



Dear Family and Friends,

December 2022

2022 turned out to be a relatively smooth year, with a few bumps worth mentioning. We managed to stay clear of Covid, but there was a 3 month Chemo period. Fortunately no radiation was ordered this round. Marianne got a new head of hair again, same curls, same gray with the white halo.

February was a sobering month. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, Russia invaded Ukraine, hoping to annex more of the country, in addition to Crimea, which they had already claimed in 2014. Our hearts were broken to know what our friends in Kyiv were about to face. As I write this, the destruction and brutality rages on.

The much anticipated end of chemotherapy arrived April 20<sup>th</sup>. This meant we could start serious travel plans. The first week of May, we headed south to Los Angeles and San Diego where we were graciously hosted by Cousin Bonny for several days. We explored LA and SD like regular tourists, focusing on art museums and galleries and visiting the Aptera headquarters. This is another all electric vehicle, not quite in production yet, that John has set his sights on. It has features that make it unique, even in the Tesla World. John has dedicated lots of his time to investigating the progress of this new venture, so it was fun seeing the prototype. An electric car with 3 wheels. Piques your interest?

Our destination was Santa Fe, NM, but after a couple of days in SD, we decided to return home. Two weeks after the end of chemo just wasn't adequate time to recover enough to continue our travels. We could always wait and try again at a later date.

5 months later, on the first of October, we agreed to hit the road again. We left Santa Fe for another time and drove to Idaho instead. My online art instructor was having a solo exhibition in Moscow, ID and I didn't want to miss the celebration. From there the trip morphed into a Pacific NW trip with the Olympics as a destination. In Aberdeen, WA, everything came to a screeching halt (so to speak). In a busy intersection, we were hit broadside by a pickup truck and the Tesla became inoperable. We were ok, but the car had to be towed to Portland for repairs. And there it still sits, as of this writing. 2months, (so far) of waiting in the service line for our turn and waiting for ordered parts has created this marathon.

Birthday celebrations passed without much fanfare. It was enough to just appreciate our health, each other, and family. Thanksgiving this year was a big gathering in Monterey with Marianne's side of the family. Christmas will be here at home with Gabby and the kids and sister Katinka and her family. The Trotter family live too far for frequent visits. Brian, Jen, and Rich are in CO, where Rich is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Colorado State U. Geoff, Suzanne, Ryan (15) and Sean (10) live in MD. Gabrielle and family are in Los Gatos, doing well with Sam (11) in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Ava (13) in 8<sup>th</sup>.

For more details to supplement this brief summary, go to our family diaries at <https://trotter.ws> You will enjoy John's written word and lots of photos.