

December, 2018

The time grows near the birth of Christ
The night is calm, the air is still,
And Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other through the mist.
A.L. TENNYSON

Dear Friends so constant through the years,

Another year of happenings need to be described in such a way that you can feel the joy and concerns this year has brought. A difficult assignment but we will “hang head”, using the calendar as a reminder and compose this annual epistle.

We have been given loving care by family members and our two caregivers. They accompany us to all our doctor’s appointments, helping us to remember the day and time and the reason for being there. Most of those appointments were for Lester as he deals with progression of symptoms of Parkinson’s. He has frequent falls due to poor balance. Each fall results in a skin wound. The caregivers have learned the art of bandaging those wounds. It is difficult for a man whom you remember as a very active runner. We are hoping that those researchers looking for a drug that will help restore the brain elements that control movement will find it in time for him to again enjoy hiking. We will be celebrating his 93rd birthday in January.

Winnie has managed to make it through the year by faithful use of her walker without a fall. The bone broken last year is now functioning very well. She did spend four days in the hospital with a double diagnosis of pneumonia and congestive heart failure. She was treated for both and discharged in four days after proving she could walk a long distance without breathing heavily..

Winnie has been typing this letter. With Lester’s failing eyesight and poor handwriting she has been the faithful secretary writing to his classmates and family.

Thanksgiving has been our biggest celebration this year. Family and friends were too many to fit comfortably in our houses, so we rented the church. The celebration lasted until midnight. “Peace on earth, good will to men” That message is so needed in our world today.



Love, Lester and Winnie