

Lorraine rec'd 12/17/97

Dear Friends and relatives,

It's that time of year again to get everyone caught up on the family members in California. Today is December 7th and it doesn't seem like 1997 is almost over. There have been a lot of changes this past year.

In January, Jackie's son-in-law, Frank changed jobs from the Queen Mary in San Pedro, California to the Chrysler plant in Belvidere, Illinois. Their daughter Solana had gone to Maryland in November and was working there.

On the 26th of February, Little Sandy had a baby girl, Pristyne Marie making Sandra a grandmother. Glenna's daughter Cherie started working at Thrifty Drug while going to school.

Frankie returned from Japan in March and was stationed at El Toro Marine Base in California. He helped his mother Cherie move to Rockford, Illinois where she and Frank bought a two bedroom house. Jackie moved into their house here in Moreno Valley with Solana and her little girl Jazmin who had returned from Maryland. Sandra's daughters Ana, Little Sandra, Patricia and Sarah were there also. Big Sandra was working in Temecula for a while.

Ana made her mother a grandmother again with the birth of Gabriel Sifuentes Oropeza on the 26th of May in Riverside. Jackie Ann and her husband and Brooke went back to Rockford for her daughter Holly's high school graduation. Brooke's friend Michelle came back with them to visit a couple of weeks.

Cherie graduated from Rancho Verde High School at 16 with Honors. Little Sandra started working part time at Air Force Village West in the activities department. Holly and her friend Pip drove out to visit her family before going back to Rockford to her job..

On the first of July, Jackie and I with Brooke, Patricia and Sarah made a fast trip back to Rockford as Brooke's father was in the hospital with kidney failure and not expected to live, but he got better and Brooke stayed there for a while before flying home in August.

Jackie and I visited with Cherie and saw her son, Danny who lives in Loves Park while we were in Rockford. Then we went up to Appleton, Wisconsin and visited my brother Bob overnight before we headed for home. We went through South Dakota so they could see the Presidents carved out of the mountains. Then headed south and home. We were gone two weeks.

After we got home Richard and Barbara left on vacation. They drove to New Jersey to visit their son Rickie and his family. On the way they stopped at Dollywood in Tennessee. They stopped and saw many things, one of them the Wisconsin Dells, before getting to Bob's in Appleton.

In August, Christopher, my grandson Paul's boy, came back to live with me. He is ten years old and keeps me busy. Also the last of August I started on Optifast, a liquid diet that my Dr. recommended. I have to spend an hour and a half each Thursday at a class at the clinic. I'm doing pretty good, have lost 35 pounds.

In September I had another great great grandchild born when Solana had Steven James Hong on the 29th. Cherie moved to Washington with her father and grandparents. Thrifty Drug transferred her to a store there. Ana started a class at California Paramedical College where she took a CNA course. And of course all the little ones went back to school. In October, Ana got her own apartment in Moreno Valley. In November she graduated and went to work. She plans on continuing school and becoming a nurse.

Jackie, Glenna and her son Ronnie are going to Washington to visit Cherie who has her own apartment now. They plan on being home the day before Christmas.

Richard bought himself a 1982 Chevrolet Malibu station wagon Friday to fix up.

Peggy's family are all doing well. Jeannie and her husband Mike bought a house and moved into it in June. It is close to Peggy's. Donnie's also bought a house in Simi Valley which is just north of Los Angeles. Donnie's son John Henry became a father with the birth of Daniel Scott Akers on October 1.

John's, step-son Billy got married this summer in West Virginia and the rest are all working and going to school. Hope to be able to visit them next year. Then I can also do some genealogy hunting on my trip. I still spend many hours a week on my computer. Have over 50,000 names on it now and adding more every day. If anyone has anything to add, births, deaths, marriages or just news, please send it to me.

Have a Very Happy Holiday Season.

Myrtle Traxler

Dear Suzanne

Sorry to hear you've been not feeling good. That long tail you can have and that will help if you don't like your job.

Sounds like you had some wonderful trips this past year. He got me a 3 wheel scooter and as soon as I can find a way to get it in my van I'll be traveling more later. Spent Thanksgiving at Richards next door and will be at a family Christmas Eve.

Which Christopher has been busy with school, cub reports and work and needs to go to fix the organ. I'm getting a scanner so as soon as I get my pictures ready will let you know about the book

Myrtle