



**December 2012**  
**Merry Christmas**  
**and a Happy New Year!!**  
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*May the blessings that surround the birth of the Christ Child be with you and your family this holiday season. Join us as we pray for peace on earth.*

The biggest event for the family was the destination wedding of our younger daughter Susannah to Luis Rivera on Grand Bahama Island April 21. Our granddaughter Chloe, a junior bridesmaid, came with her sister Camille and their parents Gwyneth and Rob. Phil's sister Belle came from Massachusetts. Barb's brother and sister-in-law Jim and Marty came from Wyoming. The newlyweds are at home in San Francisco with our two grandcats that finally are living with Suze rather than with us!

Barb retired from Southwestern University this spring, but continues to be active in her professional societies, so the travel has not let up as yet.

Phil accompanied her this summer to a conference in Haifa, Israel. We had time to tour in Tel Aviv, along the shores of the Sea of Galilee and in Old Jerusalem. It was Barb's first visit to the Holy Land and Phil was happy to share tidbits from his trip nearly 30 years ago. It sure brought meaning to the words of the song "I walked today Where Jesus Walked".



Phil and Barb at the Garden Tomb

Phil has been experiencing some health issues, so we have seen more doctors than we would like. They all agree that something is wrong but 8 months later, we aren't close to finding out what!

When we are at home Phil still sings in the men's choir at church and both of us sing in the chancel choir. Barb keep up her water aerobics instructor certification and serves as a substitute instructor for the City of Georgetown Parks and Recreation Department.

Phil's garden was exceptionally beautiful this year and we have enjoyed walking in the nature areas near home and marvel at the constantly changing display of flowers.

We have enjoyed visits this year from two sets of friends from Australia and a friend from New Zealand. Both girls have been to Texas to visit several times as well.

We took an epic 5000 mile car trip in September after we returned from a Labor Day flying trip to visit Suze and Luis. The car trip took us to Ohio for Barb's 50<sup>th</sup> high school class reunion. We stopped over in Niagara Falls Canada before going on to Massachusetts to visit with Belle, and then to Georgia for a brief respite at our mountain cabin and a visit with Gwyneth, Rob and their girls in Decatur, GA where Chloe, 10, is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade pursuing gymnastics and violin. Camille, 14, is still homeschooled and reading, drawing and knitting, sometimes all at the same time!

We spent Thanksgiving at the cabin – just the 2 of us and Gwyneth, Rob and their girls. We'll fly out to California and have a brief visit with Susannah and Luis before Christmas.



Random Pictures from 2012



Wauseon High Class of 1962



Rob and Gwyneth at Wedding Reception



Phil, Luis and Suze at Red Sox Game in Oakland



Barb and Phil at the Texas Coast



Suze and Chloe Celebrate July Birthdays



Phil's Garden



Gwyneth at Austin Kiddie Limits



Camille at Austin City Limits



Luis and Suze



Phil and Belle in Carver



Barb Making Lobster Bake in Carver



Chloe with Cabin Christmas Tree