



Christmas 1979

Dear:

Hi... We trust that this letter finds you in good health and enjoying life at it's best. We further hope that you will enjoy catching up on our activities as much as we will look forward to hearing about your activities.

So what's been happening with the Woodson's ?? Well, we continue to subscribe to the philosophy that busy people are happy people and we have been busy....

Dee Ann continues to put in her hours with the Santa Fe Railroad. In addition to her responsibilities as a secretary for the Evaluation department, she has been active in the Santa Fe women's club. Somehow she also finds enough energy to keep up with two active boys and myself. The boys are both healthy and active in sports and school activities. She is becoming an expert at building castles, model houses, "show and tell", school fund raising projects and PTA. The schedule is hectic.

Our oldest boy, Scott, who is 12 years old, is convinced that the whole world revolves around basketball and that nothing else is important. He thinks that Kansas University is the utmost and that Darnell Valentine walks on water. I can assure you that we have had some healthy debates about the differences between K.U. and K.S.U. The highlight of his year was making the all star team at K.U. during Ted Owens' Summer Basketball Camp.. Snow skiing came in second since his brother out skied him.

Rod, who is 8 years old, continues to have a very enjoyable attitude on life. He is into everything, loves to make things, and has a good imagination. His year was highlighted by our canoe trip to Missouri and our ski trip to Colorado. After three days of skiing he was following me down the black slopes i.e. most difficult. At the other end of the scale, he did manage to fall off of his bicycle and crack his skull. That plus a brain concussion put him into the hospital for three days. He is a more cautious bicycle driver now.

As for me, keeping up with our division's 90 employees which are scattered across the State of Kansas requires most of my energy. I still try to find time for family activities, church and Optimist work, officiating, refereeing and a few "Honey Do Projects".

Dee and I flew out to San Diego in late October to attend the annual meeting of the State Food and Meat Inspection Directors. We enjoyed California and was able to see many of the local items of interest i.e. Sea World, Old Town, the Zoo, Tijuana, and others. Naturally, we enjoyed the ski trips and the canoe trip with the boys.

We did explore the real estate market briefly and decided that it was already out of sight. We chose to simply improve and expand what we already had. We added a two car attached garage and converted the old one into a recreation room. The adjacent recreation room was modified to include a new fireplace and a ten foot archway was cut to tie them together. We are all enjoying the extra space and with the arrival of cold weather from Canada, we are already getting some good out of the fireplace.

"New" is our key word. "New" friends, activities, experiences, challenges, and horizons continue to be the spice of our life. If you mix those ingredients with "old" friends, times, and experiences, you have a recipe for a great life and we feel very fortunate for the blessings that we have received.

That is not to say that we have not shared the concern over Iran, taxes, inflation, energy, gas lines, etc., etc.. The historians would tell us that every generation has had to deal with similar types of problems and concerns. If we never experience the "bad" how would we be able to appreciate the "good".

Dee Ann, Scott, Rod, and myself all wish you and yours a healthy, happy holiday season and a fruitful New Year.

In thought and prayer, we remain,

Larry & Dee Ann Woodson
Rod and Scott Smith

The mailman has brought us news throught the year from many cherished friends. I am listing many of those from S.E. Asia and even KSU in the event someone would like to get in touch with them.

Essers	IVS/Laos	Madison, WI	Suzuki	Dooley Found.	Calif
Retrou	Avignon	France	Yee	Hmong/20-A	Ks.
Davelers	USAID/L	Indonesia <i>WASH D.C</i>	Fry	USAID/PWD	Ks.
French	"	Calif.	Little	USAID/EDU	Ks.
Schreiber	"	Ore.	Brady	IVS/L	Saipan
Neil	"	Wash. DC	Brammer	EMB	Wash. DC
Buechler	"	<i>Africa WASH. D.C.</i>	Borbidge	Aust./Laos	Aust.
Basler	IVS/L	Wisc.	McDonald	LAA/Laos	Calif.
Fitzgerald	USAID/L	APO 09889	Luangkhot	Lao/TP	Haiti
Fleck	"	Colo.	Agan	KSU	Texas
Ross/Blank	"	Yemen <i>AFRICA</i>	Giles	KSU	NASA
Amundsen	"	"	Coleman	USAID/EDU	Ore.
Kidd.	"	"	Wilder	IVS/AID	Wash. DC
Johnson	FHWA	Mo.	P. Vilora	Phil./AID/MGT	Calif.
Jackmin.	USAID	Kwajalein Atoll	Violy "	" " "	Germany
Marsh	"	Wyo.	Fredrickson	KSU	Ks.
Heiele	"	Mo.	Hendrickson	IVS/L	WI.
Hamm	"	Iowa	Minh	Lao/IVS	Md.
McClimonds	"	Calif.	Vang Lee	Hmong/20-A	Calif.
Kerch	A.A.	Conn.	M. Ounkham	Lao/VTE/LP	Fla.
Thomas	USAID	Mass.	Rees, Robert	KSU	Okla.
Martin	U. Hawaii	Hawaii	Rees, Richard	KSU	Ks.
Laverentz	IVS/AID/KSU	Mo.	Reese	Hog/Hmong/20-A	Montana
Nisson	Commissary	Saudia Arabia	Xiong	Hmong/20-A	Ks.
Faulques	French/Laos	Haiti	<i>CONNICK</i>	<i>ASIA FOUND./AID/LP</i>	<i>CONN.</i>

This list excludes relatives, colleagues, and next door neighbors. The absence of anyone's name does not mean that they are not on our list of cherished friends....

Have a Cool Yule
and a Frantic First
Larry