

Tripp Family Recorder

February 2022
Issue 177

Back in November of 1968, in the first edition of this newsletter, Grandma (Lurinda) Tripp shared the following poem. I thought we might enjoy reading it again. It hits home to many of us who are now Grandma's age when she sent it in. Enjoy:

Blessed In Aging ~Esther Mary Walker

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and shaking hand
Blessed, who know my ears today
Must strain to hear the things they say.

Blessed are those who seem to know
My eyes are dim and my mind is slow
Blessed are those who look away
When I spilled tea that weary day.

Blessed are they who, with cheery smile
Stopped to chat for a little while
Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of yesterday.

Blessed are those who never say
"You've told that story twice today"
Blessed are they who make it known
That I am loved, respected and not alone.



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Tripp family in 1918: Back row Lurinda and Solomon; Boys in the back Elbert & Ted; Front Violet; Tallest girl on right Helen; Baby Edith; Other three girls Frieda, Ruth & Elsie. Do you agree or can you identify each child?

From Arizona

Didn't we just do this? Lol, Time does go by, even when life isn't that interesting. Well, not much going on around here. Last year my sister and I exchanged golden birthdays. We thought that was a hoot. I turned her birth year and she turned mine, lol, minus 1,900 years. It did occur to me that both of my babies are now over forty years old. You live long enough and that will happen. The older you get, the more people you outlive too. How did I get to be so old? Hopefully I'll get older too, lol, 63 and counting. My grandson is now 12 and in 7th grade. It happens so fast. Before I know it, he'll be off to college. He can wear my old combat boots from basic training now, just like his daddy did when he was in high school. Before I know it, he'll be taller than me too.

One of my roommates last year was a young man from Columbia. He was going to school up on Fort Huachuca. It sure was fun showing him some of the local sights. They also set up some tours for the foreign students. He got me out of my rut a little. The class ended before Christmas, and I had another roommate lined up already. It's fun though to have someone from another country visit. I don't get to travel anymore. It was kind of like having Columbia come to me. A little bit anyway. I'd love to go see for myself though. He got to see the Grand Canyon on a tour the class went to. My grandson and I took him to the Bisbee Copper Queen Mine tour. The whole family took him to the Karchner Cavern tour.

I'm pretty sure we left him with a good opinion of our US of A. That's probably the most exciting thing that happened recently.

Everything else is kind of boring. The wind blew off some of my shingles on my roof, now I've got to find someone to fix it and the best person to do that retired some years ago. He did a roof on my garage that is still in good shape and this one that was done after it is trash. Now I've got to weed through the ones that are out there and hopefully find someone competent. My doorbell stopped working some time ago and I finally got it fixed. Now I've only got a kitchen light to change out and two sconces and two bathroom lights to change. Seems to be my time for lights to stop working. My house is an old house. The heat lamp fan in the hallway bathroom is so old I can't get it repaired. I hired someone to do it and he butchered the sheetrock getting it out and then told me it couldn't be fixed it had to be replaced and that he

wouldn't fix the sheetrock. So OK, replace the light and I'll fix the sheetrock myself. At least five times he tells me how dangerous the old heat lamps are and the other work I wanted to have done was stupid and he wouldn't do it. I told him, OK, I'll do it myself then. Just do the hallway bathroom. He calls the next day and says he's decided not to do it. After he's cut up the sheetrock and made a mess of the bathroom. So, I'm looking for a new fixture for my hallway bathroom. Do you know how many I get to choose from? I've got to sort through all of those to figure out which one is best. I hate doing that kind of stuff. The only reason I didn't put one in to begin with is I've been having vertigo problems but if I've got to figure out which one to get and fix the sheet rock I might as well put it up myself. I'll take a picture of it when it's done and share it for the next letter, lol.

I'm a little quirky myself, so I appreciate that quality in others. I don't really have any pictures I'd like to share of personal things, so I thought I'd share some yard art that people have around here. I love the fork in the road, lol, but they are all worth a chuckle.

Virginia McGee

Sierra Vista, AZ

[Virginia is Laura's daughter; Frieda's granddaughter; Solomon & Lurinda's great granddaughter]





Yard art from Virginia McGee. These are very cool Virginia! I've never seen a rooster as big as a tree and I agree ... the fork in the road is priceless!

From Florida

Starting in July, Jerry Sudduth stepped on a piece of glass and because of diabetes he didn't feel it until he had an infection in his bone. He went to the hospital where they had to do several surgeries to remove the glass then go in and work at removing the infection then perform at least one skin graft. That took 6 days then two months in a rehab center near their home. Bonnie was the only person who could see him. Because of Covid-19 they made her wash her hands before entering and totally put on gloves-mask and plastic coat.

I flew out from Florida to Texas twice for a month each time to help them out. The first time I never got to see Jerry. The second time I got to see him. He still has an L shaped opening in the bottom of his left foot. I got to help in many ways because Bonnie can't stand for any length of time and Jerry still is not supposed to be putting much weight on that heel.

I made some meals, helped them get rid of some overflow and helped them donate a lot of things they have been too sick to do.

This week I spoke with Bonnie who was so sick she was having problems thinking and not able to make good choices. I'm sure all of us have been there some time in our lives. Jerry had a temperature of 103 but he didn't want to go back to the hospital. I talked to Bonnie and tried to get her to call 911 so the paramedics could make the decision as to whether he needed to go to the hospital.

Decision was made: He has Covid and is in the hospital.

Later, when I spoke to Bonnie she was not making sense. I was not surprised when I got a text from Jerry's son JR saying she had been taken to the hospital with breathing problems. Please keep them in your prayers.

My daughter Barrie and I wanted a dog to share so we went to our local "no kill" shelter to see what kind of dogs they had. We checked out their web site and thought we had made up our mind. We met each of the dogs. On our way out we saw Lady. She is a Blonde and dark brown brindle colored beautiful Mountain Curr. She had been there for over a month. We fell in love. She turned one in August. Initially they didn't want us to take her because we do not have a completely fenced yard. Finally they said okay because Barrie has four pastures available.

We decided to take Lady for service training partly because I have fallen several times in the past year. It is amazing how much better-behaved she is now. She still digs a little too much and loves to chew on any wood she can find but she is still a puppy in spite of being 57 pounds! I take care of her all day and my daughter has her all night. (By the way, we live next door to each other.)

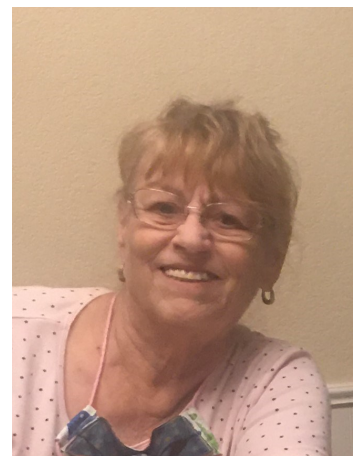
Linda Sjostrom's son James sent out Christmas cards to our family. That was very nice to get. I hope he will send us a little information about how he and his family are.

Well for Florida it is pretty cold (42 at night 65 in daytime). During December my Granddaughter came down for a COMICON in Orlando. She and her business partner visited several days first and then they went there and sold more items in the first two days than they have ever sold in the past five years. They said they will be back next year.

Happiness is seeing family any time you can. As Uncle Norman used to say at the end of his letters, "see you in the funny papers!"

Judy Hunter

[Judy is Edith's daughter; Solomon & Lurinda's granddaughter]



From Nebraska

Hi everyone,

We have had a busy year. A lot has happened. Sally had a heart attack, and damaged her heart. She had a 99% blockage.

Well she worked really hard and in three months brought it back to 55%. She is still working on getting better and hopes for more. She feels great and can do anything. We are real proud of her.

Three of us had covid, but none of us were real sick. We have all had our Vaccinations. We were worried about Sally but she didn't even get sick. The only difference is she had gotten her flu, shot.

We had a wall collapse in the basement, and let me tell you that is expensive. 😞 They will be doing that in Feb.

Then in March new carpet, so I will be working for awhile. I don't mind as it keeps me from getting lazy. I want to get everything done on the house while I can still work, then Sally and I will do something. Might be a nursing home.

We can't travel anywhere right now anyway, Sally and I go out of town every now and then for a day. We would have liked to go to CA. To be with Patty, really going to miss Dick. so sorry cousin he was a really great guy. hope you are doing OK. 😞

Both my daughter and granddaughter work from home, they work for the same company. It is nice, I don't have

to worry about them driving in bad weather, and I drive less than a mile in town, so everyone is safe. Of course, I have two sons out on the road and there is always worry about



them, but they are both good drivers.

I guess that is all for now, I hope this finds everyone well and healthy.

Love you all.
Pauline

[Pauline is Ruth's daughter; Solomon & Lurinda's granddaughter]



UPDATE ON BONNIE

Between Jerry and Bonnie getting COVID things have been bad in Texas. Jerry got it first and ended up in the hospital. He was responding to treatment when Bonnie realized her oxygen level was in the 80's so she was taken to the ER and then admitted to the hospital. Unfortunately, she has not responded to treatment. Her Oxygen levels kept going lower and lower. She was pretty frantic since she could barely breathe. In the end they have put her in an induced coma and on a ventilator. Please please pray for her. Every day we hope for better news and every day we hear that she still has an infection in her lungs and is the same. All prayers are helpful.

From Missouri

Greetings from the Towle side

Hope everyone is doing good it's been so cold here I haven't got out to do anything! My family is doing good my son Matthew had the covid when it was just getting started, he did ok and is doing good now. Then Wayne, my brother, got a very light case of it last week -- he is doing good too.

No one else in the family that I know of has had it.

Wayne (my brother) has two granddaughters and they have four grandsons so was glad to get two girls lol.

Not much else is going on It's just too cold to do anything

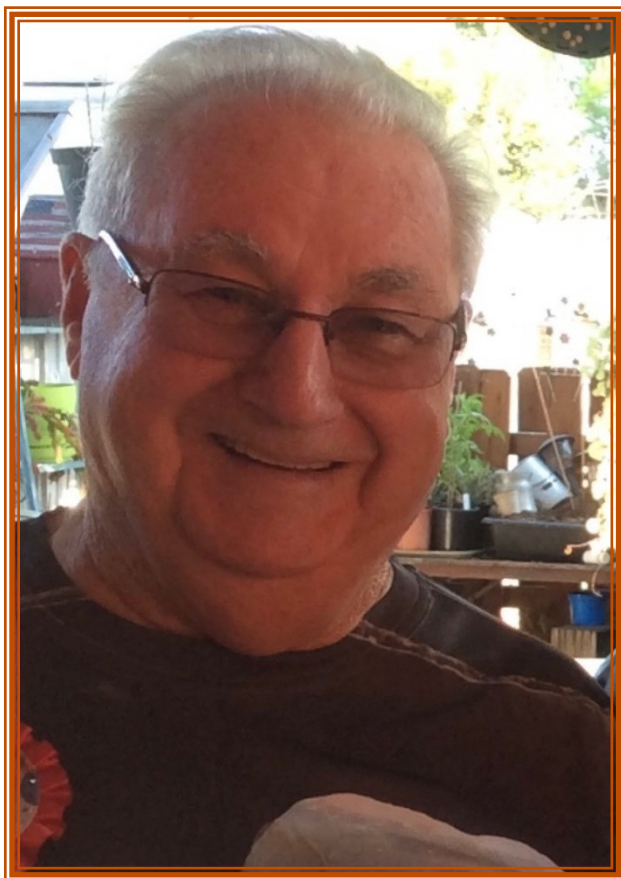
God Bless everyone hope all are good health

Marcy (Towle) Leipard

[Marcy is granddaughter to Wesley Towle who is Lurinda's brother. That makes Marcy my second cousin ... so if you are my first cousin, you are Marcy's second cousin.]



Richard Earl Culley
August 2, 1937 - January 14, 2022



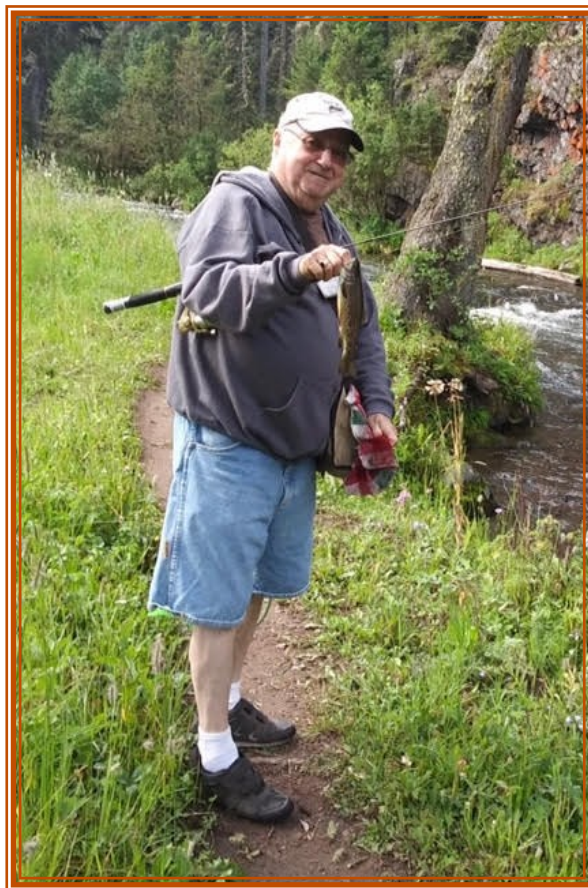
On January 14, 2022, Richard (Dick) Culley passed away. Surviving him is his wife, Patty; son, Joseph, daughter, Keri; five grandsons, Matthew, Jacob, Joey, Jonathan and Christopher; and three great granddaughters, Madison, Kara and Penelope. I am sending a copy of a post that was placed on Facebook as it tells about who Dick was.

Richard E. Culley, aka, Dick, Dad, Grandpa, Uncle, Mr. Fixit, Senor Culley, and Pork Chop, who enjoyed his many titles and friendships, passed away on January 14th in his home. He had been cared for by his son, Joe, daughter, Keri, son-in-law, Frank, grandson, Jonathan and me. I would like to thank our family and friends for their concern and love during this difficult time.

Dick was able to leave on his own terms, the way he wanted. He thoroughly enjoyed the many personal visits, phone conversations and FaceTime calls. Many times, we gathered around him and chuckled as we listened in on these conversations. The stories were often lively with a lot of laughter.

Dick expressed his wishes not to have a memorial service and we will honor those wishes. Those of us who spent his last days with him feel that he had found a unique way to allow us to express our love to him directly. Therefore, there will be no traditional memorial service. I am grateful for everyone who shared their love for him during his lifetime.

Patty Culley



From Michigan
Hi everyone!

I hear we are short on newsletters, so I need to do my part. I don't have a ton to write about. I am writing this Monday the 31st and here in Michigan we are supposed to get over a foot of snow, with some areas up to close to 20 inches. We'll see what happens, but we'll be digging ourselves out soon enough.



Jillian and I have been deep into wedding planning. We sent out our save the dates on the 22nd. Some people got theirs extremely quick, and some have reported not getting theirs yet at all, even ones close by. So, needless to say, I hope that everyone we sent them to will receive them. It makes me a little nervous for sending out the actual invitations, but we aren't there yet so hopefully it will be better at that time.

We have almost all of our big items taken care of except flowers, but we are focusing more on the smaller details now after the flowers. That and joining in on putting a shower together. That location nor date are set yet for the shower, but we are shooting for early August we think, on a Sunday afternoon. Also, for anyone that doesn't

have it, our website is www.JillianAndJamesSayIDo.com. We put a lot of work into it so we hope everyone will take the time to check it out.

The wedding stuff is consuming most of our time, but we are getting to some events like Detroit Red Wings games and things like that. That being said, we are still taking covid seriously as everyone should. We both have our shots, and we got our boosters too. I hope everyone else can live life but take it serious enough to protect yourself and those around you as well. I've not had it this entire pandemic, and I haven't even had a close contact. I have not had to take a single test the entire pandemic, which I feel is pretty crazy to think about given the number of cases and whatnot.

I think that's all I am going to write this time, but I wanted to make sure to get something put together and sent out. I sincerely hope that I can see all family at my wedding and wedding events. It would be a great opportunity to get together and see everyone and even meet a few others. I am not going to include any pictures for this newsletter, but we put quite a few up on our wedding website you can check out!

Please be well everyone and take care of yourselves and others.

Love,

James Sjostrom –
[Son of Linda (Tripp) Sjostrom;
Grandson of James and Esther
Tripp]

From Florida/Michigan

We are in Florida with nobody living in our house in Michigan. Sometime Wednesday night we started getting alarms from our Michigan house that indicated our freeze alarm battery was going dead. We asked Kristi and David to go over to the house and put a new 9v battery in our alarm. Unfortunately when she arrived at the house she found a flooded basement! Ugh. They were able to turn the power off to the pump, but damage had already been done.

We are now sitting here waiting for ServePro to call us and tell us when they can go over to the house

and start pumping the water out. This is turning out to be a winter we will remember!!

Apparently our pressure tank sprang a leak and our pump just kept pumping water trying to build up some pressure. We know we should have turned the power to the pump off before coming down here to Florida; hindsight really is 20/20! Ugh.

We just heard that they will be there promptly in four or five days. They are backed up like the rest of the world! I have heard that God doesn't give you more than you can handle. Well ... I guess I don't really believe that. I mean, I don't believe God flooded our house so

I will just ask Him to be with us as we get through this. When you get lemons ... make lemonade!

Love to all

Nancy & Bob
[Nancy is Edith's daughter;
Lurinda & Solomon's granddaughter.
ter.]



From Michigan

Hey all, Tim Sjostrom here – Son to Linda (Tripp) Sjostrom, Grandson to James Tripp and Esther (Bariger) Tripp, Great-grandson to Solomon and Lurinda Tripp. I am shameful to admit it, but this is my first time writing into the newsletter, knowing how important this tradition has been for our family. I remember seeing a worn, leather

briefcase tucked away in the corner at my grandparents' farm in Pinckney, MI, and opening it up to see all of the old, printed editions of family newsletters, dating back for decades. Family traditions like this aren't very common in today's society and I would love to see ours continue for years to come. I fondly remember gathering with the extended family for holidays and reunions as I was growing up, but unfortunately the opportunities to get together have diminished over the years as time becomes shorter and distance becomes greater. These gatherings had mostly faded away before I was an "adult" and therefore I have missed out on opportunities to have great conversations with relatives and share life stories and lessons. As my generation grew older and our lives got busier, we honestly did a poor job of staying connected and I would love to see us put in the effort towards reversing this trend.

Anyways, I am 29 years old now and became a first-time homeowner in 2018. I currently live in Westland, MI, along with

my 4 ½ year-old Shephard, "Harper." I have been a police officer now for 4 ½ years and am currently working in Oakland County. As I'm sure some of you can imagine, my profession has become increasingly strenuous as crime becomes more frequent and violent and our ability to respond becomes less available and less effective. In addition, public perception of



those who wear this uniform has gone down the drain, regardless of our intentions or desire to serve our communities in a positive fashion. As a result, the new applicant pool has run dry and resignations have spiked as the desire to continue in this profession fades away. I am trying to stay optimistic, however, because I honestly love what I do and I work with a great group of women and men that have become family to me. Everyone in this line of work finds their own niche, mine being in impaired driving enforcement. I take a lot of pride in taking drunk drivers off of our roadways and have received the MADD Award (Mother Against Drunk Driving) for the last three consecutive years for making the highest number of impaired driving arrests in the department.

In whatever free time I can find, I enjoy working on cars and gardening. I was a licensed automotive mechanic before becoming a police officer and I like to stay up to date with my knowledge and skills. I also en-

joy going for rides on my motorcycle; however, I have outgrown my last bike and will hopefully be in the market for something new this upcoming season. If there's any family out there in my area that would like to go riding, let me know! I hope some day to be able to get enough time off work during the summer to be able to take a cross-country road trip with some good company.

I'll close this out by saying again that I would love to see our family come closer together like it used to be several years ago. I personally do not have any social media accounts and have been without for nearly a decade due to both professional and personal reasons. Unfortunately, this makes it incredibly difficult for me to stay connected with folks since our society has become so dependent on this way of life... Please, if you'd like to reach out and catch up, drop me an e-mail and say hello (Tim.Sjostrom@yahoo.com). I'd love to hear from y'all.

Love,
Tim Sjostrom





2021

This year
has been filled

with many new adventures
and experiences *

Attended the
Marvel Exhibit at Henry Ford Museum

* Viewed amazing ice sculptures at Plymouth

Ice Festival * Sang along with Diana Ross and Stevie

Wonder while visiting the Motown Museum *

Survived
the cold of Opening Day with Detroit Tigers *

Attended my
1st Red Wings game with Ben *

Explored the Beyond Van Gogh
Exhibit *

Ben learned to drive a real Model T at the Gilmore Museum

* Celebrated Miguel Cabrera's 500th homerun *

Got spooked at Paranormal
Tour at the Whitney Hotel *

Spent time on the lake *

Said goodbye to one of my
fur babies, Tabby *

Traveled to Minnesota to see Ben's old stomping grounds – visited
Mall of America, toured Prince's house, cruised down the Mississippi River on a riverboat

* Dining in the Dark experience *

Started a new job where I assist in providing "fertility to all"

* Sold my house *

Ben and I bought our first house together *

So many exciting things to look forward to in

2022! I feel

blessed every

day and wish all

my family and

friends the same

blessings this holiday

season and beyond!!!

With Love, Kelli

From Michigan - Feb 3, 2022

Hello Everyone,



I'm out in Birmingham, Michigan, with my daughter Kelli, helping her take care of one of her three dogs. Last Sunday morning, at midnight one of her dogs collapsed from blood loss of internal bleeding. She had a large tumor on her spleen which was unknown until then. In emergency surgery, they removed her entire spleen which included the tumor and sent that along with a liver sample off for biopsy. If it is cancer, it's an extremely aggressive kind which attacks the other organs quickly – we are still awaiting results. She was discharged and is home recovering now. For a couple weeks she'll need to remain secluded from the other dogs as she cannot play or do any strenuous activity. This includes stairs, so someone will be sleeping with her on the first floor since she cannot climb the staircase up to the second-floor bedrooms. She is already showing her old self, carrying her bear and duck around in a playful way.

The kids, their significant others, and I were finally able to gather for a belated Christmas and Timothy/Kelli's birthdays due to COVID-related delays. Kelli typically hosts holidays, but since her and Ben haven't been able to move into their new home yet, Jillian graciously offered to host this year. It was a wonderful evening with an Italian-themed dinner and lots of snacks. After opening gifts, we rounded out the evening with a card game.

James, my oldest son, and his fiancé Jillian have been busy, busy, busy with their wedding

preparations. I think they are well on track timewise with only a couple things left other than the actual day. I have my own "to do" list before the big day, such as finding a dress. I know even though it's not until October it's going to come fast!

Well, we got dumped on – about 8-10" of snow with ice underneath, but I know others elsewhere got more. Just enjoy the God-given beauty of it all ☺

I know this newsletter is shorter than I wanted and no pictures like I love to send, but I guess that's it.

I love you all, my family!
Linda Sjostrom,
Ypsilanti, Michigan

[Daughter of James & Esther Tripp,
granddaughter of Solomon &

From Michigan

Hello to my Tripp Family —

I don't think I have ever written into the newsletter before even though my mom is your current editor! I probably wouldn't be writing in now if it wasn't that my mom is trying to fill up the newsletter and I am a good candidate. Lol!

It has already been an interesting year. Amanda, my oldest daughter had a baby last year and she is now ten months old ... well in a few days she'll be ten months old. Her name is Aurora Grace and she is a delight! I remember before she was born thinking I would love her, but I had no idea how much I would love being a grandma! I can spoil her then go home. I can be having a bad day and go visit Aurora and my day turns around. She is such a happy little girl and that smile of hers

just warms my heart! I know that you grandma's out there know what I'm talking about.

It is so much fun watching her learn new things each day. She is now crawling all over the place. I need to do a little more baby-proofing my house before she spends much time there.

My youngest daughter, Gabrielle, is a Veterinary Assistant and while I am very proud of her, she works so much and lives an hour away so I don't get to see her as often as I would like.

I have had my own cleaning business for years and unfortunately my back and hands/wrists have taken a beating. I finally had carpal-tunnel surgery last week on one of my hands so I am recuperating from that surgery. I will still need to have the other hand/wrist done. I think the worst part of this recovery is that I cannot take care of Aurora right now — I can't use my hand. Well I see that my allotted space has come to an end. I hope this finds everyone well. Love, Kristi

[Kristi is Edith's granddaughter;
greatgranddaughter to Lurinda and
Solomon]

