

February 20, 1988

80 Greenridge Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605

Dear Family,

The weeks and months have been whizzing by. During November I cleared out my during-the-week room in Madison, NJ and began commuting daily between White Plains and Bedminster (1-1/2 hrs each way). We also did basic home clean-up, and Sherlene began marketing the house. Our neighbors through the backyard, Bart and Barbara Lawrence, were interested and eager to see it first. They had looked in the White Plains highlands for a year without finding the right place to expand into. When Sherlene finally let them in, they were ready to bid. They made a very good offer right away, and we accepted, but it was another month before they could clear all contingencies (their house was not yet marketed or sold even then). In the meantime, we used Virginia's and Barry's homey, irresistible "for sale" sign and got a lot of bites.

Our holidays were highlighted by a Thanksgiving visit from Virginia and Barry and his mother (and company). They really enjoyed Teddy (our chow) and visa-versa (so why wouldn't they take him along at Sherlene's invite). We enjoyed hearing (and receiving) from many of you during the holidays. Thank you. Daniel was very surprised at Christmas (I think) to get the guitars (electr. and acoustic) he had wanted to buy from a friend. My one problem before and through the holidays was a 2-month flu or cold with bronchitis that finally succumbed to antibiotics, once I saw a doctor. You know I had to be sick to pass up Thanksgiving pies. In January Daniel and Laura (with friend Joy) attended their annual Frost Valley church youth conference. It was the normal extraordinary, SUPER weekend, socially and spiritually.

We knew we had been blessed greatly in selling and prayed for comparable blessings on the buying end. The house shopping began in late December and continued between January snow storms. After surveying houses in various areas for several weeks, Sherlene visited schools, and we sampled the Church wards and youth groups. As a result, we shifted our focus to Basking Ridge. Sherlene heard the new term was starting and actually enrolled Daniel and Laura in the school. To continue beyond three weeks, we would have to have a house contract. So we started commuting as an entire family.

Daniel and Laura had one day to say goodbye to friends and WPHS. Laura had to quit work at the Dr.'s office (Daniel had quit previously). Both were missed very much in their work places. With all the foreboding and nervousness, Daniel and Laura started at Ridge High. At the end of their first day, I asked them how it had been. "OK." The kids and teachers were very friendly from the beginning. Daniel got a chemistry teacher who is very good and helpful, instead of one he hated. Both Daniel and Laura seem to like their teachers and grades better. The down-side

with commuting is the temporary dropping of seminary.

The house pickings seemed slim for a couple of weeks. We made an offer (10% under asking) on the best we had seen, a small 4-bdrm colonial but were turned down. We felt so frustrated. Nothing was really right. The next week, however, we saw 3 places that we really liked. We bid on a Japanese-landscaped, woods and greens surrounded colonial with in-law suite near the YMCA (almost my dream-house), this time bidding our agreed limit at 10% below asking. No deal.

I really think Sherlene preferred the one we got anyway. It's new construction. We met with the builder, Harvey Caplan, and had an amazingly positive experience. He was so positive and cooperative, giving us a number of changes, including others at near-cost, and meeting our completion date of March 8. The house is on a busy street between some smaller and older homes, across from the golf club. Abt. a hundred yards behind the house is a small and nice condominium complex by the same builder 100. We were told by two reliable parties that the house would normally be \$100K more. So about March 8 we'll be moving to 180 North Maple, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920. Sherlene has been choosing colors, tile, appliances, and nailing down loose ends with the builder.

Just before the house pickings became more interesting Sherlene had placed a "house wanted" ad. I had been skeptical, but she has had several calls since involving some interesting houses. One very friendly, very christian older couple offered their very nice home, not yet on the market at all (but slightly more modest and dated than we wanted) at about 30% (100K) below market. He (Arthur Lien) has been a research director, both corporate and independent consultant. She is in early stages of Parkinson's disease. We referred this great house opportunity to all the Bishops in the area.

During all this time I've attended several 2-4 days seminars in and outside AT&T on quality and on group facilitation and have begun some presentations and workshops with the two small long-range network planning divisions (each abt. 35 people) I work with. The "quality" effort is still in a very early stage, but I have hopes that it will make a positive difference for individuals and the company.

In January we became (at least temporarily) a one-car family. After a seminar, held not too far from work, the car was a bit balky. In retrospect, I had noticed some fumes during the previous week, but had been too pre-occupied to really pick up on the situation. I simply tried to "warm-up" the car a bit more and headed home. As I drove, it came together in my head that I had a gas line or carburetor problem. I turned around after a while and headed back to the Marriott near the seminar location. The car stalled just in front of the parking spot and started sparking under the hood. I watched, thinking it would cool off

and stop. Instead, it got worse, soon becoming a full-fledged engine fire, gutted engine, and one melted tire with car contents saturated by smoke and by chemicals and water from the late-arriving fire-department. The car was ready for compacting.

The Church and friends have been very supportive on both ends, and we've enjoyed sharing the Book of Mormon with many. I'm hoping we've made it through the worst of the winter storms (crossing my fingers). We're looking forward with mixed feelings but with much enthusiasm to the new home and new start.

Love, Dan (and Sherlene and Daniel and Laura--and Teddy chow)

Now the reason we got air conditioning was so you'd come and see us on your way to D.C. or whenever. :)

New address as of @ March 18

180 So. Maple Ave.

Basking Ridge, N.J. 07920

- no phone yet

*Love,
Sherlene; D, D & L, inc.*