



Paul, Becky,
Angela & Danny
Van House

CHRISTMAS #16 Christmas 1996 TIMES

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Merry Christmas again, and greetings for the new year from our house to yours! **Please note our new area code!**

Angela spent a busy Winter playing basketball, and Spring playing softball. Her basketball team, the high school JV team, didn't win a game, but her softball team went undefeated in the regular season to take first place in the league, and placed second in the post-season tournament.



Music also kept Angela busy, with a trip to Washington DC and Busch Gardens with the high school band. This year she made honors band, and is looking forward to competing with her new clarinet! Angela was also awarded the Girl Scout *Silver* award, the second-highest award in Girl Scouting. She was also awarded an academic achievement plaque for her great work in ninth grade.

But perhaps the biggest event for Angela was when she got her Temporary Driving permit. She enjoys driving us on our errands, and has made it clear she'd like a new Mustang for her 16th birthday. (Dream on!)

Danny decided to play baseball this past Spring. His team got off to a slow start, but ended up in a tie for second place in the regular season, and overcame some major obstacles to win the first place trophy in the post-season tournament. He also decided to give the seventh grade football team a try. He went in hoping to be a receiver, but ended up on defense. He didn't enjoy it as much as he thought he would, but stuck out the season anyway.



After getting a minor injury during the last week of practice, he helped man the ball markers for the last two games of the season. Boy Scouts also took up a lot of time, including monthly camping trips featuring hiking, canoeing and more!

He spent a (HOT) week at Summer camp, and just recently earned the *First Class* award. Another part of his summer was dedicated to Band Camp where he boned up on his drumming skills. Danny was also confirmed into our church.



Our family took a Summer trip to Ohio, with Paul staying just a couple of days, while Becky and the kids spent a week. We got to

visit with Becky's sister Sandy and our newest niece, Sandy's daughter Katelyn. Of course, we saw the rest of the Dayton area family, too! We've visited with Paul's brother Robert in nearby Shreveport a few times, most recently on Labor Day Weekend when Robert and his family treated us to an outing in their boat. We sold our "new" trailer after finding it was just too small for us, and replaced it with a brand new trailer -- but the school schedules have us so busy we haven't yet used it! We also spent a baseball weekend in the Dallas area to take in a Rangers game, and see Nolan Ryan's number retired. Just two weeks later, we took one of our frequent trips to the Astrodome to see the Astros retire Ryan's number.



Please have a wonderful and safe New Year, and may God bless you as richly as He's Blessed us!

