

## **2023 Dixon Annual Holiday Letter**

Jim and I feel so fortunate to still be together after 53 years of marriage and to have made it to 76 years of age and still in relatively good health. And we love living in our downsized one story mid-century ranch style home in Shoreline WA. Jim still enjoys playing tennis and I have made new friends by joining the local Unitarian Universalist Congregation and participating in their Women's group, a book club, and a Bridge group. I'm having to relearn Bridge as I haven't played since college. Successfully got a new knee in August and Jim and I try to walk at least a mile a day, maybe more in the future as I regain strength and stamina. Lots to do and enjoy and see here in the NW, so retirement is good.

The best part of living here is that we get to be with our oldest son, Dan, every couple of weeks. He is still working on his science game creation, Universe Sandbox, with the help of 13 international employees working online. It gets better all the time and they hope to release a phone version of the program in the near future. Dan is in good health but it is hard to believe he turned 47 this year. He enjoys music, running, swimming, bicycling, skiing and being with friends. Dan accompanied both our grandkids here for a week last summer and we all had a wonderful time together.

Our youngest, Patrick, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force now stationed at Travis Air Force Base near Sacramento CA. He is currently planning and executing programs and projects with Air Force mostly in Spanish speaking countries in South America so he is out of the country a bit. As part of that, he is now flying a Cessna C-208b with pilots in various SA countries. His wife, Brittney, keeps busy with her own projects (She loves Legos.) and chauffeuring our grandkids, Will 12 and Claire 8, to and from school at Travis AFB and all their many sport activities. Will has been playing on a traveling All American soccer team, Claire loves swimming and both are playing basketball. Brittney is a talented crafter and with a new camper, they all enjoy camping with their dog, Boiler, on many holidays and weekends.

We are traveling with Dan to visit Patrick and his family in December, celebrate Christmas and three family birthdays together. Also, planning to visit a high school classmate, Doug Sparks, and his former winery, Sunset Cellars, located in Fairfield CA.

It has been a good year for us and we hope it has been for all of you. May next year bring good health and happiness to all. I only wish we could undo all the damage our human presence is doing to our planet. Sadly, we have outdone nature on making drastic changes to our topography and weather. Anyway, our best to you and yours. Photos of our family follow. Blessed Be.

Peggy and Jim Dixon



Peggy and Jim at the Tulip Festival in Washington



Dan during a skiing trip in Washington



Brittney & Patrick & Will and Claire exploring a cave in CA



Patrick after qualifying to fly a Cessna C-208b



Peggy, Claire, Will and Jim at the Woodland Park Zoo



Will and Claire at the Zoo



Dan with Claire on top of Space Needle – It was quite a view. Lake Union is in the background out the window.



Dan with Will and Claire in the Science Center making a rocket. Like the Children’s Museum in Indy, this Science Center is very interactive. We all enjoyed it.



Brittney & Patrick in Napa Valley CA



Dan on his front porch