



Kochert Kronicles

December, 1999

Another Year Goes By

**Steve Kochert
Jamie Kochert
Ashley Kochert
Joseph Kochert
Sandy Stidham**



Come On Down!
1307 Georgetown Court
Columbia, MO 65203
573.445.6605
bronchos@socket.net (Steven)
hotdogs@socket.net (Jamie)

Special points of interest:

- * Y2K affects Kochert household
- * High school graduate in year 2000
- * New driver in year 2000
- * We need your healing prayers for family members

It's so hard to believe that 1999 is almost over. The year has certainly flown by. We have been busy with the usual; home, kids, family and work.

Jamie's mother continued to live with us. For the most part, it has worked out well. You'd think after a year we'd have all of the bugs worked out, but we're still tinkering. Sandy is in relatively good health, but still complains about the smoking ban inside the house. This fall, she returned to work as a lunch room supervisor and began working as a school crossing guard for another elementary school in the area. She complains that this really wasn't what she had in

mind for her retirement, but it does keep her on her toes and she likes most of the kids.

The past year has also brought our own immor-talities to light as a brother-in-law faced the loss of a parent and a couple of family members are facing serious medical conditions that require our continuing prayers and positive thoughts.

Finally, as this year

comes to an end and the new year looms large, we prepare for our first born to leave the nest. It's very hard to believe that the time is almost here. While she is still weighing her options, it's looking like she may stay close to home.

Here's hoping that your year was both a healthy and happy one!



Steven and Jamie

Steven is still working as a Control Room Supervisor at the Callaway Nuclear plant. They just finished their refueling outage and we are finally getting to see some of him. He'll spend New Year's Eve in the control

room with all of the big wigs to make sure the plant survives Y2K.

Jamie continues to work part-time with Regional Economic Development, Inc. In addition, she has taken on the task of getting a web page up and

running for both her place of employment and the Hickman Touchdown Club (the football team booster club).

Not sure she knows what she's doing, but she certainly is working hard on it.

Kids

Ashley and Joseph...where to begin!

Ashley is in her last year of high school. Senior pictures have been taken and graduation announcements will soon be ordered. Most

of our time with her these days has been spent completing college applications. Most likely, she'll stay right here in Columbia and attend the University of Missouri. She recently an-



Class of 2000

nounced that she may not be as ready to leave home as she thought. We'll keep you posted!

She is still working too many hours at Wal-Mart during the school year, but you can't tell her anything.

Joseph is a sophomore this school year and has been adjusting nicely...knock on wood. Homework has been turned in and grades were great first quarter. In addition, Joseph played JV football for the high school, but it was not a stellar year. There was an ankle injury at the beginning of the season, two teams forfeited in the middle of the season so the team went a month

without a game, and the end of the season brought a broken hand. He has been extremely discouraged!

He got his learner's permit this summer and is really a pretty good driver. However, there is no doubt that a speeding ticket is in his future.

We'll see what next year brings for both kids!



Belize

This summer, the family took our dream vacation. We traveled to the small Central American country of Belize. BEAUTIFUL!

From the minute we stepped off of the plane, we were exposed to

a life we only heard existed. Joseph, in particular, was affected by the extreme differences in lifestyles. He could not believe people actually lived in houses with no running water or electricity. He was equally surprised that given the living conditions, the people were wonderful. They could not have been nicer.

Belize has the second longest coral reef in the world so Steven, Ashley and Joseph got in a lot of scuba diving. They ventured out with the sharks and rays and never blinked. The dive master even commented that he had never seen someone who attracted as many sharks as Ashley did. She didn't seem to mind.

Even in another country, Ashley managed to find eligible young men. She

had her hands full juggling several new acquaintances during the week, but Roberto was her favorite. Joseph, on the other hand, found the local girls were not allowed out in the evening. He had to be content visiting with other female tourists at the local night spot.

Jamie's only wishes on the trip were to relax and visit a Mayan ruin. She did both. We enjoyed quite the adventure getting to and from Lamani, a large ruin on the mainland. We had a two-hour boat ride on open waters and up a river through the mangroves to the small village of Bomba. We boarded a bus for a one-hour ride to



another river and finally another one-hour boat ride just to get to the ruins.

Suffice it to say, the food, beach, weather, diving, snorkeling, Mayan ruins, wildlife (Ashley had an up close and personal encounter with Carlos, the spider monkey), and hike through the rainforest were worth any obstacles we may have faced during the week. We can't wait to return!

Finally,

know that our thoughts are with you each and every day.

We offer and ask for your prayers for those in need of healing in the coming months.



Know that we wish each and every one of you good health, happiness, joy and peace in the coming new year.

Love,

\$ 146