

## 祝大家聖誕節快樂

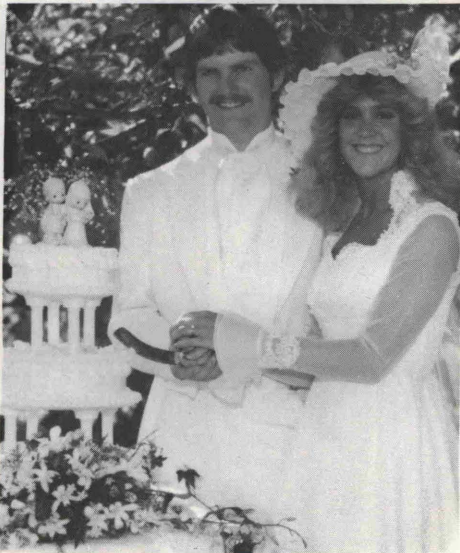
1982

Dear Friends,

This joyous season of giving is here again and we take delight in greeting each of you with our news, love and best wishes.

This has been quite a year for us. It seems as though almost everything that could, has happened though we don't have any new grand children.

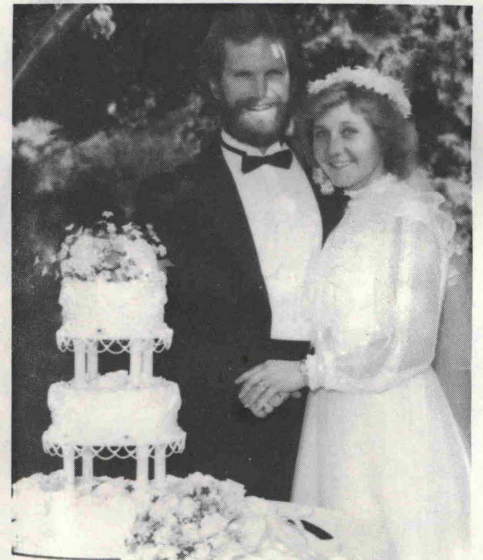
First off, Allan was invited to give the Distinguished Faculty Lecture for 1981 at Brigham Young University in March. This is a prestigious honor so we invited all of our daughters to come home for the occasion. Kathy brought Jennie, age 2, and came from Hawaii. Jeri from South Bend, Ind., Nita and Maggie, also age 2, from Reno, and Becky and Andee, age 6 months, from Jacksonville, N.C. It was the first time since 1969 that all 6 of our children have been together at the same time. We had a gala week.



Kathy and Ron

Soon after all of that, Ron and Kathy Anderson came in one day with the announcement that they would be married on July 16. Kathy is a dear girl and we were delighted.

Not to be out done, Rich brought Susan Schofield in one day in June to tell us they had chosen Aug. 3 for their wedding date. She is another dear girl. Each just fits her husband and we do love them both.



Susan and Rich

Nita, Richard and their 3, and Jeri, Traci and Jason came for Rons wedding. We were so sorry Jeri's husband John couldn't come. He is the only one of our family we missed this summer. All returned home afterwards except Traci and Jason.

Then Nita's family returned and Kathy, Becky and Andee surprised us by coming from Hawaii for Rich's. (Becky and Kelly, who is in the Marine Corp, had been transferred from N.C. to Hawaii in May.) So each of our daughters visited us twice this year and some of them more than that.

When Nita married Richard, we had 2 Richards in our family. When Kathy named her Becky after Garrett's mother, we had 2 Beckys. When Nita named Maggie after Nita's mother, we had 2 Margarets. And then Ron married Kathy and now we have 2 Kathys.

I figured that before the age of 1 year, Andee had traveled some 25,000 miles.

Allan had been invited long ago to participate in a joint Symposium between the American Society of Civil Engineers and the China Civil Engineering Society in Peking,

China in Sept. That was the only concrete plan we had last Christmas. We left Aug. 18 for a short stay in Hawaii on our way to China. Allan gave lectures in Peking and Wuhan prior to the Symposium. We also had the opportunity to visit Sian, the site of the archiological find of pits of tera cotta solders who were guards of the tomb of Emperor Qin Chi Huang who ruled between 221 and 210 BC. They have unearthed several hundred of the figures. These are restored and on display in the pit just as they were origionally placed. They expect to find between 6 and 8 thousand in 3 pits. We spent 3 extremely interesting weeks in China and made many new friends. Hence our greeting at the top of this letter MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EACH OF YOU in Chinese.

Our boys and their wives are both settled in Provo and we are living alone in our house after 40 years of parenting.

Margaret is still Relief Society president in our LDS Ward and also added Chairman of Volunteers for the local Red Cross Chapter this past year. And during an election year, Voters Service Chairman for the League of Women Voters is a good sized job.

Allan completed design of a bridge in Morenci, AZ and has been construction consultant for one outside of Vernal, Utah that he designed last year, Jobs seem to keep turning up for him. It's kept him doubly busy and he is going to retire from BYU in the spring so he has time to fully enjoy the extra jobs.

Christine, Kathy and Garrett's oldest, is a sophmore at BYU this year, studying Civil Engineering. We are enjoying having her with us some of the time and she is the delight of her Grandfathers heart.

Along with everything else we bought a camper van this year. At this writing we are on our way to visit Nita in Reno for Thanksgiving. Who knows, if things calm down at our house, we may come visit you sometime.

It has been a busy but an extremely fulfulling year. We thank our Heavenly Father constantly for our health, strength, opportunities and our fine family. We are proud of each of them.

We are also very thankful for each of you - our friends. You have added much to our lives and we appreciate that so much.

May your holidays be happy and your 1983 full of good things.

Love from

*The Firmages*



D A FIRMAGE  
1079 E ASH AVE  
PROVO, UT 84601

FOR CLEAN AIR



Elder & Sister Tracy Hall  
So. Africa Johannesburg Mission  
2nd Floor The Mews  
173 Oxford Rd.  
Ruselamb Johannesburg 2196  
PO Box 52114  
SaxonWald  
Republic of So. Africa