

THE YEARLY PRESS

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STILL HANGING IN!

It's been a busy year for us, but nothing really new has transpired. We both continue to do that work thing. Jim still is the "chicken tray" man and keeps himself busy trying to please Tyson and supervising his salesmen. I do consulting work and training in a variety of places. I spent most of this year working for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools training administrators on the new teacher evaluation instrument. I also did a large number of Thinking Maps trainings and follow-ups across the state as well as some work for individual schools in CMS. I have worked more days than I wanted to, but I expect to slow down some after the first couple of weeks in January.

We continue to be in good health,

though the doctor told each of us to lose weight, something we haven't gotten around to yet. We continue to go to the mountain cabin as much as possible and we have done a lot of work there. We have decided to renovate it to make it a year round residence.

We, like most of you, have become more cognizant of the important things in life since September 11. Our wish for you is that you are renewed in spirit and that love of family and friends remains the most important thing in your life.

We love all of you and appreciate how well you keep in touch. We have seen a number of you this year and it was great!! We hope your new year is happy and productive!

:):):)



Gammy and Papa
love Katie!!



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One Year Down



Adam and Shanna managed to survive their first year of marriage, happily, I must say. Adam still works for Tyson and Shanna still teaches 8th grade, though she is only teaching English this year. They bought a little house in Wilkes County and share it with our grandpets, Athena Marie and Harley

Isabella (dogs), and Mr. Wrinkles (a hairless cat). Their plan "du jour" is to move to Chapel Hill early this summer and to live in Jim's mother's home. Adam hopes to find work in the Research Triangle and Shanna will finish her teaching obligation to the state. (She's a Teaching Fellow).

KATIE HAS SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR AS CEO!! JON AND PATTI ARE GOOD EMPLOYEES!

Jon and Patti continued to do well this year rearing our beautiful granddaughter. It's really hard to go into their house (or when they come to ours) to remember to speak to them. We only have eyes for Katie. She is a typical 14 month old...jabbering, walking, into everything, etc. And, she is the most beautiful child in the world. (There will be no arguing.) The picture on the right was taken at Christmas.

Jon still works for City Capital and finances all those big trucks that aggravate you on the highway. Patti

works for Katie. She loves being with her and it shows. We are happy with her commitment to the little one. She's a good mommy! Patti's family lost many friends and acquaintances on September 11 and the airline crash in Queens was near Patti's grandmother. It was a hard time for all. They went to New York for Christmas.



LIFE GOES ON

Jim's mother continued to live with us until November. It had become apparent that we could no longer devote the time to her care that was necessary, so we found a very nice assisted living facility close to us. She has adjusted very well and we are pleased with her care. She celebrated her 90th birthday in late November and we had a big party for her at our house. Many friends and relatives came and she had a very good time.

My mother is not doing as well as we would like, but we expect that to be temporary. She had thyroid surgery in September and has to have a radioactive iodide treatment in mid-January. To do that she has had to quit her thyroid hormone and it has made her very tired. However, the prognosis is very good and after she gets back on her thyroid medicine she should be good as new!

MOTORCYCLING FOR FUN AND PROFIT!

Well, mid-life has finally set in. Although Jim has had a Harley for several years and rides with some of the guys from Wilkes County, I had, until June, resisted the urge to be a motorcycle mama. But my resolve withered in June and I agreed to ride with the group on a charity ride to Lynchburg, Virginia. We left Wilkesboro and rode the Blue Ridge Parkway for about 150 miles and then on to Lynchburg. It was about 200 miles in a single day and, boy, did I have fanny fatigue! The next day we took a historical side

trip to Appomattox Courthouse before returning to Adam's. I confess that I rode the truck back, but only because it was pouring rain and I'm a wuss. Jim rode in the rain and fog and we got to Adam's around midnight. Geez. Since then we've ridden some short distances, but I admit to enjoying it immensely. I even got leathers for Christmas. Maybe we'll ride to see you! Oh, the profit thing? I lied. It costs like hell!

