



Christmas 2006

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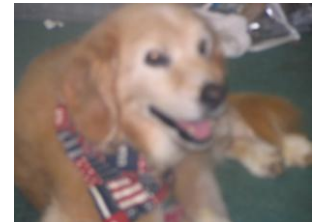


It's hard to believe it's Christmas-time again! Sending Christmas cards is one of my (Jay's) favorite Christmas traditions. We'd love to hear from you, so please send us a note or an email. (See above for address.) We both use Choice Mail, a permission-based spam management tool, so please reply to the email that asks you to register. No, we're not too good to receive your email, we are just tired of sorting through 100 to get to yours. It will only take a few seconds and you only have to do it once!

We've had a lot of excitement this year. The funniest story is from our vacation to Gulf Shores. I arose early one morning and went fishing by myself... probably unwise. I drove out near Fort Morgan and found a public beach. There were cars there, but I saw no people. I wandered out knee deep and started casting, but with the waves breaking on my and splashing, I wandered out stomach deep so that I was beyond where the waves broke. After a few casts, a dorsal fin surfaced just 20-25 feet away. It took my breath away. Then I saw another fin, then another. Immediately I realized that it was not a shark, but likely some type of game fish. I started casting into them, but never came up with them. I later caught a good size Sheep's Head though. A friend carried us out in his boat a couple of times that trip.

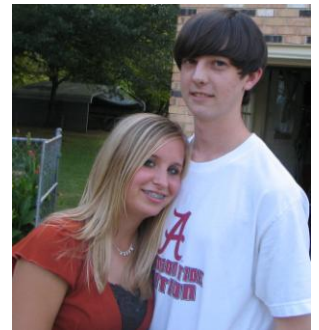


Also this year, my brother Bruce went through leukemia and spent over a month in UAB Hospital. He is doing well now but in the midst of a couple of years of follow up treatments. His wife and kids were sick during that time and not allowed on the bone-marrow transplant unit where he was, so I spent a lot of time there. He thanked me during the Thanksgiving holiday by taking us on a 7-day Western Caribbean Cruise. It was a blast! We stopped in Guatemala, Belize, Costa Maya and Cozumel. Andy particularly enjoyed the endless eating and consumed eleven steaks during the week.



We were sad to lose our dog, Sandy, to cancer this year. She had been our faithful companion for over 13 years. We weren't quite sure how old she actually was. We got her from the pound. She was the dog that didn't jump and bark.

Emily enjoyed two back-to-back weeks of mission trips to Peru (Arequipa and Tarapoto). She made some friends in South American and keeps up with them via email. Liz continues her missions work with E3 Partners (formerly Global Missions Fellowship). It is exciting to see all that God does through that ministry. Special thanks to those of you who support her in this work either in prayer or financially.



Andy has a girl friend and a car. He has been dating Riley Sherman for six months. He had been saving money for a car for three years and with a little help, bought a 94 Camaro Z28 in June. It has improved our prayer life! He works at a catfish restaurant and a car salvage yard.

The Southerner's 50 Year Reunion was this fall. Bruce and I both marched in the drum line and were both able to attend the reunion. That's all the room I have! Please let us hear from you soon!



May the joy of knowing Christ be yours this Christmas season! You are loved!

Jay, Liz, Andy & Emily

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:9-10