



## **Happy 2022 Holidays to all our friends and family.**

Our first year in Shoreline WA has been a happy one for us. We arrived November 1, 2021 and spent the winter months unpacking and getting settled. Shoreline is the next small city just north of Seattle, so we are just 12 miles from our older son, Dan, who lives on Capitol Hill in Seattle. We are pleased to be able to be with Dan once or twice a month. Jim was able to make connections and start playing tennis just 5 miles away and he plays once or twice a week. I have enjoyed gardening in our small but lovely landscaped yard. And seeing huge Mount Rainier, two mountain ranges, and Puget Sound often still takes my breath away.

We sold our large 6000 square foot home and farm to a lovely family with 7 children, the McKinneys. We are keeping in touch a bit and are so thrilled that they are renovating the house to more modern esthetics and functionality. They have sent some photos and everything they have done so far looks so nice and is such a needed improvement. The house we built in 1974 must be so happy to have such a large family living in it and being updated. We sincerely hope the McKinneys will make as many wonderful memories raising their family there as we did.

In April, we visited our youngest son and major in the Air Force, Patrick, his lovely wife Brittney and our two wonderful grandchildren, Will (11) and Claire (7). They were, at that time, in Mississippi at the Columbus Air Force Base. Since then, they have been transferred and moved to Travis Air Force Base in northern California. Patrick will have a job similar to the one he had in Brazil and will be coordinating projects between the US Air Force and various South American Air Forces. His ability to speak Spanish and Portuguese is a must. We plan to visit them in California soon and spend a few days with them at Lake Tahoe. We will all be together with Dan for the first time in over a year.

In June, we took a week-long Holland American cruise out of Seattle up along the coast of Alaska. We finally celebrated our 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary at the Captain's dinner. The photo of us below was taken just before that delicious dinner. We enjoyed the trip, but contracted COVID during the trip. Other than simulating a cold and being tired one day,

the symptoms were very mild for us. Hope that has been true for any of you who contracted Covid recently too. We had had all the vaccinations and boosters, so all those shots and actually having Covid has given us good immunity for the future.

Garry and Margie Smith, our good friends and 1965 classmates, visited us for 5 days over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend and we had so much fun. We took a ferry across to Bainbridge Island, went to a fun wallaby farm, attended a beautiful and delicious tea in a small town nearby, saw the special Seattle 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks on Lake Union, went whale watching and enjoyed watching a couple of Orca pods in Puget Sound and ate in some outstanding restaurants. We had a ball! Hope they visit again soon.

In early August, I had my much-needed Fundoplication – esophagus surgery. They take the top of your stomach, fold it down and make a new valve for the esophagus to mitigate the extreme GERD – acid reflux. It has helped the symptoms, though, as expected, the acid reflux is not completely gone. I spent the next two months healing and eating a soft diet. Sadly, I missed our 1965 class 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday reunion.

In October, we took a short 3-day trip to Mount Rainier and enjoyed seeing the mountain landscapes, some great wildlife, and the Paradise Lodge where 53 years ago I had visited with my mother and hiked up to the ice caves that have since melted and no longer exist. So glad I did that.

On Halloween, Dan took us to a neighborhood on Capitol Hill that profusely decorates and there were hundreds of Halloweeners with their families looking at the decorations, collecting candy and partying. It was quite an experience and a very fun evening. It was like a scene out of a movie that shows so many Halloweeners walking around. We never had any in Indiana since we lived so far off the road.

Our three cats (Sunshine, Midnight and Milton) are happy and healthy and we are all enjoying our new lives in Washington. May this greeting find you all happy and healthy as well and enjoying each day. Love to you all. Please keep in touch.

Peggy and Jim Dixon



Second photo was Dan & I going to a fun show at the Paramount in downtown Seattle.



Alaska Cruise on our 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary - Dan & I going to a fun show at the Paramount in downtown Seattle



Dan and us after a fun Halloween evening together.



Patrick, Brittney, with Will (11) and Claire (7) having fun together in California.