




*To Family, Friends, and Classmates,*

*It was a zany Christmas Eve with 5 teenagers and their season-weary parents and grandparents.....and Aunt Marilyn and Uncle Steve in their wheelchairs. We had the traditional foods.....fried oysters, barbecued wings, shrimp, ham/cheese for sandwiches, meatballs/sausage in the crockpot, and Aunt Missy's chicken/noodles.....not to mention all of the cookies and candies to keep the atmosphere a bit hyper! To drink, there was brandy slush, beer, wine, rum Cokes,.....and the soft drinks too. We are always thankful for this special time together, and we'll remember always those special ones who are now missing from our number. We also miss Jane, John, Emily and Beau who no longer make the long trip north but spend their Christmas Eve together, making their own traditions now. We also miss Dan, Mike's brother, who is back in the Army, headed for Afghanistan.*

*We enjoyed a brief afternoon visit from Gerald Williams, Mom's husband, who was headed to his daughter's home in Delaware Co. to spend Christmas. We still have one 'believer' in our number, so when 'Santa'-Jon goes outside, rings the old school bell and knocks on the window, all of the grandchildren now look at their Uncle Steve to see if he's excited.....and I'd almost bet that each of them gets a little thrill too*



*as they recall the Christmas Eves when they too 'believed' that it was really Santa Claus.*

*We end our time together with a candlelight reading of the Christmas Story and 'Silent Night'....just as we've done for all of these years. Then everyone leaves..... some to church, some home.... but all carrying gifts that were exchanged during the evening..... and Jon and I fall into our recliners to watch just one more Christmas program on TV before tucking in Steve and going to bed, two weary seniors who hope that the one 'believer' will sleep late the next morning!*

*Let's make the coming year a good one.*

*See some of you all at the 50<sup>th</sup> LHS 59 Reunion.*

*Love to all,*

*Sharon and Jon*