

A very Merry Christmas to all! We've had a wonderful year, and hope it's been the same for you. Our health is good, and we've been able to do some really great traveling. Our family is all well, and we have enjoyed being with them numerous times throughout the year, and so grateful they have all visited us a few times this past year. As our world seems to be changing so quickly (and not all for the good), we pray that God will change the hearts of those who intend to do us harm, and be with our government to take us down the right path. We offer our prayers to everyone who is suffering loss or illness this past year.

Rollie's contract work with BluJett and United Way is still going strong. I keep telling him that when it's not fun anymore, he should hang it up. But he loves it. As for me, I do a little church work, spent lots of time in the yard and gardens, knit, do projects around the house, go to the "old gals" exercise class, and hang out with friends.

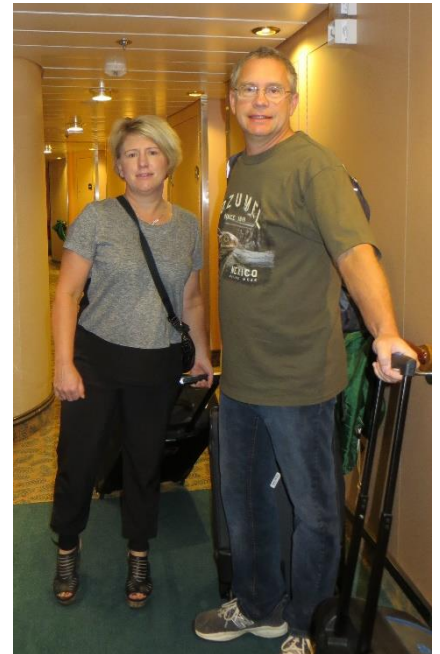
Jim and Wendy continue in their same jobs. Jim works for Trade Global in Cincinnati. He's been lucky to be able to travel to Germany and China this year. Wendy still tutors through Greater Ohio Virtual School, and will work at an accounting firm as a tax preparer through the tax season. Busy gal! Barry has accepted a new position in Colorado Springs, so he doesn't have to make that long drive to Denver every day. They have purchased a lot in our old neighborhood of Woodmoor, and look forward to building a home. Becca still works at Lotus Spa and has expanded her eyelash extension business. She treated Wendy and me to facials while we were there this summer. I could definitely get used to that!

We try to participate in as many of the grandkids activities as much as we can. So proud of Emily as she graduated from High School with high honors and began her first year at the Air Force Academy. We traveled out to Colorado when she reported in June, and again for "Family Weekend" in September. She was also offered a spot on the AF gymnastics team. Way to go Em! Kevin and Andrew are high school juniors and have grown to almost 6' now. Both play volleyball and run cross country. We loved watching them in a volleyball tournament in Cincinnati. They are the stars on their cross country squad. Katie is a 7th grader and is a level 9 gymnast. In February, we drove to Chicago to watch her compete in a huge meet. She is a bundle of energy, with a big smile. Can't believe Alex is in 5th grade already. He loves bowling and all sports. He has a remarkable understanding of football, and it is fun to listen to him discuss the particulars of the game. Out west in Colorado, Mackenzie is a sophomore already, and was a varsity cheerleader for her high school last year. This year she particularly likes her photography and business classes, and is active in the DECA club. Rachel is a senior, and continues to be a part of their high school cheer team. Josh is a freshman and was selected to be on the golf and hockey teams.

We have continued our travels and started out the year with a 10 day trip to Hawaii. It's our favorite "get-away" place. We didn't do anything "touristy" this trip. Just relaxed...loved it. In April we took a 12-day transatlantic cruise from Fort Lauderdale to Barcelona, Spain on the largest cruise ship on the seas. It was a definite Wow! Absolutely loved the 10 days at sea and touring the cities of Malaga and Barcelona. We stayed in beautiful Barcelona a few extra days and got to visit Monserrat and the 132 yr old Sagrada Familia which I found absolutely mesmerizing. The cathedral is still not complete, and isn't expected to be done for another 10 years. Hard to describe, but if you ever get the chance to see it, you won't regret it. In November, our kids treated us to a 5-day cruise to Cozumel and Belize to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. What an absolute wonderful time! And it was all the more meaningful that Wendy, Jim, Barry and Becca were with us! It indeed was a special trip. Belize was especially fun with a zip line through the rain forest, followed by tubing through the underground caves. After this cruise, the two of us boarded another ship for a 10-day cruise through some of the other Caribbean islands. Very relaxing!



C4C Emily Luers



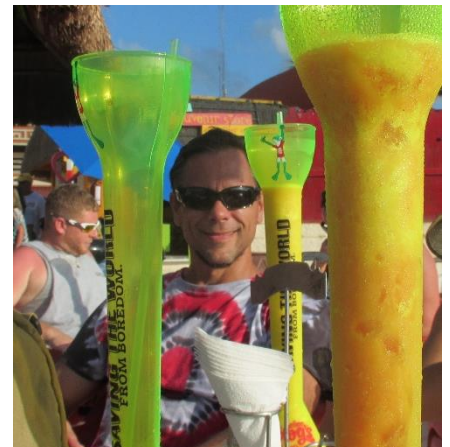
Barry and Becca



Wendy, in Belize.



Alex, Emily, Andrew, Katie, Kevin, Mackenzie, and Susie.
Having fun at Grandpa and Grandma's house!



Jim, enjoying Cozumel!



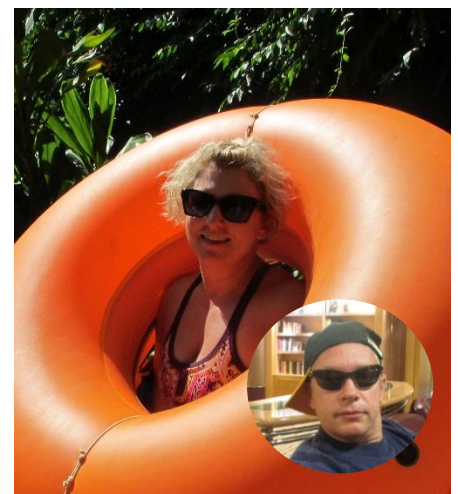
Jim and Wendy



Emily, Katie, Mackenzie, Alex, Kevin, and Andrew.



Grandpa & Barry watching the Packers on the pool deck.



Becca ready to tube the cave in Belize!