

December 16, 1991

Well, its that time of year again - the time we all feel guilty because we have ignored our old friends for another year. I guess I'm resigned to that. In any case, I am writing one of these computer generated letters which I hate and vowed never to write. But my convictions were always flexible.

The only momentous event which happened last year is my 25th High School reunion. Not that I went or anything but just that it occurred. Not only that, I found out that I am older than Terry Bradshaw and he's as old as dirt!! Now where did I put those bifocals? (Bradshaw was the Quarterback for the Steelers during the last century.)

Other than all that, my company, Silogic Systems, has survived another year. A year that turned out much better than I expected. It seems that with the recession, more companies were willing to use outside engineering design services rather than increasing their staffs to do more projects. We spent the better part of the year doing a project for Intergraph, the makers of Clipper Microprocessor based workstations. Other clients included Floating Point Systems (now a part of Cray Research), Sony, Matsushita Avionics, and AMCC.

The drought here in California has put on damper on green lawns. We have had to cut back on water use by 20% or face stiff price increases. Since the annual rainfall in San Diego is about 11 inches a year, most of our water starts as snow in Northern California and there hasn't been much of that for the past couple of years.

Along with the rain, went my skiing. I didn't do any of it last year. I hope to catch up this coming season. I have trips set for Mammoth Mountain (CA) and Innsbruck.

We had two earthquakes in one day last week. They were the first ones we felt here for at least two years. The bad news about that is without periodic releases, pressure is just building up for the "big one".

My 10 year old Audi finally bit the dust last summer. As my mechanic described it, the car was suffering from arteriosclerosis. All of its internal oil passages were getting blocked up because someone didn't change the oil often enough. So finally catching up with the Yuppies of the 80's, I bought a BMW - seems like I'm always a decade too late for everything.

I'm headed back to Pittsburgh this week to visit the family and relatives. Its also my annual reminder trip. It reminds me why I moved away from the east coast (snow and cold) and why I moved here (warmth, sun, outdoor living, smog, earthquakes, mud slides, brush fires, wind storms .... Hey! Wait a minute.... hmmm).