

The Henry Howler

January 1991

Good Hearted Mother

On or around the 3rd of December, Mom went in for her annual blood tests. Something about the results caused the doctor to prescribe a stress test. In turn, the stress test, although Mom did well in many respects, lead to a procedure called a catheterization. The doctor inserted a tube into one of the arteries of Mom's arm. The tube makes its way up and into the heart. In the heart, an opaque solution is injected into the heart cavity allowing the physician to make moving x-ray images of the heart and surrounding coronary vessels. Mom watched the whole procedure under the influence of a Valium like drug which by the

way she recommends highly. The doctors said that Mom's heart looks great! She has great valves and no murmurs (if ya know what I mean). However, just outside the heart in one of the coronary arteries, they did find signs of arterial sclerosis, or hardening of the arteries. They are prescribing drugs for the condition that Mom will have to take indefinitely. The good news is that she can and should continue to be active and energetic. Dodie and Polly took Mom in for the "procedure". Apparently, they kept Mom and the doctors entertained. At one point, Polly timidly asked, "will our mother be coming home with us today?" The doctor quickly reassured her. After the procedure was over, a nurse turned off the heart monitor. As a result, the machine made the well known beeeeeeeep sound and Polly freaked. We are lucky to have a mother who takes such good care of herself. One unexpected positive outcome of the whole thing is that both Pat and Polly have sworn off smok-

ing. I was around Pat in Kotzebue when he tried to quit once. I know how hard it was for him. I wish them both luck. Mom asked her doctor about her kids. Should we be doing something preventative. He suggested that we have the same blood tests that she has. That would give an indication of problems that might exist. (Does anyone know if insurance covers these kind of tests?) We love you Mom and are glad your OK!

Engaging Times

The friendship ring turned into an engagement ring at 1:00 am Christmas morning. As Pat put it to me on the phone, "She has agreed to put up with me for the rest of her life". Pat and Lori called OH at 5:00 am OH time to share the news. They don't have a date yet. They have to take care of some business first. The reason they were up so early on Christmas morning was to put together a treasure hunt for Lori's daughter Robyn. They wrote poetic clues to lead Robyn to her gifts. When one note directed Robyn to pull a rope hanging off the roof of their narrowly escaped being knocked silly by the attached sled. There

holiday had a rocky start. Lori on concluding some business, was in Anchorage getting ready to fly into Juneau. Pat flew in to meet her and buy some last minute Christmas stuff. They left about \$75.00 worth of toys in their rented car in the Hilton parking garage. That night, a thief smashed the back window and made off with their things. (What a bummer.) On a happier note, Pat says that he and Lori are looking for a house to buy in Juneau. Housing in Juneau is not at all cheap, but they have a nice nest egg to use for a down payment.

Land in Kenai

Today I spent \$25,000.00 that I certainly don't have. It was kind of fun. We bought 3 lots of lake front property on the Kenai Peninsula about a mile away from the ocean. Another low wet lot was thrown in with the deal. It's a total of about 4 acres. Three of the lots are together and have lake

frontage on two of the lakes. I flew out to look at the land. The subdivision has gravel roads. There is electricity within 200 yards of our property. The property is on relatively high ground looking down over three small Lake Lucerne size lakes. There are a few houses built in the subdivision, but for the most part it is very undeveloped. There are moose tracks everywhere in the snow. The tree cover isn't spectacular. There was a burn about 30 years ago. We may plant some trees this spring. Now, there are mostly 15' to 20' birch trees. There is a high school about 3 miles away and an elementary school 5 miles away. We're about 28 miles from Soldatna on the Spur Highway. There aren't any fish in lakes yet. Cindy and I are excited about the deal. We aren't sure if we will build there, but if we do, there will be room for a guest hut for visiting family.

Grace

(This came off the back of Jim and Grace's Christmas card.)

Merry Christmas! Best wishes for a healthy, happy holiday! Erin is loving 1st grade. She enjoys reading, writing, math and craft projects. She recently mastered the jump rope, hula hoop and roller skates. Lots of

new skills in a short time.

Todd enjoys his school too. He is so thrilled to share and teach us the poems and games he has learned at school. I help out once every 5 weeks as a mother helper. Those are special days for both of us.

Anna is 3 months old already. She's a sweetie! She recently found her other hand and grasps it. She's fun to hold a conversation with. She'll often be the one to start it up!

Our kitchen is 1/2 way wallpapered! Jim and I are so thrilled. It's really pretty and worth the wait!

The picture on the next page was taken on October 17, 1990

What is Christmas

By Polly Henry

Christmas this year was laced with a pageant, an engagement, a \$200.00 turkey, champagne, Luminaries, church, and more. The beginning objective of this article was to tell of all the favorite gifts and presents, but it was a huge task. One, no one could narrow their favorites down to one, and two, all the favorite gifts were the favorite



This is the 1990 Jim Henry Family Christmas card. In this picture, Erin is 6, Todd is 4, and Anna steals the show at 8 weeks.

presents. There was one exception: Kimmy's favorite present was her kitchen set up, and her favorite gift was a ... nut. (to whom, no one knows. Maybe it was to Keith - a nut right in the eye!)

There was a fancy jacket, an aquarium, a sheepskin, a car seat cover, books, games, army guns for good loving wars, a quilt, a microwave, a stoned - I mean - stone cat, a vacuum cleaner, a dress, a maul, slippers, and even a hamster! Of course there were more, but we've all got the idea.

With all of this fluttering around in my head the direction

of my objective took a sharp turn. My mind keeps going back to this wonderful overall feeling I had this Christmas. I think I finally discovered what Christmas is all about. For me, it began with last minute shopping - all frantic faces running around in trances. Then there was a beautiful pageant that the little ones put on. We had a moment of silence thinking and remembering Uncle Fred this year, and I thought of my family and my love for you all. I had a special time with mom and dad Christmas day;

and then our peacefulness gave way to a bombardment of youthful Christmas joy.

So what is Christmas? I can't put my finger on it. However, the sermon that the priest gave really grabbed it! In a nutshell, Christmas is loving, sharing, wishing, wondering, togetherness, giving, receiving, visiting, and back to loving. No more is Christmas expecting and over-anticipating some thing so wonderful that simply isn't there. Christmas is what is there... just around... in the air. I won't deny that this is the first I've felt "it." Maybe I'm just growing up, I'm glad... it's a great feeling.

A Talk With Linda By Dan

I spoke with Linda tonight to get some info to go along with the Christmas picture she and Chip sent. The card that was sent to us was one of 700. Chip, do you get 700 cards back?

It's funny how no news can turn into the most interesting news of all. Linda said she really didn't have much to say. Things seemed to just kind of rolling along the way they some times do. "How's Kimber doing?" I asked. He comes the good stuff. "Well,



A Sears portrait taken August of 90. David 4 and Pete 2.

she has had a bad day today."

Linda goes on in some detail to describe some of Kim's antics. She dumped two bottles of shampoo while taking a bath. She also did something on a piece of paper and then tried to hide it under the dresser. Did what you ask? Well, let me put it this way. Linda found it, smelled it, tasted it, and then stated, "Boy! I sure am glad I didn't step in it."

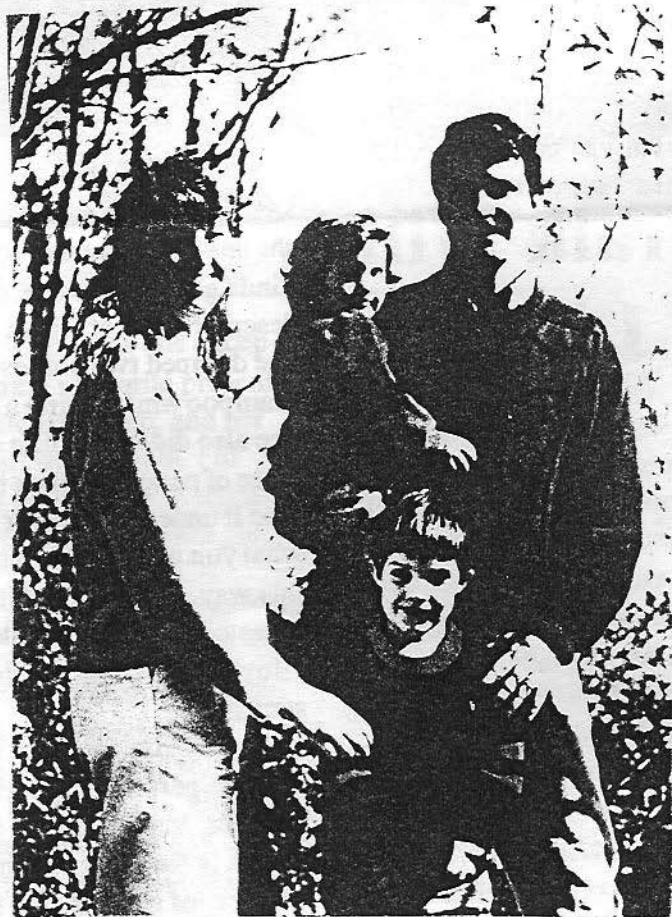
Adam on the other hand has been the perfect child. His Teacher, Mrs. Steward, claims that he is the most well mannered young man she has ever taught. Adam loves school so much that he is sad on Fridays because

there's no school the next day.

Chip is back in session and gearing up for his re-election campaign. The campaign promises to be one of the most expensive senate campaigns in the state of Ohio.

Linda can't seem to get quilting out of her blood. She says she has too many ideas. She made Cindy and I a quilt and it's beautiful. After watching the

Christmas tape that was sent up, we went back to our quilt and named many of the individual pieces of cloth. On one occasion, when Linda wasn't quilting, and Chip wasn't getting brown nosed by some lobbyist, they found time to go to the movies. They saw Dance with Wolves. They liked it. Cindy and I saw it too, and we also liked it very much. That's two thumbs up so consider it a must see.



*Sen. & Mrs. Charles Henry Christmas 1990
Adam 5, Kimberly 3.*

Alter Boy

David served as an alter boy during our stay in Anchorage this Christmas. His Alaska Grandpa is a Deacon, and his uncle Mark also serves as an alter boy. David had a great time and is very proud of himself. His service included holding a candle during the reading of the Gospel. He also put out the little cups to be filled with grape juice during communion.



Picture: left to right-Peter B., Cindy's cousin Gene, Peter's Brother Eugene-priest, Cindy's cousin George. David in front.

The Christmas Story

By Jim Henry

CAST

Joseph	Brian Lee
Mary	Erin Henry
Jesus	Anna Henry
Inn Keeper	Adam Henry
Angel Gab	Adam Henry
Shepherd	Todd Henry
Sheep	Kim Henry
(Depending on cooperation level)	
King	Keith Lee
(Depending on cooperation level)	
Guiding Star	Jeanne Lee
Narrator	Polly Henry
(Depending on cooperation level)	

Narrator: It was a clear chilly night in Bethlehem as Joseph let Mary to Inn after Inn to find a place to sleep. Finally at the last Inn...

Joseph: (Knock, Knock)
(Innkeeper opens door):

Sir, do you have an open room for the night?

innkeeper: NO, but you can stay in my stable with the animals. I will show you the way.
(Innkeeper leads Joseph and Mary).

Narrator: Well, it wasn't long before the

animals in the stable
awake to the sounds of
a new born baby.

Overhead a new
star shone as all of
Heaven celebrated the
arrival of our savior,
Jesus.

The Angel Gabriel
was busy spreading the
word to shepherds and
Kings. (*Adam goes to
Keith and Todd and Kim.
Then they slowly walk to
the stable and kneel*).

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Postage

