instead she went to the hospital for major surgery. Grandmother Huntington took over in California. Ida-Rose was over the worst of it by the time Liz and Marty stopped over in Provo on their way to New Jersey where Marty had accepted full time employment with Bell Telephone Laboratories. By the time Sherlene and Dan and son arrived to vacation, Ida-Rose had a hard time finding good excuses for being waited on. We had an initial introduction to Zina when Betsy and Tracy visited in late summer.

Virginia is getting restless and would love to go on a mission if the Church would only let her. We hope she will still want to when she is old enough. She and Charlotte and Nancy keep our home happy and hopping. Tracy's father acts as a referee when things get out of control.

Since Tracy Sr. has been made clerk of the 10th Stake at BYU, he is looking for a time stretching machine--anyone know where one can be obtained?

We are happy to announce that David is now engaged to a lovely and wonderful girl, Karen VanDyke. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bazil M. VanDyke of South Jordan, Utah. Next June, Karen will receive her Bachelor's degree in English, and David will receive his Master's in Mechanical Engineering. We are all looking forward to January 27, 1972 when David and Karen will marry in the Salt Lake Temple.

We cordially invite all our friends and relatives to an open house in honor of Karen and David on February 4, 1972, from eight O'clock until 10 O'clock P.M. at our home. David and Karen request that you do not bring gifts. We do hope that you will want to take this opportunity to meet Karen and her family and extend your congratulations to the bride and groom.

It is our desire that this Yule Season will bring only joy to you and your loved ones wherever they may be, and that HIS peace will be with you now and always.

Merry Christmas

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