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CHRISTMAS

Tom & Lysa Sermak 4591 Maroon Circle Broomfield, CO 80023

LOVE FROM THE SERMAKS Tom, Lysa, Danny, Kylie, Nikki, Lucy & Oreo

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"O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!" As we begin the third week of Advent of this blessed season, we hope that everyone is doing well and in good health. This was a year of travel for all of us.

Tom and Lysa:

In February, we spent a long weekend in Colorado Springs, CO to celebrate Tom's 65th birthday. We were also able to spend some time with Tom's cousins, Mitch and Judy.

In May, we finally went to Hawaii for our 30th wedding anniversary. It only took us 30 years to get there. We stayed in Oahu and Kauai. While in Oahu, we had dinner with John Lacy. Lysa worked with his wife Carolyn at IBM. Unfortunately, Carolyn passed away a few years ago, but we have stayed connected with John. We had a lovely visit with him. We also visited the Polynesian Culture Center and Pearl Harbor. We also took a Majestic Circle Tour. It was an all-day event that took us around the island. It also included a stop at the Dole Plantation. Lysa had a Pineapple Ice Cream, and it was delicious. Hawaii was Tom's 49th out of the 50 states to visit. All he needs is North Dakota. This means we are coming for you Bob & Kim Nutsch.

In Kauai, we spent 2 nights in Kapa'a and 2 nights in Princeville. We had rented a Mustang Convertible and did a self-guided tour around the island. We were hoping to get a better view of Waimea Canyon, but it was drizzling as we got higher up the canyon. One of the stops we did was where they filmed the first season of 'Gilligan's Island,' which was on Maloa'a Beach. We have also stopped to see Hanalei Bay, which was not too far from Princeville. Kauai was so beautiful with its tropical rainforest. It also was not as crowded as Oahu. We would go back again!

Danny and Kylie:

At the end of January, they flew to NJ for a wedding. Ironically, in the area where Tom grew up (Plainfield/Bridgewater area). While there, they were able to have lunch with Tom's sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Steven Wilk. Danny finished graduate school the week before Thanksgiving. He got his MBA from DU (University of Denver). Thank you, Lockheed Martin, for paying for it! In August, he flew to Denmark with his class. Before going to Denmark, he took a side trip and spent the weekend in Cairo, Egypt. After Denmark, he flew over to Ireland and met up with Kylie. They both enjoyed Ireland. Danny is still working on getting his private pilot's license. He hopes to get it by Spring of 2023.

As we write this letter, he is on his way back from visiting his last continent, Antarctica. He wanted to visit all 7 continents before he turned 25, but thanks to Covid-19, it was delayed for 2 years. Cannot wait to hear all about it. Danny and Kylie will be spending Christmas in Pittsburgh. They will be finalizing details for their June 24, 2023 wedding.

Nikki:

Nikki had her share of traveling too! In May, she did a Mediterranean Cruise. She travelled with one of her best friends, Jordyn and her parents. She started out at London, went to Rome (saw the Vatican), to Greece (visited Santorini, Corfu and Athens). From Greece, went to Malta, then to Italy (Sicily, Naples-saw Pompeii there, and Florence/Pisa), then back to Rome and London.

A couple of days after she got back, she loaded up her Honda Pilot and drove down to Kissimmee, Florida with her friend Paula. Paula helped with the driving. They were able to spend a couple of days visiting Tom's cousin, Danielle, in Texas. Nikki is now working for Walt Disney World in Customer Service. She has been able to visit with Tom's other sister and brother-in-law, Janice and Patrick Callagy, and her cousins, in Coral Springs. She also flew home to help set up the village under the Christmas Tree. We miss having her around.

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Other news:

Tom's cousin, Betsy, spent the summer in Broomfield, CO. She was able to spend time with her two daughters, Rose and Robin, along with her grandson's, Gabriel and Luca. She wanted to get away from the Palm Springs, CA hot weather. While she was here, we had two mini Sermak Family Reunions. The first was in August at Phil & Rose's house, in Broomfield. Rose's sister Robin, Tom's brother Andrew and cousins, Mitch and Judy were also there. Then in September, Mitch and Judy had a little get together in Monument, CO. Judy's sister, Kathy, was also in town. So, we all got together again. A fun time was had by all.

Pictures on card:

Danny and Kylie – Blarney Castle, Ireland
Tom and Lysa – Princeville, Kauai
Nikki – London Bridge, London
Oreo – Wearing a 'Dog of Honor' bandana from Mt. Falcon in Morrison, CO
Lucy – Groomer's house, Broomfield, CO

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)