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Christmas Greetings to All - 2018

Ho-ho-ho one and all!! We are so happy that we didn't have Thanksgiving plans this year!

Actually, we have been house/hospital bound for a week. We had been in Egypt for two weeks on an Archeology Paths trip when George got an infection of a cyst in the back of his neck. With rubbing from his camera strap, it spread to many openings and a 5x1 inch wound. We thank God that we were able to return to excellent medical attention as soon as we did! He was admitted to Providence Hospital in Columbia, SC, over Thanksgiving weekend. He had an operation to cut out dead tissue and clean the wound of infection that was even getting gangrene! He stayed a week, entailing another operation before coming home. Patty has to change packing and dressing twice a day. Thank goodness a RN nurse will be coming twice a week to make sure there is no infection.

In June we traveled to Skip & Debras' lakeside home on Lake Merrymeeting in New Hampshire. We spent a wonderful week with our whole family (22 with only Shawn missing out). The weather was spectacular. Great for swimming and boating. Close by, we were all able to rent a large house to fit us all in. Skip always keeps us all busy with toys, boats, walks, and games: and Debra and Evan planned and executed all the meals. Everyone pitched in and the week was great.

Skip, retired, stays busy playing bridge (he's a Grand Master now), teaching bridge, being a Board Member of two companies, and taking care of his granddaughter, Olivia, while her mother works. Emma is a postal carrier and loves it! She walks miles every day, 6 days a week delivering mail within Portsmouth. Evan is a Project Engineer working for Turner Construction in the Boston area and Lillian has been in Santa Clara, California studying anthropology, but has now returned home to recoup. Debra has cut back her teaching hours this year but thoroughly loves teaching Algebra to high school students.

Steve, our second son, is continuing in his architecture firm and staying busy with a farm he bought in southern Florida. Tammy works as a Surgical Nurse in an Eye Clinic in Miami and is now recovering from a colon operation. Her two daughters have moved back to Huntsville Ala., one with a baby daughter! Marty will be the second grandchild to get married as he will say his nuptials in March to Lindsay Michelle Schenker when most of our family will gather again. Marty is a mechanical engineer at Loucks Engineering working with air conditioning and heating in Florida. Stephanie is in Atlanta, employed by a MNG Laboratories, a diagnostic laboratory for rare diseases. She oversees all of their graphic designs and marketing growth analytics. She is so very talented!! Michael is in his second year of the University of Central Florida majoring in computer science.

Scott and Sheri continue with their busy lives in Virginia, getting used to being "empty nesters", as Shawn moved to Raleigh, NC, to pursue his Bank career with the Royal Bank of Canada where he works in the Mortgage Department. Stephen is a Deltek Sales Development Representative in the area. Stetson is with Iridium Communications working as an Associate Engineer in Field Operations of satellites. Scott joined him in a trip to Vandenberg AFB, California to watch a recent launching. Scott is a Project Engineer and Sheri is a lead accounting specialist in the Washington, DC area.

Bill and Stephanie are enjoying the cold weather of Victor, NY. He is in Neurobiological Research and beach volleyball. Stephanie, as a pediatric doctor, constantly has to take care of the rest of our family as we all NEED her expertise!! Rob, their eldest, played pro volleyball after UCLA graduation, before becoming an "entrepreneur" by taking on Tenzo Japanese Green tea, He is enjoying his business in the greater area in southern California. Stephen graduated from Duke University in 3 years with double major and now working in Baltimore for Key Tech designing computer circuit boards for interesting projects. Melissa is in third year in Cornell University in PreMed with Nutrition as her main field of interest, She will soon take the MedCaps.



Page Reunion at Lake Merrymeeting, NH - June 2018



The Pyramid of Snefru - 5th Dynasty (Over 4500 years old!)

We found that at 85 and 86 years, our trip to Egypt was too strenuous for us; but, we did learn a lot, and lost about eight pounds. George refers to Egypt as the land of ten thousand steps with few elevators! Our trip to Egypt was conducted by Archaeological Paths, a Polish Travel Company with excellent connections in Egypt, It was a one-of-a-kind tour of undiscovered Egypt for travelers who had already seen the normal tourist attractions. Patty and I first drove to Egypt from Tripoli, Libya, in the winter of 1959 for our month's leave from Mapping the desert along the 30th parallel of latitude. We were last in Egypt in October of 1998 on a tour of Lost Cities.

On this tour we met and were briefed by leading Archaeologists including the famous TV personality, Dr. Zahn Hawass, the previous Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities and later Minister of State for Antiquities. The film star Omar Sharif called him the most famous Egyptian movie/TV star! We visited several "digs" in progress that are normally closed to the public, including searching for the tomb of Cleopatra and Mark Anthony!

We will spend Christmas and New Years aboard an American Cruise Line's *American Constitution*, crusing out of Baltimore through Chesapeake Bay and the James and Potomac Rivers.

We look forward to hearing from each of you at this time of year. God Bless you and yours.

Patty & George

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year