

Happy New Year and a belated Merry Christmas!

We hope this letter finds you enjoying the holidays and spending time with family and friends. Another year has flown by and we are doing everything we can to enjoy our last year with Delaney before she goes off to college. Where did the time go?

Delaney has been applying to schools both in and out of state. She really wants to go to a school in the pacific northwest (University of Oregon) so we are weighing in-state vs out of state options. Delaney was accepted to CSU and that is her first college acceptance. She did apply to CU but if she goes in-state, her first choice is CSU.

Delaney is still playing volleyball and loves it. This fall, Delaney made Arvada West's varsity team and really enjoyed the season. They placed 37th in the state (5A class) and missed going to regionals by one rank. Jerry and I already miss HS volleyball. She played on a 17's club team last winter/spring, which was the best club she has played for since she started playing volleyball. Unfortunately, they did not field an 18's team so Delaney had to scramble to find a new team to play for this winter/spring. She now plays for 303 Volleyball and has to drive to Centennial three times a week for practice, which is a good 45 minutes each way. Luckily, one of her high school teammates is on the same club team so they share the driving.

Delaney worked at Primrose School this summer and that is the same daycare where she went from the age of 3 months to Kindergarten. She also works for Footers Catering as a server and has worked galas, weddings, parties, and other big events. In April, Delaney was handed a hot baking sheet of pizza but did not know that it was hot and she ended up with second degree burns on both hands. She had a cast on her left hand for a couple of weeks but was able to get it off before prom. Since then, everything has healed nicely.

Jerry and I try to take a trip a month in the RV from March to October. This year we visited Hot Springs National Park, White Sands National Park, Gualupe Mountains National Park, Vega State Park, Rush County Fair in KS, Lake McConaughy, and Lathrop State Park. We really enjoy our home on wheels and refer to it as our happy place. Our little Hugo always goes with us and he is a great camper and traveler.

For the first time in over 22 years, we ventured into the forest and cut a fresh Christmas tree. I won the lottery and got a permit to cut down a tree in Golden Gate Canyon state park. We bagged a blue spruce and are enjoying the wonderful smell and beauty of our fresh tree.

Jerry still works for the City of Boulder and I still work for The Action Center, a human services non-profit. Since we still have to get Delaney through college, we both will be working for at least the next four years. Our retirement plans of traveling the country will have to wait.

We are working on spending as much time with DK as she will allow and doing things with her that we should have done by now. We had a discussion about this and she let us know that she has not been snow tubing on a commercial hill so that is on the winter list. She mentioned today that she hasn't been to Mexico. Jerry and I want to get her certified in scuba diving so we can take a family trip, perhaps to

Mexico, and all dive together. DK is going to Greece with her Aunt after she graduates so it is hard to find time to do all the things we want to do with her before she flies the coop. We need to fit in a trip to Yellowstone too!

We hope your year has been wonderful. Here's wishing you a happy and healthy New Year!!

Love,

Jerry, Marilyn, and Delaney

