

From the Redman clan in Arizona, Christmas 2008

We recall this past year with it's highs, lows and many changes. The closeness of our family is stronger then ever. Aldean deserves most of the credit for this. Through all the years she kept in close touch with each and every one of our children and grandchildren. She continued to express our love for each unique individual. These are reasons for us to be thankful and to celebrate. Our lives are forever touched by the impact of her love. We all feel her spirit looking over us.

Gene: I began a new journey in this life. The first six months of 2008 were lived in a fog. Since then I have gradually been adjusting to a life living alone. I have the town house and motor home. I don't intend to make any major change until the end of this coming year, 2009. I am starting a new journey.

I have five wonderful granddaughters. Thank God we all have each other.

Michelle and husband Colin have returned from England and are living in Colorado Springs. Colin started work immediately for one of the large defense contractors with his background in computers and government clearances. He is pursuing advance degrees in computer science. Michelle is expecting around Christmas. Kathleen left Payson in mid-December, with her dog Pico, to stay with Michelle until after the baby is born.

Carolyn still lives in Payson. She is Youth Minister at their local church. She is still single. She is editing her second book and working on a third.

Juliana, our youngest, is living with Rebekah here in the Valley of the Sun. My, she is so pretty and she is smart like her sisters.



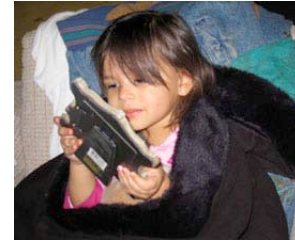
She still has a little learning and growing up to do, but she will get there. We all love her so much.

Kathleen, mother to all these girls still has her home in Payson and her www.computercreations.us She is lucky Colin was able to set her up in Colorado Springs with all she needs to continue her business from a distance. Just before leaving she had a lot of new business come in and almost didn't get away. Some of this, like several new Websites, she will work on while away and tweak with the client before uploading to a server.

Rebekah is again a Converti. She is now a single mother with Rory, whose proper name is Aurora. Rory will soon be three-years old going on five. She is a lovely child who is so bright, happy and endearing. Bekah is taking over a business while the owner is away for two-years. She will soon be a partner. She is working many hours a day, luckily from her home office. She spends much time with clients, her forte. She has been expanding the business and it is paying off. This looks like her path to a bright future.



Rebekah, Juliana and Rachel were here picking up some of Aldean's clothes. Rory is a mother's girl. She is independent with the rest of us. She had to try on Aldean's cowgirl hat, which went to Bekah, and loved Aldean's fur wrap, which went to Rachel. Near the end of the evening Rory was sitting snuggled in the wrap. She picked up a picture of me and started kissing it. The other girls really got a big laugh out of this.



I am so happy with Rachel and her marriage to Michael Shine. This is a marriage I predict will be long lasting. They hosted our family Thanksgiving where



Michael demonstrated his expertise with the turkey.

Sherry is still living in the Valley; she expects to return to Flagstaff this spring. After all her experience helping me with obtaining the best care for Aldean, she is very interested in starting a care facility to provide what is so lacking and so needed. Please pray that she will find what she is seeking.

Steve is still with Chrysler, at their new Arizona Proving Grounds in Kingman since April. He would like to stay another five-years and take "full" early retirement. He is leasing out his home in Peoria with plans to return in the future. Chrysler owners' main interest seems to be making a profit. They hope GM gets the money to buy Chrysler. GM wants jeep and the minivan. Everything else will likely be sold piecemeal. GM has their non-tech proving ground in Yuma and much of their other testing is performed in Mexico. I was surprised to learn GM is the largest car manufacturer in China. We will see what the future brings. Steve is single, has unique valuable skills and can easily relocate.



I am still Webmaster for the Arizona Chapter of FMCA. <http://www.azfmca.org> (Family Motor Coach Association) See the "Make My Day" webpage. I also belong to two other camping clubs. My personal website is: <http://www.azredman.com/>

I'm starting to plan for the summer, looking for volunteer jobs. I found a lighthouse job, but they want a couple. (Only have to furnish one free RV campsite.) I will check others. I am also checking on a job near Jackson Hole, WY, working with rangers on Yellowstone Lake and on patrol in nearby areas in Yellowstone Park.



There are also other volunteer opportunities to explore. Hopefully each job will last a month or two at a time in the western states; such as Colorado, Wyoming, or again on the Oregon Coast. This is a very good way to keep busy, see and learn areas in depth; and get to know new people, working with them. Most of these jobs are three or four days per week with the rest of the week open for exploring. I am open to suggestions from anyone out there.

Christmas is the perfect time to reflect upon all our love as we celebrate this special time of joy. May we all be very blessed this Christmas.