

Dear all,

3/9/10

We've melted from our 2/23 3-4 snowstorm and the farm is now in the production of maple syrup. Spring/summer projects continue to pile up. The date for the family party is still undecided, partly because Ken will leave again for sea duty in mid-April, & we're never sure of his schedule. We'll let you know ASAP. I'm still hobbling around pretty well, and hope to continue, as long as the pain pills keep coming! We seem to have a lot of 'company' and always enjoy it. When things get dull, I can always count on my 3 little guys from up the road paying a visit and looking for goodies.

Love to all,

Bum Clair

3/29/10

Dear Family,

It's so great to receive the RR after so long. I was afraid it was gone forever and I so look forward to the updates on our ever busy and growing family. Have you ever noticed that *our* family is somehow so different from the rest of the culture out there in America? We read in these pages all the wonderful news of the achievements of our children (Honor Rolls, school clubs, healthy hobbies, community and Church involvement), good news of marriages, babies being born into loving *intact* families...so refreshing compared to the "norm" in American culture today. The Anthropologist in me would ask why – but we know why...so let's keep up the good work and continue fighting (but mostly praying) for the generations to come! I know this sounds "hokey" that I bring this up, but upon moving back to NY after being away for so long, it hit me like a ton of bricks this cesspool of a society that we live in—I think there *might* be only a handful of students in my kids classrooms (or even in my 4<sup>th</sup> grade CCD class) that aren't from a broken, totally dysfunctional home! Is this the world we want to leave our children and grandchildren?

Now on to the news of my crazy brood...Besides the above mentioned, it's great to be back in NY, close to family and old friends! We love our house—especially after all the work we've done and continue to do to it since we bought it 13 months ago. I hope as many of you as possible can come see it at the family party this summer as we're only about a quarter-mile up the road from Mom. As a matter of fact, you can see her red roof from my front yard! (Yes, she had a new metal roof put on last year and you really can't miss it now—it's like the "Red Roof Inn"—very snazzy!)

John's job at Kohl's continues to go well. The good news is that he's been moved from shipping to receiving and from night shift to day shift! He's still on the same 4-day workweek – Wednesday through Saturday—but his hours are now roughly 5AM to 4PM. It's so much easier with the kids to have a more normal family schedule. He also actually likes this new department a bit better. It's such a relief for him to finally be in a non-union environment as opposed to UPS where a manager wasn't even allowed to touch a package. Now he can actually get in a truck and help out his employees when they are getting buried and boy does it build a better psychological rapport with them!

What can I say for myself? Busy mother of five ages 12-5, chauffer, volunteer at school and church, gymnastics and soon to be softball and T-ball mom—and now I can add farmer as Ken (the *great* mastermind) has mom and myself embarking on a planting frenzy (all in starter pots indoors for now) of the proportions never before seen at the Christensen farm! We'll see where this experiment leads us! We'll either be canning, freezing and pickling our produce in a frenzy this summer or crying a river that all the work was in vain!

The kids...Arianna, 12 still enjoys her social life as number one, but continues with gymnastics and again softball which starts up in April. Somehow (a puzzle to me) she even managed to get on the Honor Roll at school this reporting period. Kaylin, 9, continues in her accelerated studies, but also enjoys Animal Lover's Club, after school activities such as Mural and Jewelry making (of which I'm the prime beneficiary!) and library programs whenever offered. Kaylin is even going to give softball a try this spring on Arianna's team – We'll see how that goes! Matthew, Mark and Luke are doing well in the Pre-K program at school. It's a short day for them with the bus picking them up at 7:45 and bringing them home at 11AM – but it gives them a taste of school – both the good and the bad. The boys will also start T-Ball this spring! This will be a "brave new world" for John and me that we will have all 5 kids in sports! All I can ask is...pray for us!

We are looking forward (I think) to a family vacation in Disney World in early May. John's parents have a time-share there (Wyndham Bonnet Creek) and all the "kids" and grandchildren are invited and treated to lodging and park tickets! So, it will be our family of 7, John's sister Christine's family of 5 (all the cousins are around the same age and get along well) and John's brother Arthur and his girlfriend (soon to be fiancé???) Jenna. We'll keep you posted on how this "vacation" goes (especially the 4 days of driving part), but in the meantime we're very appreciative of the generosity of John's parents.

Keep up all the good news. We hope to see as many of you as possible for the family reunion!

Love, Louisa, John, Arianna, Kaylin, Matthew, Mark + Luke

P.S. Visit me on Facebook!

2-2-11

4/17/10

Hi, all! We send springtime greetings. Green is returning where we had plenty of snow this past winter. Three snow days – the most in many a year! Happily, the freak windstorm that hit LI in March only cut our power for 4 hours. Unlucky pockets of WH lost power for 5 days!

We Drehers are all ok. We're having a quiet year – no big events. Matt and Carolyn's wedding last June 20 was a real celebration. We all partied hearty in the Morris (NJ) Museum, where the reception took place. Matt and Carolyn planned the entire affair; we just showed up for the fun. They went to Paris and London on a delayed honeymoon. As I write, they are in Japan! Matt was lucky enough to be recruited for a job with a Cablevision subsidiary last year, so he now trains into Penn Station and walks across the street to his office. Carolyn continues to work for Penguin Publishing in lower Manhattan.

Ian had some speed bumps after relocating back to LI. The job search was brutal, but he landed a job managing a real estate office (!). He kept looking, of course, and in November he rejoined a customs brokerage firm that he had worked for in the past. So, he has a job and benefits – a real blessing! He's keeping his future career options open (LI is an expensive place to live!). We were sure happy to have his assistance with all the snow shoveling this winter.

Kate is still working in Palo Alto, CA, but her future is unsure. Her plant biology information project is losing NSF funding, so her job may not exist into 2011. She's looking a bit, but will not desert her co-workers until she has no choice. I've been out west for a few more visits – I just love the CA coast and its waves. We hope to travel with Kate this summer – maybe in Colorado. Last summer, George and I visited Civil War sites – Appomattox, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Shiloh. We headed further west to Memphis and then north (with a great stop at the Lincoln Museum in Springfield, IL) to Milwaukee to observe IrishFest with Frank.

We just had a dual Clines family celebration of Frank's 60th birthday and Joe and Mary Jo's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At least we were able to get all 5 sibs together, if not all the cousins.

Otherwise, it's the same old, but that's ok with our jobs and health intact. We keep an eye on George's mother, who will turn 90 in September. She still lives alone in her Hicksville home, and she wears her Life Alert pendant religiously.

We plan to pilgrimage to Lackawack Hill on July 17. Hope to see many of you there. This RR fills in many news gaps, but it would be great to see you all. We pray for God's continued blessings on one and all, and hope for a glorious spring and a merciful summer.

Barbara + George  
4-26-10 (Alice's birthday)

Hi to all,

Our biggest news of the past year was the arrival of our 10<sup>th</sup> grandchild, Tyler August, born 12-16-09 to Paul and Leelan. He is the first male to carry on the Kieffer name in this new generation. Everyone is doing well and Ausie and I get to spend lots of time with the grandkids since they are all so close by. We feel so at home here in NC and are so blessed to have our family so close.

As I said last year in the letter, we are again getting ready for the 24 hrs of Booty bike marathon to raise \$ for cancer awareness. This year Paul, Stephen + Seth will be riding and our whole family along with some of the Truckley's will be down in Charlotte cheering them on. You may hear us wherever you are!!!  
Love to all, Ronnie + Ausie

5/2/10

Hi, Folks!

Gee, 60 doesn't feel any different. What really hits me is that my baby brother is a quarter-century married and closing in on 50!

Nothing much changes out here. Summer will mean lots of ball games, swimming and Milwaukee's many festivals. And of course a couple of trips east!  
Hope everyone has a great summer.

Frank

May 7, 2010

Dear Family,

The 'big wedding' is now behind us! Claudine & Laughton Watkins Nuckols, VI were married on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Michael's Church in Glen Allen, and the reception followed at the Richmond Marriott West. The whole day went about as perfect as human endeavors can go. If anyone who attended the wedding & reception did not have a good time, it was their own fault!

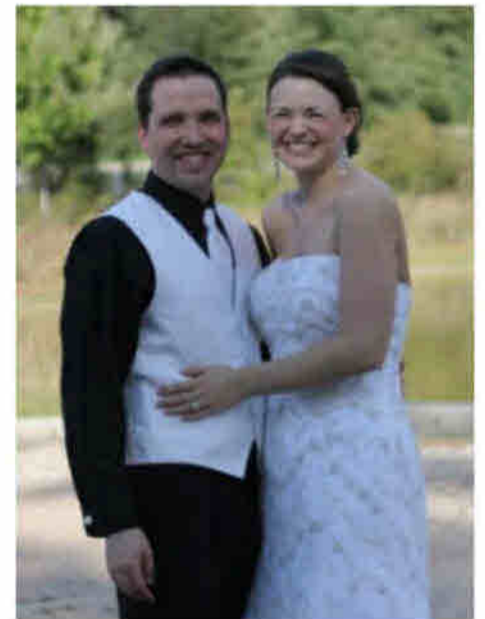
The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and now have settled down, with their puggle, Roscoe P. Coaltrain, in what was Laughton's house at 1319 Berrymeade Avenue Glen Allen, VA 23060. The house is just southeast of the intersection of I-295 & I-95/Route 1 (where Chris & Kristy are situated just northeast the same intersection). Both children & spouses are therefore about 12 minutes from us.

Laughton has worked at Capital One for over ten years and is currently in the Information Technology dept. His job seems secure for the foreseeable future. Claudine's job at Community Neurological Services has come to an end, as she saw the 'handwriting on the wall' (money and legal problems), looked for another job, and found one in the 'nick of time' (her previous boss was just about to put her on part-time status). She found a job at Affiliated Computer Services (ACS), as a 'Medicare Provider Enrollment Specialist' that will initially pay less than what she was making, but given where the old job was heading, this one is a blessing.

Chris & Kristy have settled into married life (1 year anniversary in March) and, for the time being, are staying put in their one-bedroom condo. Although she was laid off before their marriage, Kristy began working for the same company again on a part-time basis. However, it slowly became a full-time job again and now she is back to full-time status. Chris' job at Estes Express continues to be stable enough.

Danie continues to participate in all-things quilting, including recent weekends at the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, Virginia Consortium of Quilter's 'Celebration' and various other assorted gatherings. As I write this, Danie just started a part-time job for cash to support her 'fabric issue.' She is working at a quilt shop on the 'south side' of Richmond, where she will rarely have to work any weekends, and gets a discount on fabrics.

Certainly, contributing to the desire to get a part-time job is so that she would have an excuse for not dropping everything when her parents call. She (we) are certainly here for the bona fide needs, but often she is called upon to drive them, or meet them at doctors' offices, shopping malls, etc. just to 'hold their hands.' A recent true need was to host her parents when 'Poppi's' pace maker failed, and a new one needed to be installed. The hospital in Williamsburg doesn't do this procedure, so it was done at MCV in Richmond. Minor complications with the procedure resulted in longer (by hours) stay at the hospital, an extra night stay at our house, and the inability to drive home. So, Danie drove them home and has visited them twice to help with shopping and other errands. While their 1988 Jeep was parked in front of our house, I replaced belts and front brakes and performed an overall check of the car. We drove in tandem back to Williamsburg on Saturday to return the vehicle and observe Mothers Day with both of our mothers.



Other activities that have kept us busy include the recently completed bowling season, where our Wastin' Away team won the first half mixed team title, but lost the second half title and final season championship to a team we played, and lost to, three weeks in a row. Now that bowling is done, I joined the St. Michael 'Defenders' softball season (already in-progress). Is it a coincidence that the night of my return to the team resulted in the team's first victory of the three week old season? Probably!

My job at Dominion continues to be a challenge. As scheduled, my lead guy retired in February '09. So far, there have been no challenges that my remaining staff has not been able to address (thanks in part to the years of tutelage by the now-retired lead), however, the amount of work that is being handled by the group is causing some frayed nerves. At mid-year, one of my new hires, in whom we invested a year of training, also left the company for personal reasons. The most recent blow has been budget cuts and the voluntary separation program (VSP) that began at Millstone Power Station, but that quickly expanded to Corporate. The company was looking for ~1000 people to take the package; but 1430 did. Nuclear had a disproportionately large participation (because we're old folk!), so we are going to be able to refill a portion of the positions. Some other sections of the company that didn't have much participation, but had their budgets proportionally slashed nonetheless, are conducting 'involuntary separations' in the shadow of the VSP. The upside of the plan for employees with one foot out the door, is up to 18 months' pay, but since there is no years-of-service credit being offered, it was too little for me. Unfortunately four of my eleven Engineers are taking the package. I'm told that I can replace three of them by 'internal posting' (like as if an involuntarily separated employee from HR might be a perfect fit to perform fracture mechanics analysis for us.). Only one position can be filled from outside. Sigh!

We have take several breaks from all of the busy-ness of the last year. We spent 1½ weeks on vacation in June on a road trip through TN, KY & WV where we experience a zoo, a NASCAR race (no, it wasn't the same place!), Opryland (under water as I write this), quilts, caves, Corvettes, bourbon (hic), waterfalls, art glass, a winery and more.

While Claudine & Laughton were in their honeymoon, we visited Lancaster, PA (Amish country) for a few days, then met up with Ed & Janet Ebert (and their son, Ryan and his bride of one year, Kathy) in Washington DC.

Early this year, we joined the Eberts again on a three-day cruise out of Port Canaveral, visiting Nassau, but bypassing Cococay (because of high winds). The return to Port Canaveral coincided with the delayed launch of the space shuttle, so we got to watch the night time takeoff from about 40 miles out to sea.

Currently, we are planning a trip to Nevada/California in June/July to visit Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon and Yosemite NP. Details of that adventure will be in the next round.

Eric & Danie

Dear Family, May 26, 2010

Seems it went from winter to summer in a matter of days, and it hit the low 90's today. That should be good for the garden as Ken and I helped Mom with most of the planting this past weekend. Mom had gotten a few things planted some weeks ago but cold weather kept derailing things. Since Ken is now back from sea we're starting on some more barn work, as well as continuing with a new room above the garage. Ray, Ken and I purchased another property in the spring, about a half-mile from Mom's, so we've been busy with some forestry work there too.

Nicole and Megan had a very good year at West Babylon HS, completing junior and freshman year respectively. Both did winter and spring track and seem to enjoy it more for the camaraderie and exercise rather than the competitiveness. It's shocking how quickly they grow up; Nicole is now completing Drivers Ed. and even took an advanced art class for her portfolio at Fashion Institute of Technology on Sunday mornings.

I'm still at the Times, although it's decline is something I'd rather not discuss. On a brighter note, my health has been great and I'm keeping up with the high cholesterol regimen of pills and exercise. That's about it for now....hope to see many of you July 17 for the party.

Love to all,



6/6/10

Hi to all from hot sunny Bethpage!

90° in late May, early June - we hope the coming summer isn't proportionately that much hotter! We were happy to hear everyone's good news. From our little corner, the only major event this past year was Bill & my 25th anniversary last October. We renewed our vows with other "milestone" couples at a church ceremony, & then our kids organized a surprise party at a Chinese buffet restaurant, with about 50 people attending! Finally on the exact date itself, we got away for 24 hours to stay at a hotel in Times Square, have dinner & see a Broadway show. Fortunately, for us, no one was trying to blow up Times Square that evening! But would you believe that this past May 1st, on the very evening that the SUV bomber tried to do just that, our Danny was right there in Times Square at that very moment!! A group of music

→

students from his high school were going to a concert at Lincoln Center, & they were eating dinner at Planet Hollywood, right across the street from the StV. When they came out they saw all the firetrucks just arriving, but luckily didn't know till later what exactly was happening. It's so frightening to imagine what could have happened if the man had been successful with his bomb!!

Danny continues to do well with his music, & in finishing up his sophomore year. The college hunt will be very different with him than it was with Kristen, because he's looking at more "challenging" schools [translate "more expensive"], thinking of majoring in mechanical engineering. Kristen is finishing her third year at Marist College, & she is currently in Paris. She fulfilled her fine arts requirement by taking an art history course this semester, and it ends with a 2-week "on site" study tour in Paris & nearby. She paid for the trip herself, & we're glad she took advantage of the opportunity, but... I'm jealous!!... and reliving my "early days" through her. Finally to Michelle - if she were a "typical" child instead of a "challenged" one (the current politically-acceptable terms), she would be graduating from high school this month. As it is, she'll "status quo" there for another two years (possibly even three years), & then... what?? They take her out to more & more job sites, but there's not much indication that she could ever handle a real job independently. What programs exist are very complicated, & the social opportunities for teenagers & above are fewer & fewer. There is a very good organization called "Best Buddies", started by one of Eunice Kennedy Shriver's sons, which has afforded her some socialization opportunities - even a "prpm"! - while she's at Seaford High School, but I don't see too much available for "20-somethings" after she graduates. So we'd be glad to take our share of those great May family prayers!! Love to all, Bernadette, Bill & kids  
P.S. Hope to see some of you at the Christensen reunion in July!

Dear All,

6-23-10

Glad to hear that all is well. Nothing new to report from the convents. Joan & I are well as are all the other sisters. We just got another German Shep puppy and she keeps us busy -

Lots of prayer and garden work Keep us Contemplative!

Be assured of our prayers -

Love,  
Theresa & Joannie

Greetings from Williamsburg and Gloucester, VA

July 4, 2010

I just celebrated my 84th birthday back on May 30<sup>th</sup>. I gave up my car last July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 and the only thing I miss is going to see Monica whenever I wanted to do so. Yes, I saw my car being driven out of the gates here and it did not bother me - not a tear from my eyes. I really don't miss the car. Here we are driven to church on Sunday in the bus and we are taken to our doctor's appointments with the car. I have a man from Faith in Action do shopping for me and of course when Eric comes, he does shopping for me. So I really don't need a car. The only reason I feel sorry that I no longer drive my car is that I cannot go and drive to see Monica whenever I want to. My friends and I play Rummikub a lot and go to many social functions they provide here. They have a variety of entertainment for us - they try to please everybody and keep us busy and happy. Yesterday, they had a health fair here and I won the door prize - a basket of flowers. When I was signing my name on the ticket I said to the woman: "I like those flowers - they're pretty - I'm going to win them." And I did. My biggest accomplishment lately is that I lost about 40 lbs. and more to come - by exercise, therapy and dieting.

Monica is still doing pretty well. She is still having some dental work done: she had her teeth pulled and now is waiting to get her upper plate. The dental work had to be shelved until her power chair was fixed. Now she's waiting for the appointment to the dentist. Even though the chair was just fixed (\$2000 worth) - something else is wrong with the chair so these things will be taken care of when possible. The money is approved by Social Services and Medicare orders money to be taken out of her check, etc., etc. - this is how things are done.

Right now Eric and Danie are out West: they flew to Las Vegas and will drive to many national parks, etc. seeing those beautiful sights of the USA and then fly home again July 10<sup>th</sup>. Chris and Kristy and Claudine and Laughton are all well and busy at work. Alan is plugging away at Deutsch Bank and Deanne is keeping Sacred Heart going and Billy is working at IBM for the summer and when he can during school time - his 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Iona. Gillian is head counselor at a day camp for the Summer and will be in 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Mount St. Vincent. Shannon, I believe, will help out at the camp for the first few weeks. She just graduated from Montessori and will be attending SHHS in September.

It was good to read about all the things happening with the May family. We'll keep praying ~~that~~ only good things happen. Keep all the prayers coming for us - we're praying for you!

*Rosemary and Monica*

7/10/10

### SPECIAL GUEST-STAR CONTRIBUTION!

This is Frank, substituting for Joe and Mary Jo because they're just off on a 25th-anniversary trip to Paris! Since Joe is somewhat legendary for, um, retaining the round-robin for lengthy periods, we figured this would be a good way to keep a good pace.

Lots of nice news regarding the kids:

---Joseph graduated from Kellenberg High School and in the fall will follow his parents' path to Fordham University in the Bronx.

---Terry had a great first year at Chaminade High School, making the academic honor roll and winning quite a few medals as a budding track star.

---Kira graduated from St. Thomas Elementary School, winning achievement medals in Spanish and Social Studies, and in the fall will replace Joseph as the family's representative at Kellenberg High.

As for the parents, well, they're in Paris. So life is good all around!

This is your guest correspondent signing off.....





Hi May Family!

At first I was quite impressed to see this letter come to me so quickly again from Malverne -- but then it was like getting to the punch line to read Frank's note! (Sorry, Joe). Very cool to read & hear about so much travel by everyone. My only trip this year has been 5 days in Nashville, the week before it flooded. Of course I ran a marathon, but many were diverted to a shorter distance due to impending T-storms & tornados. Wonderful to see all who could fit in the party at the Farn. Except for the large Cline's contingent, I hadn't seen most since the 2008 party -- such as Alan, Tina & Maria. I'm a guest worker at the Farn once/month with a specialty of dragging branches. On the previous visit, Steve had to drive 100 miles to pick me up when my car was totalled in a 4 car accident. I didn't even get a scratch -- the Lord is kind & merciful. To get the 220 miles home, I bought a car from John & Lorraine who were preparing to turn it in off lease.

Not only an <sup>an</sup> now president of my running club, I became race director of a local 5k. See [www.NvaRun5K.org](http://www.NvaRun5K.org). Payins web design has also been steady. If you know of anyone in need of an effective website, send them to [www.AttractWeb.com](http://www.AttractWeb.com).

Peace!

Ray

Dear Family July 24, 2010

I was so happy to get all the family news before we left for "24 Hours of Bookey" (July 24) but we're leaving tomorrow for NC. to see Ronnie & Angie & then on to an aunt in Pa. (Ralph's) & then to NJ. for a Big Italian Wedding as Ralph's sisters' Daughter (Miranda Rossi) of which Janna will be a bridesmaid & Ralph will do a reading @ the Mass (Aug 17th). (Run on pentecost. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Grand son Kai, turned 5 this week & had a fun trolley car & bowling party in your City, Tex. Our newest news is Talleen & Chri expect another baby exactly timed as Sydney's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday Feb 8ish. We're trying to catch up to Ronnie & Angie. Ralph retires in October & I buy my Glock in Nov. #A! He really get along great so it should only kidding be fun. Our prayers always Love Madeline & Ralph.

Edwin Run 5k is a beautiful 505 Support &

Dear Family

12 August 2010

I am writing this towards the end of a long, hot summer. Seems like every day is 90 degrees plus, and we are often stuck inside keeping cool. If we venture out and about, we must navigate around numerous detours thanks to the multiple road projects near our house being funded by stimulus money. All in all an aggravating season. (Could be worse, I could be a flag man!)

Brian is back from college for the summer, but he is working a lot so is not at home too much. He did not find an internship this year, but did land a paying job and has had 8-hour and 12-hour shifts for the first time in his life, a good experience. He had a miserable spring semester and is considering his options for next year. For fun this summer, he played baseball in a young-adult league affiliated with Nor-Gwyn baseball/softball, the organization our kids have always played for. It was fun to watch him play ball again, although the team didn't do well. There were a couple of "kids" on the team that we have known since Little League days, including one who went to preschool with Brian!

Emily is gearing up for her move to college (Boston College). We've got the laptop, the XL sheets, etc. She is doing her best to keep us from missing her this fall; she spends almost every minute of every day out of the house. She started going to graduation parties non-stop in the spring, and recently has shifted to going-away parties. I really wonder if she remembers that once upon a time, she and all of her friends went to SCHOOL together. It will be quite a shock when she has to knuckle down again.

Colin is watching his brother and sister come and go, and is trying to keep busy himself. He did baseball also this summer, as well as a couple of camps. We should have signed him up for more things, as he is a little bored, but he's at that awkward age (14) where it gets harder to find activities. We will have a family trip to the Jersey shore soon, and then he will be visiting Uncle Frank in Milwaukee to wind up his summer.

We were shocked and saddened when we heard that Charles had passed away in July. What a blessing that his sisters have each other to share their memories and their grief.

Love to All,

*Ellen + Family*

The timing of this letter is perfect. We just returned from a visit with the rest of the family in Williamsburg & Richmond. We stayed near Mom and brought her to visit with Monica. Mom can't get there often since she gave up driving. Both Mom and Monica are doing well. Mom has lost about 40 pounds, which helps her mobility a bit, but it is still hard for her to get around, with her aches and pains. We also spent good time with Eric, Danie, Chris & Kristi, and Claudine & Laughton. It was great seeing them, and how well they are doing. It was a fun time. Today, the girls, Deanne and I are heading to the Poconos for vacation.

We were all saddened to hear of Chas' death. I heard from Capuchin connections, and even though I haven't seen much of him over the years, it is still hard to believe we will not see him again. Eric & I reminisced about the May parties growing up, and visiting the Charles Mays after work on weekends. We had a lot of fun, and a little mischief. Hopefully, his life in Switzerland was a full life and he died a happy man.

Although my summer vacation is just starting, William has already been back to Iona for about a week. He is a Campus Minister this year, so he has been on retreat and workshops. His role will be somewhat like an RA, but he is also responsible for promoting spiritual activities, especially mission trips. He has a heavy course load which will also keep him busy. Majoring in both Computer Science and Math is demanding, as is the Honors Program. Adding to that his extracurricular activities, he will have his hands full. But he has been looking forward to this. He got to spend a few weekends at his girlfriend's house, and she was here for a recent weekend. Working his internship at IBM for the summer was rewarding, but also taxing. He really hasn't had any summer break, other than aforementioned weekends. He needs to pace himself, but he is good at managing his time. IBM wants him to continue at least to October, but we'll see what he is able to give them. We are a little concerned about his high cholesterol levels: he seems to be heading down the same road as me, and we want to head off any problems. So we are monitoring that.

Gillian finished a summer as a camp counselor at the Yonkers program. It is taxing, but she also smiles when she speaks of "her kids". She is so good with them! Her Landy cousin will join her at the Mount this year, so G will be able to show her the ropes. G also has a new roomie, so she's looking forward to that. She was in touch with the Math Dept chair, who is looking forward to G's return. She'll have another good year, I am sure.

Shannon couldn't wait to get out of her Middle School, as some teachers were less than optimal. But Shannon had goals for herself, and achieved Principal's List for the last year. She should thrive at Sacred Heart High, just as her siblings did. I'm looking forward to seeing that. She spent the first half of the summer as a camper in the Yonkers camp, then relaxed, helping out at another Church's VBS for the last week.

Deanne continues to be involved in everything at Sacred Heart. There is so much going on at the parish, and much of it falls on her plate. She'll be running all the same programs next year, and in her spare time, will run a prep school for the TACHS (Catholic H S entrance) exam on Saturdays.

I continue to work at Deutsche Bank downtown. It is stressful, but there are really no alternatives right now. I am also involved in a Lectio Divina group through Sacred Heart, as well as the Scripture Study, and all the faith formation programs Deanne also works with. So, those things, plus admiring my family, keep me going.

Let's all take care of ourselves, monitor what's going on in our ageing (*and even our youthful*) bodies, so that the family doesn't get any more sad surprises. It really doesn't take much time or effort, and with the genes we're walking around with, we need to be careful.

And let's thank God for the spiritual genes we've inherited as well. It has served our family for generations, and shows no sign of letting us down. God is good: we need to be grateful and cooperative!

Alan, Deanne,  
William, Gillian  
& Shannon

Dear Family -

8/29/10

As all of you know now our family has experienced an emotional blow with the sudden passing of our dear brother Charles. God did grant him a speedy exit from this life and although we still find it hard getting over the fact we take comfort in knowing he is with my parents, and all the rest.

In 2 days I am flying to Seattle for the burial of Stephen's 250A 3<sup>rd</sup> child (a girl) "OUR 8<sup>th</sup> Grandchild" (Right behind you Ronnie + Angie!) Not much more to report on this End. Hope more news next time — Love to all

The Field clan