

December 31, 2001

Amy,

Sorry about Sylvester.

I enjoyed your Christmas card. I played it for Eliana, and she liked it too. All Carol's family (her kids and her parents) were here for a Christmas party Saturday. The grandchildren were very entertaining, especially 2-year old Elise, when she played piano and sang Jingle Bells at the top of her lungs. I like her because she is completely contrary. She sees no reason to do as anyone tells her. Her parents are trying to teach her to pray and cross herself, and she is not buying it. I hate when parents try to indoctrinate children. I won't go to a baptism.

We took all last week off - 12 days away from work. I had such good intentions for accomplishing stuff, but our time off is about up and I haven't done much. We saw "Fellowship of the Ring" last night. Didn't like it. Nice scenery, special effects and music, but the story is pretty silly. And as big and mean and ugly as the bad guys were, they couldn't seem to do much damage to the good guys. We saw "Ocean's Eleven" last week. Didn't like it, either. It was OK as light entertainment, but it was another caper movie where the perpetrators are apparently geniuses to be able to pull it off. For example, George Clooney goes looking for Matt Damon in Chicago and finds him in an El - Chicago's commuter train - picking pockets. What are the chances? Do you suppose Matt told someone where he was going to be? I still want to see "Ali" and "A Beautiful Mind".

Tonight we are going to Mountain Jack's for dinner with friends Alan and Brigid, then we'll come back to our place and chat. Won't have time to do much, because our dinner reservation is for 8:30 (so Carol will have time to go to church beforehand).

My slide (picture) project turned out OK. The "TV Photo Viewer" worked on my folk's TV. The pictures looked better than they did on our TV. I gave my brother and sisters sets of CDs with scans of all 412 of the slides.

Love,

Dad