

Christmas 1964

Hi!

This has been a happy, busy and interesting year for all of us.

On the eleventh of January, we "evened up the score" by adding another son to our Family Tree. It is difficult to believe that our pudgy, blonde, blue-eyed, rosy-cheeked cherub of twenty-five pounds could possibly be the same scrawny, wrinkled, bald-headed infant that we brought home from the hospital, weighing less than five pounds. Donald Evan is a happy, peppy little guy, mimicking new sounds and actions each day. Needless to say, he receives more than an ample supply of loving care, with so many "mothers" plus a doting father and brother.

Carl has worked full time in Michigan City this year, but it wasn't until the second week in June that we moved our "belongings" back to our old address. We say "our belongings" because Dotty and the children stayed with her parents on their farm in Pennsylvania for three and one-half weeks, while Carl spent this same time on a business trip in Japan. He managed to go to Tokyo, via Hawaii and return home by way of Alaska. This venture was a most memorable one, not only for Carl but for all of us. His letters and souvenirs and beautiful color slides have been a source of pleasure for the whole family. However, this may have been his last visit, due to the indelible gleam in his eyes as he recalls the "tender loving care" bestowed on him by those Oriental dolls!

It was a good feeling, having all the family together and living at the same address in July. Although we really do miss our friends and families in the East, we are enjoying our good friends here and, of course, love being near Lake Michigan.

The older children are progressing and growing, as they have a way of doing.

Ronnie is a not-too-serious fourth grader, who'd have a model report card if it weren't for one "subject"... CONDUCT! He seems to learn everything quickly, except when to keep his mouth shut. He's in his second year of Cub Scouting, working on his Bear Badge.

Karen, our earnest sixth grader, is a busy Junior Scout, still studies the accordion and enjoys Junior Choir.

Leigh has done the greatest amount of really growing up this year. She's a conscientious eighth grader and an inactive Cadette Scout, due to a time conflict with Intermediate Choir.

All three are active in Sunday School, Church and Christian Endeavor.
Leigh and Karen joined the Church just this month.

As for Dotty, this is her "Maternal Year." Not only does she mother our four children, but also is a Room Mother as well as being a Den Mother. After working with Girl Scouts for five years, she finds these eight to ten year old Cubs a definite challenge. She's not convinced that she's teaching them anything, but Dotty is getting a real education!

We've touched on a few of the highlights this year has brought to us. We trust that you'll be bringing us up to date on your family too. A note from friends at Christmas time means so much. . . . and is one of our "Favorite Things."

Dotty, Carl, Leigh,
Karen, Ronnie & Donnie