

Evje, Dec.5th. 1993

Dear David & family

Time flies, and it is time for Christmas greetings again. We are all well here in Norway, and hope the same for all our relatives and friends in America. We miss you and wish we could come and visit each other during Christmas. But as that is impossible we will try to tell a little about how this last year has been for us.

As you all probably know, Kristine fell off a horse and broke her left arm just before Christmas last year. But she was lucky, and the arm was o.k. again by the end of January. And then she was back on the horseback again as soon as possible. We must admit that we were a little worried, but as parents you can't always keep an eye on your children. She just loves horses, and once a week she goes up to a small farm where they have a horse named Minnie. Then she rides the horse for about an hour, and afterwards she gives her food and cleans her and so on. She also goes to a horsecenter once a week to learn how to handle a horse. Kristine's highest wish is to have a horse of her own. But then her father says NO.

She is also very busy at school this year. I think English is her best subject, but she is also very good at Norwegian. Mathematics is not her best subject, but she manages quite well there too. She still plays the piano once a week. Her piano teacher is an American woman from Pennsylvania. She is married to a German, and they live here and work as organists in our church.

This year Ingvard and I work at the same school. The school I used to work at, closed down because of too few students. Then I had to move. But it is o. k. I teach the first grade this year. That means the seven years old children. I have only ten students in my group, five boys and five girls.

In May my brother's oldest daughter was confirmed. In May 1995 Kristine and Inga (my brother's second daughter) will be confirmed. Then we hope to have guests even from the U.S.A.

This spring we had beautiful warm weather in April, May and June. But the rest of the summer was cool with some rain. Then in October we had beautiful weather again. In the middle of November the first snow came, and it has not disappeared yet. So we all hope for a white Christmas.

In October Ingvard celebrated his 60 th. birthday. We invited about 30 friends and family members to our house, and we had a nice evening. The next day almost all the teachers at his school came to surprise him and wish him a happy birthday. He didn't know they were coming, and was very surprised. One of them rang the door bell, and he went down to open. In the meantime the rest of them (14 people) came into our livingroom through the veranda- door. When he came up the stairs from the hall, they all started to sing a special song they had composed for him. He really appreciated that surprise.

In the middle of July we went on our summer holiday to visit Hilde (my cousin) close at Lillehammer. You probably know that in February 1994 Norway will arrange the Winter Sports Olympic Games. That event will take place at Lillehammer and in the close surroundings. While we stayed with Hilde, we drove around and had a look at most of the arenas for the Games. I wonder if you'll see some of it on TV ?

A couple of weeks ago we saw a programme from Minot in N. Dakota on our TV. It was about a big feast for Norwegians/Americans.

Well, this was a little about what has happened here this last year. As a whole we have had a good year, and we are grateful for that. The most important thing is that we are all well and healthy and still have each other. We see so many unhappy people, people getting serious illnesses, divorces and unemployment especially for young people. And we have peace in our country. Terrible things are happening even in Europe not far from us. The war in earlier Jugoslavia is terrible.

We also hope that you all have had a good year. And we wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

May we all remember why we celebrate Christmas, and let the baby Jesus Christ come into our hearts and homes and give us real Christmas peace.

Christmas greetings and love from

Berit, Ingvard, Kristine

God  
Jul

