



Holiday Greetings and Update for 2021 from Joe and Patricia and our family: David, Aimée and John, and Lois (11) and Tommv(6)



With David living in Mexico and Aimée and her family in Murphys, the four of us stay closely connected by phone, FaceTime, or by our two-year practice of sharing at least three things we are grateful for each day. We try to visit Murphys once a month, and see David 2-3 times a year.

This year of not being able to rely on timely help or supplies was challenging. We planned a new fence with a neighbor, repaired 2 fans and 2 light fixtures—one I broke posing with a golf club—installed a new microwave, replace a computer, fixed a washing machine, and vetted qualified gas heater repair plumbers. Patricia was my faithful assistant. Meanwhile I learned some of her cooking and bookkeeping skills. Never a dull moment, a productive year, and we learned a lot.



Us with a sign carved by David and a family photo given to us by John and Aimée



Still we could get out to our favorite spots on the coast, Half Moon Bay, Princeton, and Pacifica. We meet carefully with neighbors, masked when needed. Close living keeps us on our toes, and separate activities with friends are a must. My latest adventure is buying an e-bike to keep up with the younger retirees as we bike once a week 20-30 miles. I manage 9 holes of golf and started tennis again, adjusting to glaucoma. Patricia has her Church group, walks almost daily with several friends, gardens, and dotes on the grandchildren whenever she can. She's Joe's favorite cook!



Lois goes western in Arnold, filmed from a distance. Here's a closeup video of her singing a song she wrote about her brother Tommy. ([Lyrics here.](#))



David with his "son" Picasso, Patricia at her potting table, and me with my new e-bike and old truck. John's business, and David's sites.



On "the ranch" everyone has chores from cleaning the chicken coop to walking the dogs, to keeping up their land. This year Aimée is teaching Spanish and drama at L and T's Waldorf school in the Gold Country.

