



### X-Mas 2003

December has come again, and the pleasure has returned for the Chandlers to update you on the thrilling review of the past year in the Chandler house.

Swinitha has been very busy this year touching all with her craftiness. She has designed furniture pieces, painted rooms, gardened, landscaped and even patched dry-wall. The house has seen a good deal of upgrades lately. For her birthday this year she got a guitar. One of those things on the list of things to do in her life. Can't wait to see some of the songs she'll compose—after she learns how to hold it and what the strings do.

Harold took on a big change this year accepting a new job in Crystal City, Virginia. He is now the Business Manager for a fairly new graduate school, the Institute for the Psychological Sciences. He enjoyed his seven years at CUC but took advantage of the opportunity to move on and keep things in life exciting. The hectic thing of course is dealing with the 35 mile commute which can be anywhere from 45 min. to 2 hours. He's logged many miles on the Chevy Blazer he took over from his brother Jerry. Many minutes have been logged on the mobile phone too. This year he also started teaching in the Adult Evening Program at CUC which had been a desire for a while.



Ian, who has not quite grown up as an off-roader or a farmer, has a fascination with two vehicles. The first is the Jeep Cherokee, which we guess comes from his Uncle BJ's red Jeep Cherokee and the other is the traditional John Deere tractor. We have no idea where this developed. His third birthday this year found him opening his very own motorized John Deere tractor. It has the decals and the official green-and-yellow decor. He's still a little bit scared of it, but he sure loves it. In the next year, he'll be hauling for sure.

Jasmine ushered in her seventh birthday this year with an ice-skating party for all her classmates at the ice rink in Columbia. She enjoys ice skating as much as swimming. She really improved in both this past year. For her birthday, she also got a new Schwinn bike which she can ride with no training wheels. She will be ready to hit the Columbia bike trails by next summer. With Harold no longer commuting to Takoma Park, Jasmine started a new school this year. She is now at Atholton Adventist School which she enjoys very much. Harold and Swini like it not only because the staff is friendly and attentive, but the school is only 5 minutes from home. Ian approves of all Jasmine's new friends also and frequently disrupts the end of her classes looking for his favorite friends of Jasmine's. Jasmine has also started piano lessons at school this year and enjoys playing the new Technics digital piano at home.

When Harold and Swini were married, they were already blessed with a big nephew, Jerry Jr., but about the time you receive this letter they will be aunt and uncle to a new little niece from Swini's sister, Sonia and brother-in-law, Scott. It's expected she will be an important addition to the family as Swini will start out taking care of her during the day. All the best to the Zafts. Swini and Harold's good friends Shelly and Jason are expecting their second baby on the same due date as Sonia. There should be some extra Christmas joy around all for the holidays in this little corner of the world.

Our year has been happy and we're glad to share it with you. Most of you are the reason it has been so happy. We have our challenges still, and for these we solicit your prayers. God will continue to bless us and let us learn the things that are important. You too we will keep in our prayers. We wish you health, happiness, and hope this little candle of communication lights a special warm spot in your heart for the coming new year.

*Harold, Swini, Jasmine & Ian*



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