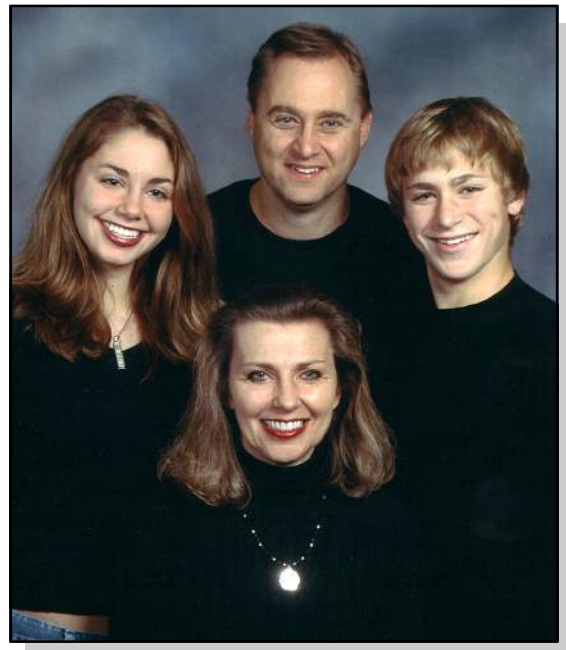


Another great year! Reflecting on this past year, it has truly been a time of discovery and change for all of us. Katelyn began the year finishing high school and traveling quite a bit. She enjoyed our annual week in February visiting family in Delray Beach, traveled to Europe with her German class in March and took a first class cruise aboard The Royal Caribbean Mariner of the Sea with a close friend and his family in April. She graduated 5th in her class with a 4.42 GPA from Lakota East High School in June. Within two weeks of graduation she was moving into the dorms to begin her 6 year BS/MD program at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM). She has adjusted well and is enjoying college life.

At the beginning of this year, we received a phone call from Taylor's principal. He informed us that out of 700 students, Taylor placed 1st in a written and then a final oral exam in the Geography Bee. This allowed him to represent his school at the state level! He is an outstanding student in History and Geography and we are very proud of him. Taylor is now our high school freshman and is 1 of over 1400 students in his 9th grade class. Needless to say, he has found many new friends! He enjoyed wrestling and track last year and has been spending each day conditioning and practicing with the high school wrestling team as the 2004-2005 season is just beginning. With a school this size there is stiff competition for each weight class.



While most of you are reading our Christmas letter, we will be somewhere in the southern Caribbean on a cruise through New Years celebrating this wonderful season in a very different family way. So this year, we close with a "letter" read to us a while back in church. We hope you are encouraged by the thoughts as much as we were.

*My Dear Child...*

*You may not know me, but I know everything about you...Psalm 139:1 I know when you sit down and when you rise up...Psalm 139:2 I am familiar with all your ways...Psalm 139:3 For you were made in my image... Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being...Acts 17:28 For you are my offspring...Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived...Jeremiah 1:4-5 I chose you when I planned creation... Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book...Psalm 139:15-16 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live... Acts 17:26 You are fearfully and wonderfully made...Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your mother's womb...Psalm 139:13 And brought you forth on the day you were born...Psalm 71:6 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me...John 8:41-44 I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love...1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish my love on you...Simply because you are my child and I am your father...1John 3:1 Every good gift that your receive comes from my hand...James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs...Matthew 6:31-33 My plan for your future has always been filled with hope...Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting love...Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore...Psalms 139:17-18 And I rejoice over you with singing...Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you...Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured possession...Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul...Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to show you great and marvelous things...Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me...Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart...Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you those desires...Phillippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine...Ephesians 3:20 For I am your greatest encourager...2Thess 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles... 2 Corin 1:3-4 When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you...Psalm 34: 18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart...Isaiah 40:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes and I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth...Rev.21:3-4 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus...John 17:23 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed...John 17:26 He is the exact representation of my being...Heb 1:3 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you...Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled...2 Corin 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you... 1 John 4:10 I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love...Romans 8:31-32 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me...1John 2:23 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again...Romans 8:38-39 I have always been Father, and will always be Father...Ephesians 3:14-15 My question is... Will you be my child?...John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you...Luke 15:11-32.*

*Love, Your Dad Almighty God*

Hoping you have a Very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year,  
Brenda, Rich, Katelyn and Taylor