

December 1977



Dear Friends,

This year we had a bumper crop. Cy thinks they look like him and Mary thinks that, (thank heavens) they look like her. We thought we'd let you decide--secret ballot of course.

We spend our vacations visiting them. Easter at Sue and Ed's in Baltimore working on that 200 year old house restoration project of Ed's. We also got to spend a few days with Gary and Mima in Norfolk--taking in sights, gardening. Both Sarah and Rachel are a delight--just 5 days apart. We insulted both parents calling their children by the wrong names.

Spent most of July in Utah with Marty and Jamie and seeing Al off at the airport on his mission to Southern France. He loves the area, people and the missionary work. He is near Toulouse and improving each day with his French. Our Christmas packages have had to go by air because of embargo--HELP!!!! Our western grandchildren are very precious, too.

At Thanksgiving, Marty came from Utah with his little family and we all headed to Baltimore for a gathering with Ed and Gary and families. It was wall-to-wall people - but fun.



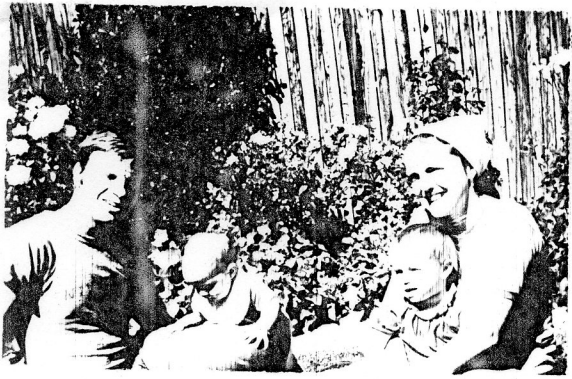
Christmas will bring Jamie and Duane and children to Chicago. We will have another gathering of Md., Va., Utah and Ill. Kears. We will have all seen each other in 1977....pretty good feat when we stretch from Utah to France.

Cy went to Japan in December. He was as excited as a little kid.

Gary will be out of the Navy next summer. He has a place in the '78 class at Rush Medical School. We are very excited at the prospects of him being in our area. Finally, we will have a little grandchild to love and spoil.

We are going to build the Kearn Lodge in Bear Lake, Utah next spring. We are really excited about it. Our goal is to lure our children to visit us on their vacations.

WE have enjoyed many blessings this year and are very proud and love dearly our children and grandchildren. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.



Martin and Jayne live in Woods Cross, Utah. He's business manager for a small firm in Salt Lake City. A son James was born to them in February. They have purchased a home and now know what large mortgage payments are all about. He's president of his Elders Quorum. Jayne's big thing this year was drying fruit. Martin, Jayne, Janell (2½), and James (10 months) are a very active and refreshing young family.

Duane, Jamie, and Daniel (2½) live in Bountiful, Utah only a couple of miles away from Martin and Jayne. They are lots of help to each other. Jamie is on leave of absence from her work as a nurse to have her second baby. Duane finished his Law degree at the University of Utah at Christmas and is now studying for the February bar exam. He is always busy working at some law related part-time job. Always something on the fire. Their baby is expected any day now.



Alan graduated from High School last spring. He won several scholastic honors. He worked all summer grinding plastic in a local plant in Wheaton. In the fall he quit his six paper routes and his plastics job and started at the Brigham Young University. He loves it there. He's a ski enthusiast with a seasons pass at Sundance but so far NO SNOW. He's discovered girls (a girl) finally. We're delighted to have him home for Christmas.

Cy and Mary only get older. Cy with GE making refrigerators and Mary, the good samaritan to many, many people. In June we spent a weeks vacation on Lake Cumberland in Kentucky with all of our children from the far corners. What a nice vacation that was.



May Peace and Joy and Happiness bless your holidays,

Best Wishes The Kiars