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Oh, the weather outside is frightful.....NOT.....we've just tied a record for the longest no-snow streaks at 232 days. The original record was set back in 1887. On December 10<sup>th</sup> we had three-tenths of an inch of snow to count as measurable snow. The front range of Colorado is in an extreme drought. We need the moisture here. The mountains got hit with snow which is good. They too were suffering with little snow at the ski slopes. We've had temps in the 60's or low 70's many times in November and December.

With Covid-19 still around, we've stayed low for the first quarter of the year. We were excited to finally get the Covid shot! The family is all vaccinated (including the booster shot)!

At the end of April, Tom, Lysa and Nikki flew to Austin, TX to attend our second cousin's, Justin Jeggle (Danielle Sermak's son), wedding in Brenham, TX. Before driving over to Brenham, we spent the day exploring Austin. We had some great BBQ while we were there. It was wonderful seeing family again. The wedding was beautiful! Allie's family owns the venue where the wedding/reception was held. Welcome to the family Allie!

In May, we've visited our cousins' Judy and Mitch in Monument, CO. They had friends over for a BBQ. Unfortunately, it rained, but the company was wonderful! We spent the night there which also happened to have been our 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

August was a busy month! From August 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, Nikki and two of her friends, Robbie and Becca, flew out to California. They went to Santa Monica, Universal Studios, Venice Beach, Disneyland and Warner Brothers. She had a wonderful time there. Tom and Lysa spent the weekend up in the mountains: Vail, Breckenridge and Frisco for Lysa's birthday. It's been years since we've been up there. It was a nice get away. On August 26<sup>th</sup>, Danny got engaged to the love of his life, Kylie Apelquist, while visiting Iceland! We're so happy to have Kylie in the family! She's a wonderful person and we love her dearly! They're looking at a 2023 wedding. Stay tuned!

At the end of September, we all flew to NY for our nephew DJ's, wedding in Brooklyn. We flew separate airlines and had the flight from hell. JFK was closed due to bad weather. We were flying in circles over PA, then we had to land at Dulles International Airport in DC to refuel. While landing, two birds hit the engine. Since Dulles is not a JetBlue hub, we had to wait for someone from Reagan International Airport to arrive and inspect the damage. We were on the tarmac for 4 ½ hours, with mask on, which was no fun at all!! Danny and Kylie ended up taking a shuttle from Dulles to JFK. By the time we landed at JFK and took a taxi to the hotel, what should have been a 3 ½ hours flight, took us 13 hours. Other than the flight, everything else was great! It's always nice to see family again. A mini reunion. The wedding was one of the most elegant weddings we've ever been to! It was a black-tie affair, which was fun getting dolled up for the event! This year's Christmas photo was taken at this event. Unfortunately, I couldn't get a good picture due to the strobe lights going on. It was an Italian wedding for sure! They had a cocktail hour with hor d'oeuvres, pasta, salad, intermezzo, dinner, a dessert bar extravaganza, breakfast, and they also offered pretzels and hot dogs as we were leaving the venue. We've all gained a couple of pounds from this wedding. Welcome to the family Giovanna!

At the end of October, Tom and Lysa flew to NJ to attend one of Tom's close friends since 5<sup>th</sup> grade, John Hick's daughter's wedding (Alison). We spent time with Tom's sister and brother-in-law, Barb & Steven Wilk. We had a great visit with them. We drove around the area to see what has changed. Tom was able to see and go into his childhood home in Plainfield, NJ. The drive up to Northwest Jersey was beautiful. It was an area that Lysa has never been to before. We were also able to see some colors, even though it was beyond peak. The resort where the wedding was held was gorgeous. The views were outstanding! It was another Italian wedding with so much food, which was delicious. Another lovely wedding. The following day, we drove to CT to see Lysa's cousins. We stayed with her old neighbor, Alfreda and Miro. We also got to see the changes that the new homeowners did to Lysa's childhood home. They did a wonderful job, and we like the changes. What are the odds to see inside both childhood homes?



The day after Thanksgiving, we met up with our cousins' Mitch, Judy along with her sister Kathy (who was visiting from CA), and Tom's brother Andrew at the View House restaurant in Centennial, CO. We had lunch and drinks there. We know why the restaurant is called 'View House'. The views of the Rocky Mountains are breathtaking! A wonderful visit!

Other news:

Nikki is still attending University of Colorado in Boulder. She's hoping to graduate next summer with a major in Journalism and a minor in Film.

Danny is attending graduate school at the University of Denver studying for his MBA. The company he works for, Lockheed Martin, is paying for it. He's hoping to graduate in the fall of next year. He's also taking flying lessons to get his pilot's license.

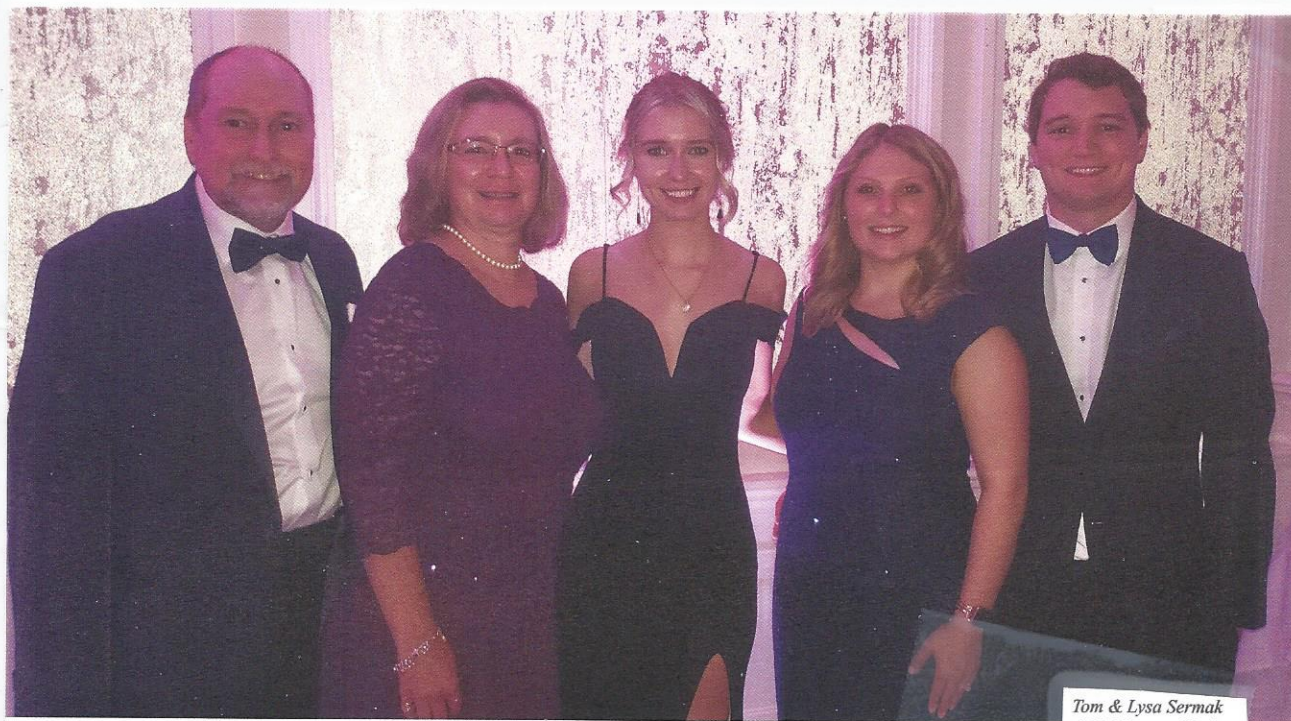
Lysa is still working at Alliant National Title Insurance Company as a staff accountant.

Tom is still collecting unemployment. He's hoping to be retired right before Christmas, by the time most of you will get this letter!

As we end this letter, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. Remember, the bar is always open here in Colorado! Come and visit us!

Love,

Tom, Lysa, Danny, Kylie, Nikki, Lucy and Oreo (woof) (woof)



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MERRY Christmas



THE SERMAKS  
tom, lysa, nikki, kylie & danny