

Dear Friends,

I just finished a year of retirement, one with very little jet lag and normal nights of sleep. Bliss!

In 2008 I never went more than three time zones east though as you see I did make it to the end of South America. Friends Bob and Jo made sure I saw Chile and Argentina and wandered through Patagonia. They tried to keep me on the correct linguistic path – always a challenge. Jo quickly corrected my mangled Spanish pronunciation of “Torres del Paine” which rendered it into “Towers of Penis.” At least I got the tower part right so there was no international incident.

Stateside, I enjoyed a road trip for a few summer months, crossing paths with many of you. Besides all kinds of Halls of Fame, I went to former haunts, a Flying Tiger reunion, an Amish school fund auction. Gettysburg, got to Yankee Stadium for a last game, followed part of Lewis and Clark’s journey and had better luck than Custer by making it out of the Dakotas unscathed.

My days have been filled with projects for so many of you, and I developed my telephone skills of fixing things from afar. There are “Larry rigged” fixes all over. It was all great fun though the PCs have got to go. Bring on the MACs.

My annual review showed this to be a year with the most extremes of highs and lows and drives home how important family and friends are.

Mary just finished eight months of chemo to fight Hodgkin’s non-lymphoma. Her latest PET scan shows her battle has overcome the disease. Her fourth set of hair is coming in more red than blond so the redheads now dominate my siblings.

KT’s partner Raya’s mother was paralyzed from the neck down in a July car accident. She has defied all the doctors’ predictions by continuing to improve and recover control of her body. Though it will still be a long haul, seeing her wiggle her toes and twitch a finger really is a miracle.

We are facing many challenges in a world that seems to get crazier by the moment. But as Christopher Robin said to Pooh: **“if ever there is tomorrow when we're not together.. there is something you must always remember. you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. but the most important thing is, even if we're apart.. i'll always be with you.”**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joy, Larry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Please up date your records to reflect these best ways to reach me:  
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