

# Merry Christmas from us!

Well, 2021 was a heck of a year, but we're as grateful as ever for Christmas time and it's always so fun to write to you and catch up.

Like everyone, this year had its challenges for us, but it could have been much worse. Can you believe our neighbors had to quarantine because they actually got the plague? It just seems so dated, and Mike is always saying that they are kind of old fashioned, but "live and let live" is our motto so I dropped off a nice jello salad and thankfully they all recovered. I hope they learned something about the importance of home maintenance. It's always a mess over there and I bet that's why they got sick though I would never say anything. It's just they don't pay attention to the HOA rules and their grass is so long it's a great place for rodents to hide. I guess it's not their fault they got sick, but I wish they would have a little more consideration for the rest of us. This was such a nice neighborhood before they moved in.



Anyway, the kids have really grown up this year. Do you remember how cute they were? This is probably my favorite Christmas picture even though the baby had hives and wasn't able to come that day. Mike says he wished he could buy that Santa a beer or give him a joint, but I don't think that's in the Christmas spirit, do you?

Well now, Agnes is getting ready for college and says she's going to major in political science but I keep telling her to get her MRS if you know what I mean. Arabella is getting A's in chemistry (she says she's *breaking bad*, whatever that means, but whatever it is I know she's great at it!) and little Anastasia is a real slugger in hockey. We're so proud of our three angels. Wait til you see how they've grown on the next page!

I spent this year learning how to use power tools. It's so handy and I never knew there were so many household uses for a sledgehammer! Now I know that's not really a power tool, but Mike says I look good when I swing his tool around, so

I'm going to keep on doing it! It's certainly handy for anger management, so much better than yoga. My personal favorite is the table saw. I never knew I could cut up so many things with it. It's good for crafting and for getting rid of those annoying things that clutter up the house. I was shocked at how much I could fit into a garbage bag when I cut it up with a table saw. What doesn't fit in the freezer, zipzipzip! and it's gone. Mike keeps telling me to be careful or I'll lose a finger, but what's one more finger in a garbage bag, right?

Mike has embraced working from home. He says he's never been so comfortable at work. His boss has complained a little bit about his attitude, but you and I both know the Big Guy can't do it without Mike and if he tried, we still have those pictures from the last

holiday party. I like to think Mike is a role model to the younger staff, reminding them that a strongman is good to find and that every body is beautiful.



It wasn't all good news, of course. Mike's mom says she was abducted again

(I think she says that just because she doesn't want us to know where she goes when she leaves her senior living building and really, it's just not my business) and our cruise vacation wasn't very fun (there must have been something in the water, everyone was coughing) but overall I have to say it was a good year. I learned how to clean power tools because they get gunked up so easily, Mike learned to love his body, and our girls all asked Santa for more ammo. It really couldn't be much better.

Love,  
Us

P.S. We hope you had a nice year and remember, Santa only come to those who follow the HOA rules. I'll be there if you don't.

