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YES! WE'RE 60!!!

What does a Baby Boomer say when he's 60 years old? Not much. Nobody listens to old people! :):) Perhaps the operative word is...old! The old body parts don't work quite like they once did and the hair just gets grayer and grayer (even Jim's is starting to turn), and our children are even getting old. We are mostly okay, though. Jim had a mild heart attack in October, but has recovered nicely and the doc says he has minimal damage. We are grateful as that was a scary episode. I do have some arthritis in my knee, but it doesn't hurt much and I treat any pain with ibuprofen! I'd like to tell you all about our other illnesses, but we seem to be fine otherwise. We count our blessings every day.

All is well in Charlotte and points west. We continue the work on our mountain house and our new architect has drawn us the most amazing plans. The truth is that the house is too big, but Jim being the pack rat that he is will fill it up quickly. I'm looking forward to filling it up with family.

I have gone back to work part time as an AP at Charlotte's newest high school. I have worked very hard (more than full time), but have



recently worked a deal with the principal to work only three days a week. It was either that or quit and I'm happy with the resolution. I really like the action of a high school and I find that work keeps me young...not in years, but at heart!

Jim is still with Pactiv and is looking at retiring in about 2 years. We are working to divest ourselves of as much responsibility as possible. Jim has planned well for our retirement and we expect to have many good years ahead of us.

My sister, Mary, and her children, who had lived with us for about a year after the death of her husband, relocated to their own home in July. We miss them, but she works at my school

and we see them often. Mary is now in graduate school. She's busy...do I have to explain?

We didn't have the Big Chill this year, but hope to have it in the spring if the house is habitable...not sure about the likelihood of that!

Both of our mothers are still living and we are glad of that! Mine has a boyfriend!

Love to all of you. Write, phone, or send flowers! :):)

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Jon and Patti

What do you say about a young family with three children aged 6, 3 1/2 and 2? Busy, busy, busy. Things haven't changed in their home the past year!

Nevertheless, the three grandchildren are three of the joys of our hearts and we can never get enough of them. We haven't seen them as much as we'd like since I started work, but that's fixing to change. The girls and I are going to make cookies very soon!

Katie (6) is in first grade and is a model student. She reads, writes, and ciphers and makes all VGs! She is quite creative and I marvel at her when she is in our playroom. Lauren (3 1/2) has continued preschool which she loves. The middle child, she is mild mannered, sweet, and affectionate and we love her to pieces. Jonathan is 2 and is as cute as a button. He is a very sweet baby and reminds me of Jon when he was that age. He's all boy, too. He loves PapaJim's new tractor.



Jon works, Patti parents. They are a great little family and we love them passionately! We are glad that they live close to us. Katie wants to go to the mountains so I'm going to try to take her before long. Until now she has been a homebody, so this will be a treat for all of us!

Adam and Shanna

The big news in the family comes from Adam and Shanna. First, they presented us with our newest grandbaby, Gracen Elise on May 9, 2006. Then, Adam received his doctorate in environmental science in June. Jon, somewhat irreverently, refers to him as "Dr. Dumbass"...long story.

The important event is the birth of Gracen. She is just the best, best, baby. She is calm and pleasant and smiles all the time. I can count on one hand the number of times I've heard her cry since she was born. She's 6 months old now and is sitting and almost crawling. She doesn't mind being held and she also doesn't mind being put down where she entertains herself very well. Adam was a very good baby, but I think Gracie takes the cake!

Shanna has become a stay-at-home Mom and Adam has a "real" job. He works for the environmental company that took down his dams while he was getting his doctorate. Money is nice, sometimes! The picture below is of Gracie and her cousin Lauren.

