Dearest friends and family:

I write ONE Christmas letter ONE time and suddenly my parents expect me to do it every year. Actually, I don't mind writing another letter but to be perfectly honest I've been procrastinating. As I'm just now sitting down to start this thing I suppose I'm taking partial responsibility for the fact that you will most likely (read: definitely) be receiving our Christmas wishes *after* December 25th. Sorry about that. BUT the wise men didn't show up to the Manger until 12 days later so actually I'm right on time. Anyway, let's get down to it:

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Evan joined our mom as a Penn State graduate receiving her Masters in Global Supply Chain. This is now the second year in a row I've had to reference this area of study in this letter and I still do not know what it is. Evan is a quality engineer at GE and in her spare time enjoys organizing charity bar crawls and traveling. This February she'll be visiting Bali and maybe will tell you about herself it in next year's letter (hint @Evan).

Ben graduated from high school and began his freshman year at The University of South Carolina where he hopes to major in International Business. B had a successful first semester and enjoyed cheering on his team through football and into basketball season. We hear that he's looking forward to baseball season in the spring!! Big things are happening. Ben enjoys serenading his hall with Wonderwall and playing Frisbee on the quad. #college.

Carrie's in the third rotation of her program with Textron as an Environmental Health and Safety Specialist for Bell Helicopters. Right now she's loving life in Fort Worth, Texas and preparing for her next move and final rotation back with EZGo in Augusta. In her new position she'll be an Operations Leader over the fleet golf car line supervising a team of 80 people, jury's still out on whether we can score some free golf cars (or helicopters). This year we're also giving a shout out to her boy Matthew for making the upgrade to fiancé! Matt pulled off a stellar engagement surprise in September surrounded by friends and family and we're looking forward to him joining the squad in 2017.

In 2016 I split time between Florida, Texas and college and it was the best. For the first five months I was a Walt Disney Company intern by day and moonlighted in an immersive program of roller coasters, fireworks and Mickey bars. Answers to FAQs: My favorite park is Animal Kingdom; Yes, I did get to explore Magic Kingdom's underground tunnels; The coolest thing I got to do was be paid to ride Rockin' Roller coaster 12 times in a row testing a new photo pilot. In the summer I interned in Houston with GE and managed to trick them into offering me a full time position in their Digital Technology Leadership Program post grad.

Mom and Dad had a big year as well adjusting to life as empty nesters. In July they managed to get all of us in one place for an Alaskan cruise with a group of family friends affectionately known as "The Gerbils." Mom earned her CFRE in April and continues to put it to use at Water Mission. Dad is still hard at work with ZAI Trust and is producing a series of promos about their services to be aired in the northern US where Zonolite Attic Insulation is most prevalent. Catch him at the Emmy's next year. Dad would also like to make it known that while he did not earn any new degrees he did not *lose* any either and has not been disbarred so we'll call that a W.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and blessings for a happy and healthy 2017,

ps. Please excuse the awkward coloring of this year's Christmas card, the questionably adequate resolution of our picture choices combined with a lack of Photoshop prowess resulted in a weird blueish tint. I guess you can say we're having a BLUE Christmas hahahaha haha ha. Sorry.