



It's Time to Write Your Letter to Santa

Did you grow up believing in Santa Clause? We did. I'm not sure quite how it was introduced, but we were taught that Santa filled the stockings and left one unwrapped gift under the tree. We were also taught that if you didn't believe, you got underwear.

Steve & I never really discussed how we would raise our children (Santa or not), but once it happened the way it did, we didn't try to undo it. Our oldest daughter, Elizabeth, was very shy and flatly refused to even get near Santa, much less sit on his lap, so we didn't make it a "thing".

Since our kids all went to church soon after birth, they were first taught that Christmas was Jesus' birthday. (And kids typically remember the first thing they are taught.) We always had a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" cake at home complete with candles, decorations, & the singing of "Happy Birthday". When Elizabeth came home from preschool (her first introduction into Santa) and asked, "Is Santa Clause for kids who don't believe in Jesus?" we knew we had made the right decision. I did ask her not to tell the other kids so I didn't get lots of angry phone calls.

So, believe or not, as early as this seems, if you believe in writing to Santa, this is the week to get on that.

Santa or not, I still hang the stockings and my kids (ages 30, 31, 32) all purchase small treasures to add to each other's stockings. There's a lot of winking about how "Santa" knew exactly what cool new tool or gadget was needed or wanted that year and how "Santa" knew which candy each preferred. For us, it's never been about Santa, it's about getting to spend time all together, which is a rare occurrence these days. I am just happy that my kids all know that JESUS is the real reason for the season!

Now, on to the important stuff.

The Week November 7-13 is:

- Dear Santa Letter Week
- National Book Awards Week
- Nurse Practitioner's Week
- Polar Bear Week
- World Kindness Week

Some celebrations only last a day:

- 7th-** All Saints' Sunday
- Chocolate w/ Almonds Day
- International Merlot Day
- Notary Public Day

8th- Dunce Day
Cook Something Pungent Day
Fill Your Stapler Day
9th- National Young Readers Day
World Freedom Day
10th-Area Code Day
International Accounting Day
Marine Corps Birthday
Sesame Street Day
11th-Armistice Day
Homunculus Awareness Day
Origami Day
Red Lipstick Day
Veteran's Day

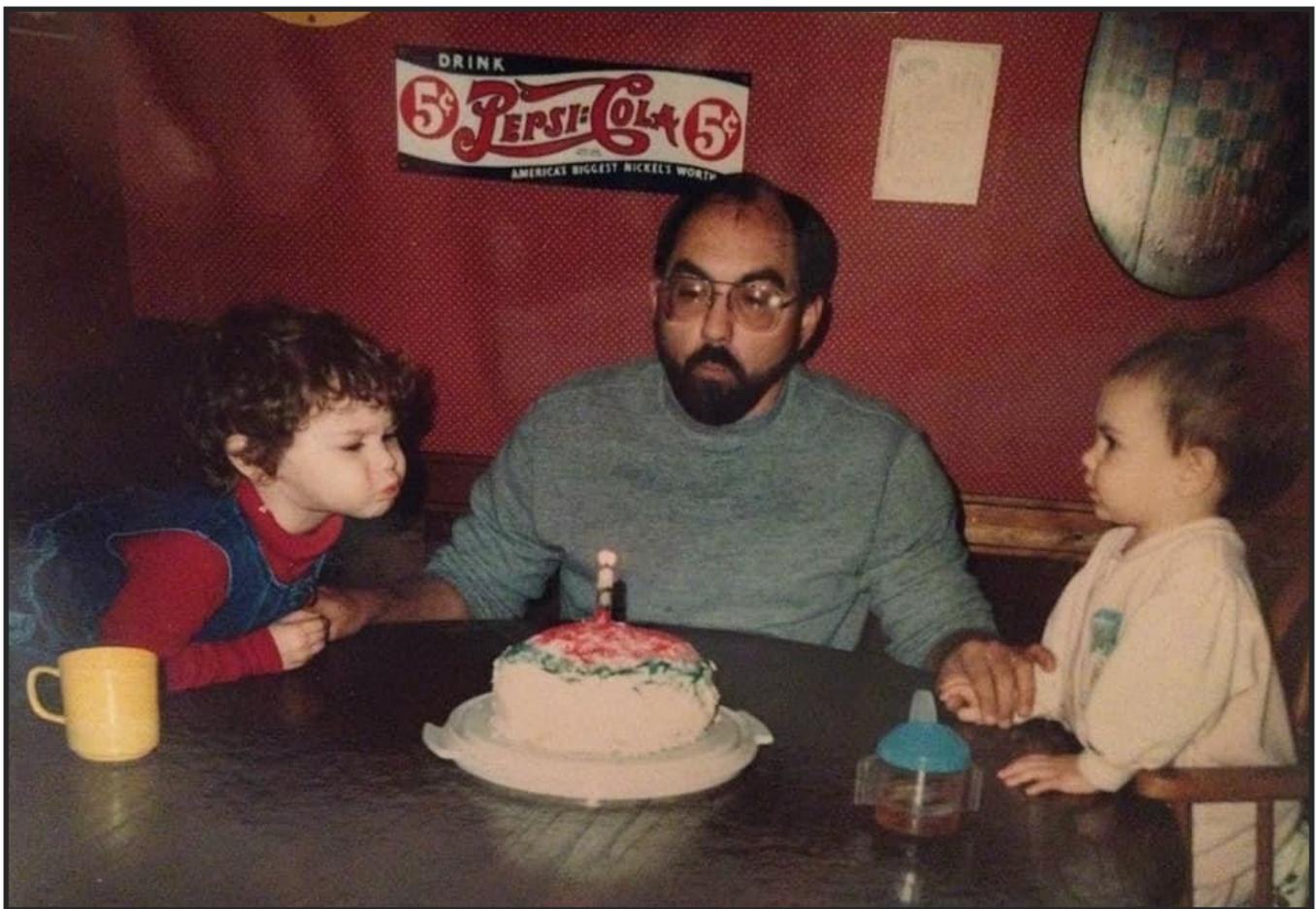
12th-Chicken Soup for the Soul Day
Domino Day
National French Dip Day
13th-Sandwich Day

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 🥰

Pastor Bill 901-569-1428
Pastor Cassie 678-492-3956
Carol 803-360-7137



Christmas 1991—Elizabeth (age 2), Steve, & Kathryn (age 1). Notice Steve has to hold their hands to keep them from grabbing the cake while he and Elizabeth blow out the candles.