

Dear Pat,

To have to be thinking of Jim Beech in the way we are today is unimaginable for all of us. Thoughts of Jim bring to mind gentle kindness, warm friendship and a genuine willingness to help others. As you and your families and friends know so well, Jim has always been there to share support and to solve challenges - especially computer challenges - for so many of us.

Nate and I met Jim soon after he fell in love with you, Pat, while he was a student in your Sign Language class at the Northern Virginia Community College. And, how well we remember young Jim Beech on the day of your wedding. He cut a pretty impressive figure wearing a bright white tuxedo...and a huge smile! Your life together has been a model of loving companionship, faith and dedication to each other and to your family and friends. As everyone here today knows, Pat, Jim wore his wedding day smile every moment he was married to you.

For many years, you and Jim have been substantial in the small circle of friends who have become *family* to us over the years. We've all enjoyed the holiday gatherings all these decades, since Elaine first signed *The Night before Christmas* for Betsy and Doug. Now, our intimate circle is suddenly shaken so very sadly. Two of our dearest *twinkles* have joined the sparkling stars in God's galaxy. We strive to find comfort wherever we can, even in sentiments like those expressed by Johnny Cash in song when his mother died so long ago, "Will [our] *circle be unbroken* bye and bye, Lord, *in the sky?*"



Nate and I love you so much, Pat. We pray you will be strengthened by all of the joyful memories you and Jim have shared together for thirty-four wonderful years, and the deep love of your family and many, many friends.