

Greetings!

December 15, 2024

Wishing all of you a happy holiday season. It seems like the days go by faster every year, but we have enjoyed each one this past year. We started 2024 with a hike in our neighborhood Rhyolite Park, and it seems like we've been on the go ever since! In mid-January we took a Hawaiian island honeymoon cruise with our next-door neighbors, Bob and Susan. We met up with a high school friend Mary and her husband Gary in Honolulu. On the cruise we enjoyed visiting Maui, Kauai, Hawaii, and Oahu. The highlight was seeing humpback whales on a whale watch tour in Maui, and a mother and calf swimming just below our room's balcony.

Much of our spring and summer were spent in the garden. Living in a new house, the back and side yards needed landscaping, so we jumped in with big plans. Robert dug a pond for the fish with a waterfall, and we planted bushes, trees, and flowers. We've filled in most spaces and are eager to see how things look this coming spring. It will surely be better than the mud we had before!

In April we traveled to D.C. and Virginia to attend Charlie & Theresa's wedding. Susan was glad to meet Robert's train buddies, and spend some time in our nation's capital. Later in April, we drove to Idaho so Susan could finish her contract work for the state of Idaho coaching teachers in early literacy. We visited north Idaho several times and then cleared out Susan's house to prepare it for sale. Her parents built the house in 1953 and she remodeled it in 2017, so it was bittersweet to have another family own it after all these years, but we have a beautiful home in Castle Rock, so it wasn't too hard to let it go.

In June we attended a Rolling Stones concert in Denver, Susan's first concert to see internationally known artists! Mick danced through the entire program, not like most 80-year-olds! In July we went to Albuquerque to visit Robert's sister Teresa and her husband Joel. We made a day trip to Santa Fe and hiked the Petroglyph National Monument near their house. We fit in a few camping trips to the mountains this summer, too. We found a spot just 30 minutes from home where we can hear elk, see moose, and listen to bears trying to get into the dumpsters at night! It's nice to get out when we can.

In August a friend from VA and her daughter came for a short visit, so we took them for a hike up Castle Rock. In September Charlie and Theresa came for a visit and we took them on the Georgetown Loop RR, up Pikes Peak, through Garden of the Gods and Air Force Academy, and through Rocky Mountain National Park. We also learned that Ida isn't just a super mutt, she's a Wire Mouth Heeler, bred in Missouri to herd cattle. We spent several weekends in the mountains enjoying the golden aspens.

In October we made another trip to Albuquerque to be with Teresa and Joel, and Robert's sister Carol and cousin Karen. We also watched the grandsons playing soccer and baseball several weekends in Arvada. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> we hiked up Castle Rock once again to repeat our wedding vows and enjoyed lunch at our favorite Castle Café. Neither of us can believe how quickly a year has flown! The following day we celebrated the lighting of the Castle Rock star with fireworks from our wedding site. Then we were off to Taos for a few days of exploring the sights with Teresa, Joel, Chris, Katie, and the grandsons. We had all our kids for a late Thanksgiving meal and now here we are in December!

Wishing all of you a wonderful holiday with friends and family and joy throughout the coming year!

Robert Lange & Susan Anderson  
5011 Silver Hare Court  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Robert & Susan



