

Dear friends,

14 September 2017 (modified from a holiday letter of 2016)

It has been a very eventful few years, with joys and sorrows.

The person who is responsible for many of the joys is our youngest Susanna. She graduated from Eastern Virginia Medical School in May 2016 having been inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society. In March '16 she was delighted to learn that she had matched for her residency in internal medicine here at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville (her first choice). Although we work in the same institution i seldom see her (i did over the 4th of July '16 weekend), but she seems to be doing well, with the very long hours of a first year resident (aka intern) behind her.



In addition to becoming an MD and beginning work, on 10 October 2016 she married Stoyan Jeliozkov. It was beautiful sunny day at the Inn at Little Washington. San was a most lovely bride! She met Stoyan about six years ago at NIST (the National Institute for Science and Technology) while she was working at the NIH.



Ben and his partner Reggie had been in Asheville for over a year, but have now split up, so Ben has relocated back to C'ville. Ben continues in electronic music and has at least one 'published' piece now available on-line (<http://www.junodownload.com/artists/Philophonic/releases/>) or just to listen (<https://soundcloud.com/philophonics/picky-cat-1/s-Lyuwk>).

Adrienne (now 43) last year moved to a brand new school in Prince William County, VA, teaching chemistry and is mostly enjoying her new larger classroom. Jason continues teaching junior high school science, woodworking and learning to play jazz guitar. Meredith is a high school sophomore and becoming quite an accomplished vocalist (state chorus, etc) and pianist (composing some pieces of her own). Sam enjoys math and, in case you did not guess, video gaming.

Ethan (now 40!) and his wife Angela are in Endwell NY just outside of Binghamton. Ethan is a master sergeant at the National Guard base there. Angela completed her BS in psychology at SUNY in Binghamton in January '16 and she is now considering Masters programs in rehabilitation counseling at SUNY Buffalo. Their daughter Ryan is a 9th grader and taking some time off from diving due to some foot surgery. Derek is a typical 6th grade boy, who these days does a lot of video gaming.

The sad news is that Elizabeth and i are now formally divorced as of 13 July '16. It is something we would never have imagined 44 years ago. We remain in congenial contact over our family and we are, having lived separately for almost ten years, a bit like somewhat distant old friends. It is sad, but workable. Some good things sadly come to an end.



As for myself i continue working full time clinically, but still keep track of basic science and may soon publish some very old but still novel work. I continue to go to work in Santa Cruz Bolivia one week in the spring and then late summer – this fall will be my 29th trip (see www.missionofhopebolivia.org). My need to be there prevents my being at the reunion. The trips are still challenging but enjoyable. In June last year it was fun to see old friends at my 45th Houghton College class reunion. I do some running (the 10 miler in March) and cycling. In October '16 i did the North Carolina Mountains to the Coast ride, cut a bit short by hurricane Matthew (still 410 miles in 6 days!) and plan to do it again next month.

With that brief gloss over the past years i will close. Amidst the turmoil in the world and politically at home, I am thankful for some sense of peace, for a healthy and interesting family, some wonderful teams of friends with whom I work, and for a relative ease of life.

Peace and blessings to all,

Carl Lynch



Our family at Susanna & Stoyan's wedding on 10 October 2016