



A Holiday Nugeletter

Special events in our life this year:

We welcomed our daughter into the world!

We celebrated our first wedding anniversary!

Jim turned 40!



Christmas 2006
Judy, Jim, and Eleanor
(a.k.a. "the three nuges")
In their home in Austin

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Happy Holidays From Our Home to Yours!

Welcome to our first holiday "nugeletter!" Each year we continue to receive more Christmas letters from friends, and we so much enjoy catching up on their lives. So this year we decided to jump on the band wagon too, in our own way.

We weren't sure we'd get it together in time to send this year, especially with the recent birth of our daughter and the immense and immediate life

changes that she has brought. But somehow her presence made this nugeletter all the more important to share with you this year!

So enjoy our ramblings, and please accept this greeting of good cheer. We truly hope that each of you has a grand and fabulous holiday spent with the people you love most. And that it is filled with all the joys and toys you can handle. ✨

2006 In a Nutshell: A Year of Big Changes

What a year, huh? Lots going on in the world and in everyone's lives. From "Big Oil" raising gas prices to us raising a daughter, it's been a year of change.

It's hard to believe that this time last year we had just returned from our wedding in Ireland! In 2006 we had "traveling parties" to celebrate our wedding with people back here in the states. There was a hootenanny-style gathering in San Francisco attended by our usual talented Bay Area friends. Then we had a wonderful BBQ-themed party in Ohio with Jim's family and

friends. Jim was especially pleased to reunite with his high school buddies from Ohio, some of whom he hadn't seen in many years. It was such fun to share our joy with everyone.

Judy became pregnant in February. She and Jim spent many months getting Eleanor's room ready and preparing the rest of the house for her arrival. But of course, this meant moving things around from closet to closet and into other rooms. This resulted in a complete rework of our office, Jim's latest masterpiece. (See pix on our website soon!)

Continued...



A Year of Big Changes (continued)

In May, we were very sad to lose our friend Chris Klemmer to cancer. Chris was a dear woman with a hearty presence, a zest for life, and a wonderful laugh. If there is anything to learn from her passing, it's to laugh each day, love with your whole heart, and savor the gift of friendship of those around you. *We miss you, Chris!*

In June, Jim turned 40! He and Judy celebrated with their first trip down to the Gulf Coast where they stayed in a little cottage on the beach and ventured into Padre Island.

In September, Judy was blessed with a visit from her closest girlfriends who planned a wonderful baby shower at a local teahouse. It was so great having them in Austin for a long weekend of girl time (poor Jim).

Of course the biggest change came in November when we became parents! Eleanor graced our lives on November 8th (also our first wedding anniversary). From the moment she took her first breath, we felt the joy of her little spirit; so alert and sweet. The first person to meet Eleanor (other than us) was Judy's mom Journey who was here for two weeks. Next was Jim's parents and brother who came out for Thanksgiving, which was really enjoyable. Jim's Mom stayed an extra week to help Judy adjust to being home with a new baby and to let her get some sleep, for which Judy is eternally grateful!

It's been a good year for us, filled with big life changes. As the year closes, one thing is clear: we have so much to be grateful for, not the least of which is friendship. While this "nugeletter" doesn't call each of you out by name, we hope you know how much we value and miss you. We send you our wishes for a wonderful holiday. ✨

What's Up With Jim?

Jim's role as BACS Project Manager at the University of Texas is winding down. In February, he will transition into a new role as Product Manager for the UT Strategic Communications department. Jim still enjoys the college atmosphere and his bus rides to/from work each day, which gives him plenty of time to catch up on reading (he's read 12 Dune books and is now on his 6th Harry Potter book!). Jim is proud of the home improvements he's done this year. He created a great home entertainment system (with surround sound), added crown molding to Eleanor's room, and completely remodeled our office, adding a built-in bookshelf and computer station! ✨

What's Up With Judy?

Judy just had her nine year anniversary at Visa. Sadly, this milestone came right after a major layoff that "displaced" some of her favorite coworkers here in Austin (many of whom also moved here from San Francisco). And while Judy's job will be waiting for her when she returns from maternity leave, she will miss the daily interaction with these coworkers and friends. For now, Judy is focusing on being a Mom, a completely different role from anything she has "played" before (suddenly, performing on stage in front of 100 strangers seems like a piece of cake)! But despite its challenges, being a new Mom is wonderful and Judy really enjoys her time at home with Eleanor. She knows this time will pass quickly, so she is savoring each moment. ✨

Stay in Touch!

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Eleanor poses in her holiday party dress



Eleanor sleeps peacefully in Jim's arms



A proud Mom and Dad!

The Year Ahead

In 2007 we look forward to more learning, growing, and fun with Eleanor. Judy will spend January and February at home with her, then return to work, at which time Jim will stay home for a month. Ideally, we'd like to make telecommuting arrangements with our jobs and find someone to watch Eleanor in our home, but we'll see. In the new year, Jim is excited about making more home improvements and Judy plans to start volunteering with the local middle school drama department and to take piano lessons. Of course, we hope to introduce Eleanor to more family and friends too, so we're looking forward to having many more visitors. We truly hope you'll be among them! ✨

