

Dear Friends and Family,

Normally our Christmas letters are annotated travelogs, but not this year. We did get to attend the (bucket list) Yosemite Ahwahnee Christmas Bracebridge dinner in late 2019, and spent our subsequent 2019 Christmas at Meadowood in Napa, which sadly sustained substantial fire damage a few months later.

We flew back home from SFO (a major Asian hub) in late December, 2019. After returning home we both became ill – Linda much more so than Steve. In retrospect, we think it was an early strain of the virus, which has since been confirmed to have been in California last December. It was rough. We extend our heartfelt condolences to any of you who have lost loved ones.

We've taken in two more feral cats, which brings us to five. We are seriously outnumbered (in this picture the Beast and Beauty).



Our last normal night was spent with Dani on her birthday March 8 at Boka in Chicago. Two days later Linda became convinced COVID-19 was a real threat, and flew back early from Chicago to stock the home kitchen. And then the world just shut down.

Dani and Trish continue to thrive in their new marriage and are enjoying their new condo in Chicago.

Linda's mom, Marjorie, passed away at age 93 in June after a brief non-COVID illness. She had suffered from dementia for many years. Throughout her last years, we were beholden to the incredible health care workers who make our seniors' lives so much richer.

The long-haul effects of COVID-19 are real. In early July, Linda went to her doctor for a routine prescription renewal, and was sent to the ER for a non-symptomatic cardiac issue. After four days of hospital tests, she ended up with a pacemaker due to electrical transmission issues.

Dani has taken over management of Writing Academy, and Steve now works for her! Alcorn McBride is as busy as ever with product development, and is ready for when the theme park industry picks up again.

In October, Linda was humbled and honored to be named as a 2020 Themed Entertainment Master, a role that enables her to mentor aspiring theme park designers.

2020 has taught us to cherish our blessings. We are so lucky to have a roomy home on a bit of land, Zoom, InstaCart, our daughters, five demanding cats, and each other.

Warmest Holiday Wishes,

Steve & Linda