

The Coldirons

December 2000

Greetings!

As this has been quite a year for the Coldiron clan, we thought it would be appropriate to include an update for family and friends as the year draws to a close.

Our saddest news is that Kip's father died a few months ago. We miss him terribly, although we were happy that his decline was relatively quick and didn't prolong his pain and frustration. In a sad and ironic twist, Kip's long-time friend Jordan lost his father a few weeks later under somewhat similar conditions. Our hearts are lonely for dad and aching for Jordan, Mrs. Hanks and the rest of their family and ours as we all come to terms with losing the immediate physical presence of someone we loved very much.

Looking for the silver lining in the clouds, we were delighted to get reacquainted with the many family members who were able to come in for dad's funeral. We enjoyed a mini-reunion of relatives, some new and renewed family relationships, and a wonderful time visiting. If you haven't experienced "Bessie, the Heifer" and "Sleeping at the Foot of the Bed" with the Coldiron family, well, you are shy one fine experience in this life!

We also moved mid-year from our near-town Houston home to the north side of town, near FM 1960 and I-45 North. It was a bittersweet move as we had lived in and loved our old home and neighborhood for more than twelve years, since just after we were married. However, we are really enjoying the new house and will like it even more as we complete the painting, yard work and decorating that is crying out for our attention. We have lots of room for visitors now (hint, hint). We also were delighted to find other Coldirons already living in the same neighborhood! Yep, we are related, and not terribly distantly, either.

Community Cleaners continues to expand and keep Kip hopping. We now live closer to the shop, giving him a shorter commute. We also bought a cloth diaper business, Kissaluv's, a few months ago, which Dianna is running from home. It is still new to us (the business, not cloth diapering!), so we are still experiencing the highs and lows associated with a new-to-us business, but Dianna is having a good time getting it going.

And our favorite diaper model, Addie, has her two-year birthday this month! She is now counting and reading. Well, okay, she's not actually *reading* ... but she will call out the letters she sees on the sides of trucks on the highway. Budweiser trucks seem to be especially popular, for some reason ("Mommy, B! B!" with a lot of finger pointing from the back seat).

With all the moving, both physical and virtual, please note our new contact information:

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Happy holidays to all. And please, don't be a stranger!