



Merry Christmas!

I'd be lying if I didn't think about skipping a Christmas letter this year but I decided if I could write one last year after all we went through with Roger's passing, I certainly could write one this year! Our year started out awesome with the birth of a grandson, Jasper Pins. He was born on January 11th. His birth was perfect timing as schools closed just as Kayla was supposed to go back to work after maternity leave. Jasper spent eight months with Spencer and Kayla before he started childcare.



In February we were all together for Gannon and Georgia's 1st birthdays. It was a fun time but also a big reality check on how crazy things get when the kiddos are all together.

In March, another Grandbaby came along. Little Lilly. She is Buck and Lora's little girl who has grown their family to three joining big brother Scotty and sister Lucy. I am enjoying the phone calls from Buck asking, "Mom, how did you ever manage the five of us?"



In September we managed to get together for baptism for Lilly and Jasper. The kids worked to have the kids baptized together on Roger's birthday. Baptism was always so important to him so they thought that would be a great way to honor him. Kelli was not able to come as she was on quarantine at the time. She didn't have covid but at the time, we didn't know so Georgia is missing from the picture. This picture shows how crazy the kids get when they are all together. I always have to take a breath in the middle of the chaos and remind myself that this is only a stage and they all go home!



In early fall we got the news that Kelli and Jason are expecting...TWINS. They are due in May...but with twins we just don't know when. We are all excited but curious how it all will work out. Their oldest Georgia will turn two in early March so they'll have three little ones under age 2 and Georgie is a spit fire!

I see Gannon and Carver the most as Kalissa and Craig live here in town. They often stop over to steal some cookies from Grandma or help me with some project that I'm working on. I wish all the grandkids could live so close but I think that's every Grandma's dream, isn't it?

In February I was back to the doctor in Lacrosse for my thyroid cancer and they suggested I move on to Mayo Clinic. My cancer is still growing but still can't be found. My blood tumor markers are on the rise but even with all the tests they do, they still don't see it. So that means I'm in limbo. As long as they can't see it, they don't treat it. It's annoying but my health is good other than that and that is a huge blessing. Because of all this it was suggested I not do childcare so I quit and started working my blog more and am expanding that. You can find me at www.jocountryjunction.com. Now that more is known about covid and transmission with children, I'm moving back to watching a kids from two families as well as the grandkids

Karl is living here with me...looking for a house but there are none for sale in Waucoma and currently he'd like to stay around here. The kids have been great coming home and helping me with things around here that Roger used to do. I've improved but I'm still not the best with power tools. Roger is so missed around here. I can't help but interact and play with the grandkids and think he'd have so loved this! So I grab them up and love on them double. Yep, they are spoiled but mostly in a good way. I'm so thankful the kids have come along when they did. They keep me busy...and that is exactly what I need.

As we end this year and ring a new, I feel so blessed to say that even though it has been an "unprecedented" year, there still has been much good and there is always a reason to stop, count blessings and celebrate all that has been given to us. May the peace of the Lord be with you as all prepare to celebrate the miraculous birth. Wishing you a very...

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