

To health & happiness in 2021!

Geoff, Jill, Grace & Madelyn

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Oh 2020, a year of unexpected time to enjoy one another. Less evening activities, more time sitting at the table enjoying a meal or playing a game. Less time worrying about getting ready for something, and more time enjoying the moments together. 2020, in many ways, you were a gift.



9-year-old Madelyn is rocking hybrid and online-style 4th grade this year. She is independent, tech-savvy, and navigates a to-do list like a champ. She plays piano, guitar, and now cello, and has a soft spot for Harry Potter books. She is our social butterfly, always ready to jump in a pool or on a trampoline when a neighbor arrives on our doorstep.



With no social life, we took the opportunity to hang out with the neighborhood "pod." Cancelled dance recital meant cul-da-sac recital, followed by birthday parties, movies and tailgates in the driveway.



"Teacher" Geoff has worked from home in his new basement office since March. With the girls in hybrid learning mode, sharing internet, compromising on lunch, and Alexa reminders for kid's classes are the new norm.



We have a middle schooler! Grace started 6<sup>th</sup> grade this year, which also means regular visits to the orthodontist. She continues to play viola and piano, is nearly as tall as Jill, has expanded her dance to include pointe, must be regularly reminded of no cats and phones in "school," and is convinced she will be an interior designer.



We learned how important friends and family really are this year. When we were not hiking in the woods behind the house, playing with the new kittens rescued from the farm, or enjoying games as a family of four, we connected virtually with loved ones from afar. Easter, Thanksgiving and many happy hours kept us in touch.



With the year up in the air, we called off our trip to Yellowstone in lieu of something closer to home. Working remotely allowed us to get to the cabin for two long stretches this summer. In addition to relaxing, fishing and enjoying the lake, we built a new beach comprised of almost 25 tons of sand hauled by bucket and wheelbarrow.