

December 2001

Greetings and Salutations,

Daria underwent four doses of chemotherapy for her ovarian cancer. It was a difficult time for all involved. The high point was when Jeff shaved her head! Daria continued to work for 20 hours/week until the chemotherapy was done in early March and she returned full-time. Her friends and family were of great support. Now she visits the oncologist every three months for her blood work to check her CA125 (tumor marker) and check "under the hood". She will continue with the visits for two years. Right now she enjoys each day with added vigor and prays for the best. Her curly salt and pepper hair is short, for now, and she loves the look!

Sarah went to Nepal in May for a college course in environmental sciences, her major. She trekked up the mountains and traveled to the beaches in Thailand. She also met a nice young man from the U. of Wisconsin with whom she remains in contact. Upon her return she worked at the US Geological Survey in Reston, VA, for several weeks. She and a girlfriend then drove west, visiting Wisconsin of course and hiking through various national parks. She stopped in to visit friends and family along the way.



She is in her fourth year at U. of Virginia and applying to graduate schools and is still playing rugby on the college team (playing in the four-team national playoffs last spring). This winter break she's off to Montana to visit a college friend and then drives down to the Florida Keys with friends. Jeff and Daria just mark the map of the world with stickers to keep track of her travels!

Adam is still at TRW. This year he bought a townhouse in Reston, Va, near where he works. At the time houses were in such demand that you made an offer with an escalation clause and decided how much over what you offered you could go, forgetting about what the asking price was. Jeff and Daria enjoyed accompanying Adam as he searched. Adam has started taking courses at George Mason University in editing and writing. He hopes to get accepted into the graduate level creative writing program. He is also seeing a young woman he met at work. He seems content, for now.

Adam and Jeff participated in Sarah's rugby team's Five Mile Freezer Run last winter (Adam ran, Jeff started running and then walked the rest of the way. He vows to do better

this year). Jeff continues to be active with the local land use and road use committees in the neighborhood in addition to his job at PRC, which has merged and now boasts the name: Northrop Grumman Information Technologies. He loves working outside in the garden and mowing the lawn. It is the Boy Scout in his soul, I guess. He is as busy with life as ever and will not slow down!

This year we got "free siding" due to hail damaging our aluminum siding. It began there and escalated to a new roof, capping of the exposed wood and then new windows due to rotted wood! We added two skylights in the family room as well as replacing the carpet with wood floors and re-tiling the bathrooms when Daria, while exiting the shower put her hand right through the tile wall! (She had visions of the nightly news headlines: naked librarian found on front lawn!!!) So, we are still painting and cleaning up. It never seems to end...

Jeff's mom is thriving at her assisted living center, Sunrise in Reston. She has gained her weight back and is involved in the activities while making new friends. She seems happy. She especially enjoys doting on her three grandchildren!

Daria's dad is now in the nursing home part of Cameron Glen. His spirits are high and he enjoys our visits. Every week Jeff goes in to get his dirty clothes to wash and gives him new hats to wear. He is now in a wheelchair all the time and has trouble speaking every since his last stroke. He still knows how to charm the lady nurses and staff!

The past events in September have given us much to think about and be grateful for in life. Things can change so very quickly in unexpected ways. We wish you the very best in life, including good health!

Fondly, Daria, Jeff, Adam, Sarah
Cats: Ike, Charley, Socks, Bradley and visiting Chickory and guinea pig Paunch!