

Happy Holidays from the Cincinnati Longs! May you be “showered with blessings” all this season and for the upcoming year ahead!



[We’re sticking with the “go green” approach by sending these greetings electronically. Please read on if you want some 2015 family highlights..... OR just move on to your next email and know that we’re thinking of you as we complete 2015 and anticipate all the excitement (and challenges) 2016 holds! 😊]

Family overall

- It was nice to have all four of us living in Cincinnati starting in June when Sam moved back. This allows weekly time together over a meal plus plenty of time together for activities and sports-watching
- We continue to appreciate reunions and gatherings with immediate and extended family members. This year included the Wiley reunion weekend and the Cline reunion week at Norris Lake, Tennessee
- This was year 2 of the Long Libation League, tasting small quantities (an important aspect!) of craft beers and rating them. The 2015 updates are at our webpage [here](#)
- Kim and Steve stay busy with regular activities as a couple including regular neighborhood walks, our “Bookies” spiritual group, ushering at a local theatre plus travel (including a wonderful trip to Florida for a visit with Uncle Sam & Aunt Jo plus special time with Rich & Sandy Goheen in Charleston, SC)
- Kim and Steve are planning a 2016 trip to Scotland and would welcome your tourism suggestions

Steve

- Dreamed big dreams about “Retired from billable efforts life” ... they’re coming true, so far!
- Helping others make, capture, share & organize memories (www.LongMemories.info) has been great, including contributions from you, our friends, on the Recipes for Significant Living project
- Wrote monthly articles for our local newspaper with Long Memories themes ([articles HERE](#))
- Christian Playbook efforts remain a passion, including development of the [website](#) with helpful Christian resource links/ideas plus a periodic email post ([email sign-up is here for anyone interested](#))
- Guitar playing with his Chapel Folk friends (and a new Guild group) is therapeutic plus helps in worship with several “congregations” (local senior living facility and county jail locations in particular)
- Visiting care facilities and homes has become a passion – MWPC Joyful Noise Boys is great fun and quite satisfying plus weekly hallway singing at a local hospice in-patient unit is stretching him musically (while adding new “oldies” material to the repertoire)
- Spends great time with individuals and small groups at local eateries, coffee shops and micro-breweries
- Enjoys kayaking and biking, especially around the Little Miami River and East Fork Lake
- Low-intensity gardening efforts continue to be fun
- Loves spending time with the boys playing ping-pong, pool, softball, watching sports and just relaxing
- Traveled “half-way round the world” to Myanmar with his mom for 12 wonderful days ([highlights here](#))

Kim

- Enjoys plenty of time with Forest-Aires women's chorus, and she's back in a leadership role
- Participates in a women's book group on a monthly basis – great books and conversation
- Traveled to visit her parents more regularly (her mom is dealing with early onset Alzheimers)
- Rings handbells at church, including regular worship participation
- Volunteers at the American Cancer Society resale shop a couple times a month
- Is getting more creative and efficient all the time with Long Memories video production efforts
- Has thriving, beautiful gardens for flowers and vegetables
- Values time with the boys -- watching sports, fashion and cooking shows with Sam and playing cards and watching sports with Cliff

Cliff

- Enjoyed another great year with Cincinnati Insurance Company. When asked about the job he says “exactly what I hoped to be doing.” Promoted to Software Developer II
- Gets over for dinner with the family 3-4 times a month which is a great blessing
- Enjoys online gaming online with friends and sports-watching, plus a weekly trivia contest where their group has seen some success
- Spent a week on Panama City Beach, FL with friends and had a great time in the sun. He even made it over to visit a friend who was in training with the Army in Pensacola
- Has fun playing Ultimate Frisbee during the warmer months. Is trying out a winter league this year and being heavily challenged since the group is very talented
- Plays a great game of ping-pong – we'll hope for plenty of doubles action with friends again this winter
- Enjoyed playing softball with Steve and Sam on the church team in the summer
- Attended a local Renaissance Festival in his kilt
- Traveled the tri-state for several concerts and really loves symphonic metal music

Sam

- Is now a [published author](#) – he wrote a Long Memories biography and the Bushman family did a beautiful printing!
- In June, finished one year teaching 8th grade math/social studies in the Fremont, OH school district
- Decided that teaching in Fremont wasn't for him longer-term so he checked into teaching jobs in the Cincinnati area with no success
- Landed a job with Glazer's Distributing as a wine and spirits “merchandiser” (lifting and carrying.) After a few months, was promoted to sale representative, now selling to Kroger, Meijer plus various smaller retailers
- Enjoys being back at Ft. Thomas First Presbyterian Church singing in the choir
- Hobbies include creating tasty food and studying wine/beer
- Loves disc golf, church softball, working out and is now beginning to attend yoga classes

We'd love to hear of what the past year has brought to you and your upcoming activities. Please email, call or stop on by when you have a chance!

We wish you and yours all of the peace and love that Christ shared!

With much love,

The Longs – *Steve, Kim, Cliff & Sam*

P.S. If you're interested in some family highlight pictures of the year, those are [HERE](#)

P.S.S. Some good website links for laughter can be found [HERE](#)