

Merry Christmas, 2020



From left to right: Kainoa, Jesse, Eve, Jasmine, Josie, Sarah, Mabel, Avery, Kent (holding Bodhi), Mika, La'akea, Brian, Mary Lou, Badegech, Chris, Todd, Cori, Ana, and Zachary

2020 had so much promise. Holidays fell on weekends, our 50th wedding anniversary fell on a Saturday, it was our turn for a family Christmas in our home in Grass Valley, and we had plans for touring America in our overhead camper truck.



Jasmine, Mika, La'akea, Zacharie, Badegech



Avery, Mable, Bodhi, Josie



Mary Lou and Brian in Honolulu

We started the year by having a wood-cutting crew spend the day cutting, trimming, and clearing trees and brush to make our property more fire safe. That ended up being the major focus of our year...cutting up the felled wood, burning brush, and milling several oak logs into lumber. What else are you going to do when you are being sequestered from the rest of society?

In February, most of the family ventured to Hawaii to celebrate our grandson, La'akea getting married to Mika. We were on Oahu for about a week and had a grand time, just before the pandemic hit.



Brian and Mary Lou on a coastal trip.



Brian with ukulele for Hanne



A tree and a pine cone all dressed up for Halloween with no place to go!

This COVID thing messed up our plans for a U.S. tour, our wedding anniversary celebration, and our family Christmas. They all had to be virtual via Zoom. Mary Lou and I did get a nice visit to a high mountain lake on our anniversary, and we have discovered some great trails in the Sierras that are just in our “backyard.”



Claire, Kaitlyn, Gwen,
Shannon, Julia



Kainoa and Badegech



Josie, Mabel, Avery, Gwen, Julia, Bodhi, Claire

We haven't been completely holed up and kept from things. We were two of the few guests who attended our son Shannon's wedding to Kaitlyn. We've made day trips to most of our kids places, and we've gone up to visit Mary Lou's mother in Oregon.

Mary Lou has completed a couple of water colors paintings, and I have made a few ukuleles and other wood projects. We mostly cut and dragged wood up the hill and tried to keep our place “fire wise.” I made a few garden boxes from our trees and we had a nice crop of flowers and vegetables.

All of our kids are doing fine during these shutdowns. They are either essential workers or work from home. We try to stay safe, and we all look forward to when we can get together and have a make-up celebration. We are also looking forward to a 14th grandchild, a boy! (Shannon and Kaitlyn) and our first great-grandchild, Tatum (Hanne Mae and Brandon). Just call me Great Papa.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and stay safe. There is a light at the end of the tunnel, but we aren't there yet. :-)