

Christmas 2016

Some Decembers I can look back and see all the cool things I did the previous year and get excited about telling you all about them. 2016 just didn't seem to be that way...

OK - I still got to go to some pretty great places and see a ton of sporting events. I went to the Rootstech genealogy conference in Salt Lake in February with my friend (and cousin) Joanne. My brother and nephew Thomas came out (and got snowed upon) for the NCAA basketball Tournament in Denver in March. A mid-summer visit to Minnesota to see the Matthewsons included stops at Gooseberry Falls State Park and a trip to Duluth.

It just seemed like I was losing a lot of my places in 2016.

In April, First Baptist Church of Pueblo officially closed its doors and it was nice to see old friends at the "memorial service". I've heard they've sold the building. April also saw a move for the headquarters of the Department of Corrections. So far the new building doesn't smell or leak, so it has that over the building we left.

My dear Uncle Bill (picture below), who had been fighting lung cancer, died in May, shortly after my visit. He left my brother and I the house on Ellis Avenue in Trenton. I spent about two weeks in New Jersey during the summer with Mark and my friend Stacy cleaning out the house for sale. The house had been in the Tindall family since 1943. It was emotional and hard, it was funny (81 pair of khaki pants!) and frustrating (broken sewer pipe and dead car battery) UB was a rock hound and literally had a ton of rock in the basement. My niece and nephews came up for the memorial service and helped us old folks pull all that rock upstairs. A man with a rock shop in Pennsylvania came down in a van and took it away. I will miss the house on Ellis Ave and definitely will miss Uncle Bill, who was a kind, gracious and generous man. It's weird to think I am the oldest Tindall now... Go through your stuff!! Your family will appreciate it ☺

In September, I drove out to Fort Wayne to see my Aunt Shirley who sold my OTHER grandparents house and moved into a retirement center in November. My grandparents had the house on Butler Court built in the late 1960's, next door to their previous house. This house, with the little bridges across the creek we floated sticks in (and got muddy), the big trees and yard, and the Thanksgivings at the "kids table", is the one I remember the most. I am very happy for my Aunt, who now doesn't have to maintain a big house on a large lot and has a very nice apartment.

One of the coolest things I did in 2016 was go to Chicago to visit my nephew Thomas and FINALLY see the Cubs play at Wrigley Field. I had probably seen a hundred games there on TV... It met all my expectations - kind of like a religious experience for me. ☺ I think they were waiting for me to come to Wrigley to win the Series.

Jim is still building golf clubs and driving a school bus. He and his brother have branched out to flipping snowmobiles on Craigslist. They have quite an inventory to choose from. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a fantastic 2017. Hoping for the best for our country... but let's not talk about that. ☺



My wonderful Uncle Bill (UB Wet)



Ellis Avenue, Trenton, NJ (back)



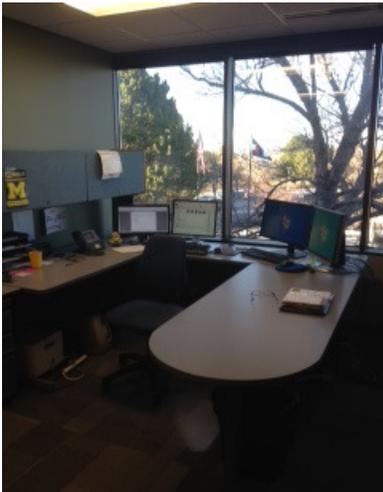
Me at Gooseberry Falls State Park, MN



Hey Chicago! What do you say? Cubs are gonna win today ☺



Butler Court, Fort Wayne, Indiana



My new office, which completely contradicts my stature at DOC after 26 years... oh did I mention that when you get this letter, I will have about 500 days left before I retire?

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