



CHRISTMAS 2017

Dear Friends and Family,

Three years ago my Christmas letter sent a message that I never ever thought I would send.

And now this Christmas letter sends a message that three years ago I also thought I would never ever send: I have been seeing a wonderful lady. Her name is Joyce Pollicina. She is a widow, having lost her husband to cancer two years ago. She served 47 years as a Registered Nurse, many of those years with the CCRN designation, qualified for such through thousands of hours of experience and earned through rigorous certification testing. CC stands for critical care. While she has been retired for a number of years, she still keeps her certification current and serves - at no charge - as a patient advocate for her friends and many members of her church. I wish I tapped into her expertise as we tried to deal with Bonnie's cancer. As I write this she is in Texas, having flown there to be at the bedside and to monitor the care for a long term friend who has suffered a serious heart attack. I understand that Joyce being in my life is a bit hard on the kids and the grandkids who knew and loved Bonnie, but I hope that they understand that this is something Bonnie would have wanted for me, just as - if I had died - I would have wanted for her.

Great family news: Now 12 grandkids: Ryan Kent Zwerner 01/20/2017 & Luke Collins Braden 05/09/2017!!!

As to the other events of 2017, there were travels, fun with family and friends, work with my church and community and homeowners association, and other things most of you were also blessed to experience.

But I do want to mention one very exciting event. In fact, I'm a bit reluctant to share it with you because I don't want you to think I am boasting or to otherwise make you sad by providing this information. Actually, you may want to put this letter aside. But if you are still with me, here it is: This year they opened a new Super Walmart less than five minutes from my house! I know this evokes tremendous envy and jealousy, but I do pray that you'll be able to deal with it. Just think, in a matter of minutes I have access to food, beverages, clothing, games, kitchenware, furniture, tools, yard supplies, health aids and meds, seasonal items, office supplies, electronics ... you name it! So I now have everything that any man would ever want: Nearby golf and racquetball, and a store that meets ALL my needs. Eat your heart out.

And notwithstanding the above, the kids have found a new venture for me. They tell me that if I get myself hired by Disney, travel to Orlando just twice a week, and drive the monorail for a 10-hour shift each time; I'll get all kinds of tickets each month. Hmmm. What would I do with all those tickets? Meanwhile I think the kids are doing further research on benefits for part time Marriott and Universal Orlando employees.

Here is wishing you the best for this Christmas and the coming years. May you continue to grow in God's grace, mercy, and love.

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Jay, kids, grandkids, and (spoiled) kat
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Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV):
Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV):

“For I know the plans I have for you...” declares the Lord
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord

