

**December 2019**

**Hi, Family & Friends!**

**For the first time in 32 years, Wanda has asked me to write the annual holiday newsletter! I hope you like hearing our latest.**

**Wanda has started a recipe blog! If you're reading this, you definitely know how good she is with casseroles and crescent rolls and everything else. Sure, you could just use a cookbook, but what my Wanda does is more special than any other recipe source. Instead of just blurting out the recipe, she lets you scroll through a long, detailed story about our family – like how I hate cream cheese (yuck!) and how she loves autumn because of the colors, and the tricks she's been using to make us healthier. I must have eaten her spaghetti a hundred times and never knew it had Splenda in it! Get all her yummy recipes at [blogspot.com/THE-BAREFOOT-WANDA.COM](http://blogspot.com/THE-BAREFOOT-WANDA.COM).**

**She's not the only star! Our Jared has started a pod-cast with some people he met at college. He says they're really funny. We can't find it on our t-mobiles, but if you know how, please listen. It's called "High Comedy," which sounds pretty smart and funny to me!**

**Our Kelsey has high school senioritis! She has started going to a new church, but it starts early (Methodist thing maybe?), so she sleeps at her church friend's house every weekend. Wanda has always called our kids' friends' parents to make sure they're home during sleepovers. But this young man's dad always calls us first, so we're grateful to know our baby girl is safe with adults in the house!**

**I'm officially retiring from the plant Feb. 3. The younger people there still tease me for being older and "naïve" and "basic" (had to look that up, ha!). But I know they'll miss me. They don't say it around each other, but in private that they tell me they see me as a dad or a big brother. Feeling like part of a family is all that matters to me, so if it makes me "basic," I'm okay with that (don't tell them I said that!).**

**Wanda and I are excited for Jared to come home in a few weeks so the four of us can spend Christmas together like always. Nothing else matters when the four of us are together by the tree with Wanda's wassail (still a secret recipe, sorry!).**

**I hope you and your family are as happy as me and ours.**

**Be Blessed,**

**Chip and the Wests**