



CHRISTMAS 1994

DEAR Wilda,

INSPITE OF ALL THE SADNESS AND CONTINUED SUFFERINGS WE BRING UPON OURSELVES, MAY WE GREET EACH OTHER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH JOY AND HOPE. AS JESUS AND OTHERS HAVE DISCOVERED, GOD IS STILL IN OUR MIDST (LUKE 17:20-21) TO WORK WITH US TO SURFACE MORE OF OUR GOOD POTENTIALS. THE 'BALL' IS IN OUR COURT FOR ALL TO WORK WITH GOD TO DIMINISH OUR PAINS AND SUFFERINGS.

APART FROM WORLD HAPPENINGS, INCLUDING THE O.J. SIMPSON TRIAL, WE ENJOYED AN ESPECIALLY GREAT YEAR. (ON JUDGE ITO'S STRUGGLES FOR A FAIR TRIAL, MIRI AND JUDGE ITO'S MOTHER TOSHIKO WERE SCHOOL MATES IN KANSAS CITY, MO. DURING W.W.II YEARS),

OUR HIGH WAS THE AUGUST FAMILY REUNION AT MAMMOTH LAKES, CA. WE WERE LAST TOGETHER ON MY RETIREMENT FROM WLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NINE YEARS AGO IN JUNE OF 1985.

WE STAYED AT TWO RENTAL CONDOS AT MAMMOTH LAKES, CA. WE HAD T-SHIRTS MADE WITH OUR MURAKAMI FAMILY CREST ON IT. FOR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, WE HAD A FISHING DERBY, GOLF TOURNAMENT ON THE NEW BEAUTIFUL 9 HOLE GOLF COURSE AT MAMMOTH, HORSE BACK RIDING FOR THOSE INTERESTED AND ANOTHER DAY OF FISHING AT CONVICT LAKE WHERE OUR REUNION PICTURE WAS TAKEN. MIRI AND I WERE GRATEFUL TO OUR FAMILY FOR ALL THE EFFORTS, SACRIFICES AND PLANNING MADE FOR THE REUNION AS WE RECOGNIZE OUR DAYS ARE NUMBERED BY INCREASING SIGNS OF AGING.

GLENN, KAREN, DEREK, KYLE AND NIKKI (DOG) MOVED IN SEPTEMBER TO THEIR NEW HOME IN TORRANCE, CA. IN COMPARISON TO OUR TWO BEDROOM RENTAL APARTMENT, THEIR NEW HOME IS LIKE LIVING IN A MANSION. WE ARE GLAD FOR THEM AND MAY THEIR SPACIOUS LIVING HELP THEM DOUBLE THEIR GOODNESS AS A FAMILY.

GLENN IS STILL WORKING FOR THE SUMITOMO BANK IN DOWNTOWN L.A. IN THE COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT AND WILL BE THE TREASURER AT N.GARDENA UMC. KAREN IS OPERATION MANAGER FOR "ACT I" EMPLOYMENT AGENCY IN TORRANCE. DEREK IS TAKING "TAI-KWAN-DO" AND JOINED THE INDIAN GUIDE "Y" GROUP. KYLE IS SINGING IN THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS CHOIR. BOTH ARE PLAYING BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL.

LOWELL OPERATES HIS GREEN STATE PRINT SHOP IN KENT. ANN WORKS

PART-TIME AS PHYSICAL THERAPIST IN KENT. CONNIE IS ADJUSTING TO FIRST YEAR IN JR.HI AND HER PARENTS ARE TRYING TO HELP HER SOLVE HER PROBLEMS. RANDY ENJOYS PLAYING BASEBALL AND IS TAKING PIANO LESSONS. THEIR DOG "NATSU" IS MISSING.

GARY WORKS FOR GTE AT DALLAS. PEGGY WORKS AS A DESIGN GRAPHIC ARTIST FOR HARCOURT AND BRACE BOOK COMPANY IN FORT WORTH. JUSTIN IS INTO COMPUTER. RYAN WANTS GRANDPA TO WRITE TO HIM.

GAIL IS TEACHING KINDERGARTEN AT NEW TEMPLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SOUTH EL MONTE, CA. SHE WILL BE COMPLETING SERVING AS COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES CHAIR OR PROGRAM CHAIR AT N.GARDENA UMC BUT WILL CONTINUE AS ONE OF THE YOUTH GROUP ADVISORS.

ILENE KEEPS BUSY WITH HER ARTS AND CRAFTS AND CATCHING UP ON HER COMPUTER SKILLS AT HOME. ALAN IS REGIONAL SUPPORT MANAGER FOR SUN MICROSYSTEM IN HOUSTON. FOR HIS REGION'S TOP SALES, ALAN AND ILENE ENJOYED A CARIBBEAN CRUISE IN OCTOBER BY THE COMPANY.

FOR CHRISTMAS, GAIL, MIRI AND I WILL BE FLYING TO HOUSTON TO BE WITH ILENE AND ALAN COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE WE ALL DRIVE OVER TO LEWISVILLE TO CELEBRATE JESUS' BIRTHDAY AND THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WITH GARY, PEGGY, JUSTIN AND RYAN. FOR MIRI AND I, WE WILL BE ENJOYING THEIR NEW HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME. BEFORE WE LEAVE, AFTER THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, WE WILL HAVE AN EARLIER CHRISTMAS WITH KYLE, DEREK, KAREN AND GLENN.

LAST APRIL, WE R.V.'D TO KENT, WA. FOR ANN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION. ON THE SIX WEEK TRIP, WE ENJOYED YOSEMITE, VISITING AND DOING MY PROJECT IN CHURCHES AT LIVINGSTON, SACRAMENTO, PORTLAND, SEATTLE AND ONTARIO, OR. WE ALSO VISITED DR. SHIG AND LOUISE KANDA IN CHICO; PLAYED GOLF AT BEAUTIFUL MT.SHASTA; VISITED DAVID YAMAKA'S FAMILY NEAR SALEM, OR.; GARY'S FOLKS IN PORTLAND AND REV.BOB AND MICHIE IN TACOMA. WE ENJOYED CLAM DIGGING AT AKITA'S BEACH HOME. ON THE WAY HOME, WE STOPPED FOR CASINO "TEETER-TOTTER" RIDES AT RENO AND LAKE TAHOE PLUS GOLFING AT TAHOE. THROUGH OUT THE TRIP, WE ENJOYED 180 DEGREE WINDOW-VIEW NATURE SCENES WHILE DRIVING OUR R.V. WE ENDED OUR TRIP BY FISHING AT CONVICT LAKE. I WAS FORTUNATE TO BRING IN A 4 3/4 LB TROUT, THE LARGEST EVER FOR MYSELF.

AS TO MY WRITINGS, THE MAJOR PRODUCTION WAS A BOOKLET ON "A PROBABLE JESUS" BASED ON READING "THE FIVE GOSPELS" BY THE JESUS SEMINAR GROUP.

MY OPEN LETTER TO NISEIS AND OTHERS WAS PRINTED IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE TOZAI TIMES, PUBLISHED HERE IN LOS ANGELES. I WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED AS I WAS INQUIRING WHAT IT WOULD COST TO PRINT IT LIKE AN AD.

MY LAS VEGAS PROJECT TO NISEIS RESIDING THERE WHILE I ENJOY THE "TEETER-TOTTER" RIDES IN THE CASINOS IS ON HOLD. HAVING COMPLETED MY BOOKLET ON "A PROBABLE JESUS", I WILL WORK ON MY LAS VEGAS PROJECT BY MAIL AS THE NEXT BEST THING TO BEING THERE. IN THE MEANTIME, FUNDING MAY COME THROUGH.

GRATEFULLY WITH LOVE,

*Harry & Miri*