

## Merry Christmas 2015,

In the age of the social network, we hope our “paper” letter finds you and yours ready for the holiday season ... Christmas will soon be here!

*A person may plan his own journey, but the LORD directs his steps.*

-- Proverbs 16:9

Earlier this year, our son Taylor moved back to Ohio from Williston, North Dakota. His 2 years working in busy Williams County gave him the experience needed to become the Planner for Clermont County in SE Ohio. He lives in East Walnut Hills (*Cincinnati*) which is near many of his old friends and only 40 minutes from home. We are happy to have him closer and so proud of the man he has become.



Thanksgiving 2015 at Katelyn and Drew's in Wayzata, MN with cousin Justin and Keity Howard and their family

While Brenda was still in the hospital, DadC had a massive stroke and within a week passed away. The memorial service was at St. John's in Sidney and we *know* he has been reunited with my mom. He was buried with military honors and it was very respectful for a good man and father. My brother Ron and I are slowly getting around to the task of going through the house and outbuilding as we get it ready to sell.

In November, we also said goodbye to our faithful dog, Tootsie. She was the perfect family pet for 17 years ... I will miss my best *four-legged* friend.



As 2015 comes to an end, life has thankfully returned to a less hectic normal, just in time for us to reflect on God's gift to man ... *the light of the world* ... **Jesus our Saviour.**

We wish you ALL a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Rich and Brenda



Our most humanizing event for 2015 happened this summer when Brenda fell from the top of a ladder trimming a tree. She severely damaged her shoulder and fractured her pelvis, but thanks to an excellent surgeon at UC Medical Center, it was successfully reconstructed. He replaced her upper humerus and was able to rebuild her “blown up” (*his medical term*) rotator cuff. After several months of arduous rehab, Brenda is now optimistic that she will be back to swimming her many miles each week.



We drove up to Katelyn and Drew's in Wayzata, MN for Thanksgiving, while Taylor flew up from Cincinnati for a couple days so we could all be together. What wonderful hosts - we had a great time. If all goes as planned, we will do it again ... *this time* in Cincinnati for Christmas.

*I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD. They are plans for peace and not disaster, plans to give you a future filled with hope.*

--Jeremiah 29:11

