

Mar, 1989

Dear Family,

I haven't written for a long time...I guess it's either Write...or Walk! Well, I still want to belong, so I better write, huh!

Have you heard the latest excitement about our new house? It's not very exciting. Our Mortgage company got thrown in jail. Craig & Jeff Harris, (the owners) and their secretary & accountant & loan officer Carla (don't know her last name) were getting loans through Mountain America (the underwriters) for people who didn't exist, and depositing the money into their own accounts. Also a construction company called Ultimation was involved...and when they didn't get their fair cut of the money...they plea bargained with federal agents (FBI) and told all. It's far more involved than I can explain, but the attorneys and the FBI froze all of the assets(including our partially built house) until further investigation. We had to go to the underwriters and prove that we were indeed the Douglas & Nancy Mecham who had applied for the loan, and not "paid" impostors. We had to show them our licences and social security cards etc. We called the attorneys, who said that we checked out alright, and that they will go ahead and release funds to us wednesday march 15, and by Friday the 17th latest...so we can go ahead with construction. It was a little embarassing to drive by the house and see a sign on the front of it that said; "NO TRASPASSING! ALL WORK HAS BEEN HALTED ON THIS PREMISIS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT..." BLAH, BLAH, BLAH. It was headline news for a couple of weeks. I hope that our mortgage co. didn't "skim" any money from our construction loan. That would complicate things a little. We don't want to have to pay for some one elses ~~shadey~~ criminal actions.

On the brighter side of things. D.J. is now in school. He is in an all day early intervention program with the Utah school for the Blind. He is picked up by a van at 8:15A.M. and gets home at 4:15 P.M. They are really teaching him alot. He looks at (when I say "looks" I mean with his hands) braile picture books. He can identify shapes (except difficult ones like triangle & rectangle etc) by feeling them. He can tell you which is big, and which is small. He can say alot of words now, two word sentences are coming, and he's still able to say three and four word sentences at the doctor like "I go home now!" They are potty training him at school. They place him on the potty chair (strap him in) for 2 minutes, three times a day. He also takes a nap in the afternoon. They sing, repeat nursury rhymes, learn to count, and work with physical and speech therapists daily. D.J.'s teacher was thrilled to get him in her class. He is the only "Vanilla Kid" (that means just blind, no other disabilities) in his class. She says that he can do things that even her 5 year old kindergarten class kids can't do. ...except walk. He has a problem with his legs. We're going to look into getting braces on his legs and feet. He can really make a mess feeding himself, but insists on doing it. He can also drink from a cup, but does dribble from time to time. He likes to take his conformers out of his eye and chew them in half, throw them on the floor, and yell "mommy!" Do you think he's trying to tell me something?

Chelsey was selected Student of the week at her school. Her picture was displayed in the glass case at the front of the school. She was treated to a hamburger, fries and drink at a local burger shop. She really is a smart one! She scored 100% on 8 spelling tests in a row. (and I didn't even help her study for them.) ...shame.

Carli is really a social bug at school. Her school ranks among the top 10 Jr. High schools in the nation for high test scores. They offer alot of rewards to kids who behave right in school, as well as score high with grades. Free pizza, special dances for students who raise grade point average by 1 point from previous semester, etc. She has alot of friends, and is a good citizen, but really struggles to get by in some classes. I drive her to orem every morning, and pick her up every afternoon after school so that she can attend this school. Sometimes I wonder why. I really enjoy Carli at this age. (she's 12) She is almost as tall as me (2" shorter) and wears the same shoe size. She's a big help at home, although I can't get her to babysit Chelsey for more than 2 times in a row. Chelsey and Carli are like snakes and mice together. Full of venom, and ready to strike at any moment.

Dougs mom is in the hospital again. She was in the Hospital in October for a heart attack. Now she is in for Angioplasty, done on her terribly plugged arteries in her legs. They were so severely plugged up that when they did the rotor-rooter treatment on them, chunks of plaque broke away and floated downstream, and they had to surgically remove them from her artery. She'll be in the hospital for another 3 or 4 days, and then I'll take care of her for another few weeks until she can move around. She had her surgery the same day Dan had his, and Dad was at home resting up after his eye surgery. I hope that's all for awhile. (The doctor said that Dougs mothers blocked arteries were due to many many years of smoking, and that people who are exposed to smoke are more at risk than those who actually smoke.) She said; "Those doctors blame everything on smoking."

I am going to apply for a job as flight attendant for Delta. I know 3 girls who work for Delta. One of them is the supervisor over aprox. 1000 flight attendants here in Salt Lake. She doesn't actually hire, but she may have a big influence on the guy who does hire. She said she'd make sure that my application gets on the right desk, and she'll write a cover letter recommending me for the job. I would have great benifits, and might be dropping in on you all alot more than you'd probably like. We'll see.

My ceramic business is on hold until the house gets finished. I was working in with David, but I had to leave due to a greatly expanding business on his part. Thanks to David for the time(and the mess)he did put up with my business.

LUVS and KISSES (even if you don't wantem)
Nancy