

4 Dec 94

1173 Rushbrooke Drive,
Oakville,
Ontario.

L6M 1H8

Dear ,

Once again, Christmas is providing a welcome excuse to break out of routine and write to you. How are you? A lot has happened to us since last year - a lot of it to Sue. In summary, Sue has moved jobs twice, had her gall bladder out, and bought a new car (a Honda Civic). We have sold a house and bought a house (with a months gap), and survived the move. Otherwise I don't think much has changed.

As we have told you, Sue was not at all happy with the atmosphere at Litton, so she moved to a small Company called "ISG." They worked in medical imaging, which is quite worthwhile and interesting. However they have their own rather special way of working, and this did not suit Sue. Anyway, she moved to "Spectra," who do software for stockbrokers. Her start with Spectra was not to auspicious, she was admitted to hospital on the day she was due to start! The evening of the following day they operated, and two days later she was back at home - minus her gall bladder. Three weeks after that she went in to work. All this was in October, and so far Spectra seems to suit Sue very well.

Wendy we saw little more than usual until a week ago when she moved back in with us - She had given notice on her apartment, but could not find a replacement. She is still with Price Club in Mississauga. This is not very far from my route home from work, and used to be near Sue's as well.

John is still plugging away at his fire fighting course, and has just successfully moved his apartment, at least we think so. We have not heard from him for a couple of weeks, and he has given up his phone for reasons of poverty. He now has a motorcycle, and that gets him between his apartment and Oakville - in Summer. It is now in our garage for the Winter. He could not get much work this summer - so we `employed' him around the house - getting it ready for sale mostly.

The weather has been quite reasonable, not too much rain, or too much heat, for a couple of years now - though last winter was bad. So far this winter has been unusually mild, although we did have a snap snow storm some weeks ago that was pretty bad.

Moving house has occupied most of the Summer, and the aftermath is still going on. You should have received details of addresses etc. from us earlier in the year. Having to keep our old house in `show' condition for many weeks on end was quite a drain on us. And we (Sue in particular) spent a long time looking at alternatives to buy.

We moved because we felt that our old house was taking to much of our time to maintain, and was gloomy inside. So our aim was to get a younger house, a smaller lot, no swimming pool, no large leaf and seed shedding trees, and

with more light inside. At the same time we felt that the area was very special, with its mature trees, open spaces, nice sight lines and plenty of birds and squirrels.

Our new house fulfils most of what we wanted, and on the whole we are very happy with the move, though of course we did not get everything we wanted. The area is nearer the main local highway, so is a little noisier (though quieter than most of Oakville.) There is a nice bank of trees behind us - far enough away that we get very few leaves, but near enough to get birds, squirrels, and at least one rabbit. There is no pool, and the lot is a nice size. The house is ten years old - about 30 years younger than the last one, and has much more light inside.

All our Love

Susan and Peter
Matthews