

Dear Family and Friends,

December 5, 2010

This has been a very difficult year for us. First we start with the good news. Our son Jon has a job again! He is working for a company that has a contract to supply IT services to Lockheed/Marietta. He is happy to be working again and even happier to have a commute of less than 5 miles. The excitement at his house this year was a lightning strike on a tree in his back yard which caused parts of it to go through the roof and crush one of his old clunker cars that needs lots more than a transmission now. It was towed to the junkyard. The remains of the weakened tree threatened to topple on his house, so he had to quickly contract to have it taken down with a cherry picker.

Ted continues in his job with AMD in Austin, Texas. Both the sons will be with us over Christmas.

Barry's grandmother died in March at the age of 103. Barry attended the funeral in Peoria. Barry's Mom had a fall in June with what was thought to be a knee injury, but wasn't diagnosed as a broken hip until August. Karen was there for the operation, and Barry flew in to help after the operation. Three weeks later, the same hip was dislocated, and another operation was in order. Karen came from Wisconsin for the operation and Barry from California after the operation. This operation was more serious since Mom had two life threatening infections. She is currently in a skilled care facility in Peoria trying to recover.

Barry is thankful to have a job at Asante and enjoys consulting too. He still commutes on the motorcycle when it doesn't rain.

Anne's Mom, Carol, has had health problems this year with time spent in the hospital in February and in May. Carol has congestive heart failure and requires caregivers in her apartment around the clock. She is under Hospice Care with regular nurse visits.

Anne continues to enjoy teaching one day a week during the school year in the ABC Playtime program at Santa Maria Urban Ministry with a class of eleven 3 and 4 year olds. She is leader of one of the ladies groups at church.

Thanksgiving was small with Anne's sister and husband here with Mom. Pictures at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/briggsbd/20101125Thanksgiving#>



We enjoyed going to Bear River for camping. We saw this Osprey looking for dinner. Anne's sister and husband stayed with Carol while we were camping. Camping pictures at: <http://bdbriggs.dyndns.org/BearRiver/BearRiver2010/index.html>



We hope this has been a good year for you. We send our Best Wishes for a very Blessed Christmas and all the best in the New Year. We would love to hear from you either by mail or email apbriggs@att.net or briggsbd@gmail.com

Anne + Barry