

## *We wish all of our Family and Friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

2021 continued to be a strange year with Covid. Thank goodness that both Martin and I have managed to keep well and all the immediate family members have too.



In last year's Christmas letter I told you that my brother Peter had been diagnosed with a debilitating disease. He fought a courageous battle, but succumbed on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Farming was Peter's life and he lived it to the fullest. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Due to the travel restrictions I was unable to go to the UK to see him or for the funeral. My sister Sheila died in 2019 and now Peter, two years later. Time is too short.

I had spine surgery in January this year, so I now have titanium plates and screws in my back (and will probably set off alarms in the airport security areas). The surgeon said I made a good recovery, but recently I have had some lingering leg aches, etc. Just hope it clears.



I lost my horse Taffie in November 2020 and I missed horsing around so much, Martin agreed that I should buy another horse. Margarita is a small 13.2hh Paso Fino mare. She is 16 years old and a very pretty little girl. I have ridden her in the neighborhood and she seems to be pretty calm. I'm taking it easy right now because of my leg.

Sophie, our long haired German Shepherd continues to be a delight. She is a very smart girl and sometimes it seems that she is running the household. She loves to go for rides and

walks and has a very accurate clock inside her, so tells us when it's time to eat, play or turn off the TV.



Anthony, Sharon, Julius and Rowan are still in Seattle. Anthony is working with a large international architectural firm. He is travelling quite a bit, but is thoroughly enjoying the work and continues to keep very, very busy. Sharon is working at a local non-profit, plus other consulting work, so also staying very busy. Julius just had his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday on Halloween. He is playing in the

school marching band and they recently performed at the Seattle Seahawks football game – quite an achievement. Rowan is currently performing in the Seattle Nutcracker ballet show for the second year. This is a huge event and Rowan loves performing.



Ken is still living in Lockhart, TX (just 40 miles away) but has moved to an RV park and just recently got a new job, which is very close-by. It is hard work and long hours, but he seems to be enjoying it. We try to have lunch together every couple of weeks and catch up.



Martin continues to keep very busy. He is still volunteering with the Bastrop Sheriff's Dept. and patrols as often as he can, which he really enjoys.



# Copper

Music, Audio, and the Good Stuff

One of the top National recording magazines called Copper recently featured Martin's vintage recording collection in three of their issues. [psaudio.com](http://psaudio.com)



In 1986, Martin and I were working with musicians and he realized there were schools all over the country teaching the business and technology of music. Austin had been named the "Live Music Capitol of the World" and had none. We worked for three years creating one at Austin Community College. Martin taught a couple of classes for a few years and then moved on to concentrate more on our business.

The program we initiated is now housed at the old refurbished Austin Highland Mall. In 2014 a \$384 million bond issued for the Creative Arts injected funding for the music business program which now has 42 staff, five recording studios and amazing facilities. We recently toured the school and interviewed the staff that were very thankful we helped get it started. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdFaqnAPEz8>



Martin continues to maintain his vintage recording collection. One of the recorders went to Screen Gems in Atlanta and appeared in the Jennifer Hudson movie "RESPECT" about Aretha Franklin.

We did make one trip to Alpine this year. Martin visited his birthplace that is now a laundromat in Marfa, TX.



We were hoping to do more travelling and had plans to attend a wedding in Santa Fe in September, but had to cancel at the last minute because of Covid concerns. Maybe 2022 will have some more opportunities, but time will tell.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

All our love,  
Chris and Martin

