



Happy Holidays 2001-2002

Wow – It once seemed we would never get to the year 2000 and now the years are flying by just like the '90's before them. We, at the Sriner household take this opportunity to wish you peace and prosperity throughout this holiday season and the coming new year.

While the past couple years were Krystal years as we moved her back and forth to Florida, this year was truly a Kim year! We are all so proud of her. Most of you know by now that she was a finalist in the Discovery Young Scientist Challenge held in Washington, D.C. last October. This absolute joy was put on hold September 11th as we, like all of you, experienced the various emotions associated with the terrorist attacks. There were many behind-the-scenes discussions up until the last minute to decide if the October event would be cancelled. It wasn't! We did cancel our flight reservations and decided to drive. The trip and accompanying experiences were more than we ever could have imagined. It was truly an experience of a lifetime.



View from bus of the Pentagon damage



Kim receiving autograph from Astronaut Joe Allen

She was in the top three teams competition the last day and walked away with a \$500 scholarship, a minor planet named after her, many gifts and memories of working with the nation's top scientists while studying the behavioral habits of the pandas at the Washington Zoo, genetics with top scientists from Celera, alchemy experiments, and several others. It was truly a lifetimes worth of memories.

Krystal is still moving on a yearly basis but at least this time she stayed in town. We enjoy having her in town. She is presently teaching English at Lanphier High School. She has one Junior class and the rest are Freshmen. She is still searching for the right niche for herself and she isn't certain it is in high school or even in Springfield. Time will tell. She is currently burning the highway between here and Chicago visiting an old High school boyfriend.



Krystal in classroom at Lanphier High School

Pat Says: I've completed my first year at Senior and Community Services for the Secretary of State. And, I love my job! I'm Secretary to 15 staff persons, and our office is located at 324 West Monroe. I coordinate their Speakers Bureau program, in which I locate speakers for various organizations, and, I talk with a lot of seniors everyday in helping them with their "problems"...whether it has to do with driving, testing, license plates, circuit breaker program, whatever. It is a challenge at times. Yet, I do not have the stress that I had at SIU/SOM O&P. Furthermore, it is especially nice to be close to home--only a 5-10 minute drive to and from work with FREE parking!

My life has also made some changes. I decided to go back to teaching, which I left 25 years ago. I managed to get my substitute-teaching certificate so I can substitute-teach in Illinois. I was supposed to be put on the list effective November 1st but I have not been called. I probably have not made it on the list, which is just as well, as I have been busy with my construction/inspection business. Now that things have slowed a little, I will be calling to pursue the substitute teaching. I do look forward to it.



Looking from the front door through the living room to dining room

Another highlight in the Sriner family has been the remodeling of our home...I have taken out walls and put in more walls. We are back to hardwood floors and they are beautiful! Actually, as you come into our home now, the library is on the right and the living room with the piano is on the left...no more long central hallway! You have to go left through the L/R, through an open archway into the dining area. There is a guest bathroom and coat closet off on your right as you pass towards

the dining area. Now, my office is in the old sunroom between the family room and game room at the back of the house. To say the least, this is **OUR CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO OURSELVES**. Our family and home have always been our pride and joy, so we take special pleasure in enjoying them both this wonderful holiday season and throughout the years to come. We wish each and every one of you a very blessed Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2002! God bless!

Love and Light,
The Sriner Family
Dulany, Pat, Krystal and Kim
("Bear", Kim's gerbils, several tropical fish & goldfish)

