

# Kresha Kronicle

Volume 16 No.1 2503-8-St., Columbus, NE 68601 January-April, 1990

Febr. 19, 1990



Dear Family,

Thought I would write a few lines to tell you about our recent travels which took us the scenic way through the southwestern United States.

We started our trip at noon on January 24th. We took Highway 22 through Monroe, NE and then Highway 92 to Ogallala, NE. The Sandhills looked so different with the snow cover. They were really pretty. It made you feel like you were in the Mountains. (small scale, of course) It was dark by the time we stopped and stayed at Bridgeport, NE.

The next morning we drove to see Aunt Sophia Kresha in Mitchell, NE. They have had their share of snow and cold in the west. Time didn't permit going out to see Connie and Danny Schwab, but we had a nice visit over the phone. As we drove through Kimball, NE, we took a chance and hoped that Mary Lukassen would be home. She was, so we got to see her lovely home that she moved into last October. It's only a block from church. We had lunch together at the Holiday Inn. We went out to the farm and visited with David Lukassen.

When we went through Cheyenne, WY, we stopped to see Hans Boykin (88 years old). Hans had been a hired man for Melvin's folks for years. He and his wife were so pleased that we looked them up--even if it was for only half an hour.

We didn't get to Brighton, CO till 5:30. We stayed with Marilyn and Jim Ergers. She was one of the owners of the farm where I lived. Of course, this was the week-end of the Bronco Super Bowl game. The next day in town you had to wear something blue or orange, or else get pinched. So we had to replace our "GO BIG RED" outfits with BRONCO shirts and hats. They wanted us to stay for the game on TV, but that would have thrown our plans and schedule all off. As it was, we did check into a motel at Miami, Arizona, 35 miles from Phoenix, so we did get to see most of that sad game.

Back to Brighton. Called (Adrian's) Pat Kresha. She's a busy woman with work at school and her family. She works extra hours at school now, taking care of latch-key students till 5 or 5:30. We called Marcia and Merle Etter. Marcia was gone, but we had a nice visit with Merle.

On Saturday we left for Colorado Springs, CO and Mt. St. Francis Convent (which is Sister Dolores' Order). They have completely renovated the buildings so nothing was familiar to me except their beautiful Church. They have sold all their farm ground and now there are beautiful homes being built. The Catholics in that area rent the Church from the nuns. Our stay there was way too short, but I did get to see several of the nuns I knew and tour the place. The reason they renovated the whole place was to make money to keep the place going. They have an infirmary for the sick nuns and another floor for Public Nursing Care. There are bedrooms for people of any religious denomination who came to attend retreats. For those of you who have never been there, the Convent is located between the Air Force Academy and the Garden of the Gods. It is so peaceful there. I always did say it's as close to God as you can get on this earth.

We made it to Albuquerque, NM by 5 and attended Mass at our Lady of Guadalupe Church. I wish if, and when, St. Isidore's ever builds a church it could be styled like this one.

The next morning we went south to Socorro and took Highway 60 across the mountains. A prettier drive than if you took Interstate 40 ending up at Miami, AZ. (like I mentioned before) From there the next morning it was a short trip to Mesa, just east of Phoenix. We had a short visit in Mesa with Mrs. Pete Smagacz, my aunt by marriage. She moved to Mesa after she retired in Chicago. Like most people there, she has her lawn (yard) graveled. She has an orange and grapefruit tree which really produce. She wanted to give us a dozen of each fruit, but I knew better. At the California border they would have taken them away from us.

We called Andy Kresha (Glenn's son) and had a nice visit with him. We also called Kathy and Bob Mausbach (Charlie Kresha's daughter) but couldn't reach them. Kathy and Bob stopped to see us at Christmas time when they were in Nebraska.

While in Mesa we saw two other people from Columbus and Platte Center, NE. For two days Ray and Lois Nyffeler took us around the sights to be seen, including going to Sedona and Jerome, AZ--a ghost, copper-mining town.

One day Melvin and I went to Tucson, AZ and took in the tourist attractions and then went 20 miles south to Green Valley, AZ. Fifteen years ago this was just being developed. There were a few houses there and Melvin almost bought a place for \$21,000 for his winter home. The golf course was only 100 yards away, but since we aren't golfers what good would it do us? It is one of the nicer housing developments we saw down there, but I'll be happy to put up with Nebraska's four seasons. During the whole trip the weather wasn't all that great. Some days Nebraska had warmer weather than where we were. While we were in Phoenix they got over an inch of rain during the short while we were eating at Lawrence Welk's Resort. We took a city tour and saw where many of the stars live. (Like Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra) One of Liberace's houses was only a block away from the Catholic Church where his memorial services were held. After the tour we went back to this Church for Saturday evening Mass.

When we got to San Diego, it had finally warmed up. We took a City Tour, Harbor Tour, and a trip to Tiajuana, Mexico. They have cleaned up all those cardboard shacks that I saw years ago as I crossed the border. We stayed along the harbor in San Diego. The ship, Exxon Valdez, was in port for repairs. (That's the ship from the oil spill in Alaska.) You wouldn't believe what a wide ship that is! We passed by Huntington Beach the day before their oil spill. We spent two days at Aunt Ann Hensel's. It was a relaxing trip, and we got caught up on all the news. We also spent two days with Uncle Gerhart Kresha and Uncle George and Aunt Margaret Kresha. We went to Jerome's (Kresha) Nursery for Pistachio Trees. He has a new plastic greenhouse. They were busy planting the tiny seeds and sorting out the plants which were 2 or 3" tall. This was the first time we had the chance to meet Jerome's lovely wife, Rosa. She has gone to school to learn English and really speaks well. Wonder how many of us could do as well in such a short time? Melvin has a new fan--Ruth, Jerome and Rosa's little girl. They say she doesn't make up to everyone, but Melvin won her over right away. Maybe his having a granddaughter the same age helps. Uncle George gave us oranges and grapefruit which we shared with Sister Dolores (Smagacz). They really were good compared to what we buy here. Since we've been home I have talked to both Uncle George and Aunt Ann. They said the weather has really been lousy, so we got out there just in time.

We stopped in Las Vegas, NV to see our friends, Bob and Helen Kallweit, who spend the winter there. It was so nice. Her 3 sisters and brother from California were there, too, so we had a big reunion. We drove in a dust storm for 10 miles as we left Las Vegas. By the time we got halfway to Salt Lake City, UT, we ran into snow flurries. I had to laugh because this was my second time to Salt Lake City and both times I hit a snow storm so I still haven't toured the city. The next day all across Wyoming we drove on ice or snow-covered roads. We rolled with the traffic. We made it to Ogallala, NE. Overnight they got 3" of snow which Columbus had received, too. After being gone all this time, I wished that everyone could take a vacation. It makes you appreciate the comforts of home.

Ash Wednesday is just around the corner and then it will be Easter, so I'll include our wish to all of you for a Happy Easter!

DOLORES AND MELVIN WETGEN

NEW ADDRESSES:

Katie O'Brien  
1226 Goldfinch Drive #1  
Plant City, FL 33566

Jennifer Strauss  
312 Goldsworthy Hall  
Pullman, WA 99164



# Merry Christmas!!!!

Dear Family and Friends,

We hope that this letter finds everyone well & in the Christmas spirit. 1989 has been another busy & fun year for us, as we have had the opportunity to travel and experience many things this year.



Autumn, our two year old, continues to fascinate us, as she has grown so much the past year. She has developed quite a vocabulary for two. She tells us "I'm your sweetheart", when she is happy and "You go away!", when she's mad. She has made this holiday season a very special and enjoyable one. Autumn is into "Mickey & Minnie", playing with her dollies, having books read to her, dancing, and getting into trouble!

Autumn is in to "Disney", probably because this has been a Disney year for us. We went to Disney World twice this year, both times part of a business excursion of course. Our first visit in April, Autumn stayed home, but in September she got her first plane ride and saw "Mickey's House" when we went back. We took the video camera and have watched it "many times".

This past year, we also took our yearly ski trip to Colorado, last winter, with Pat & Chris Gabel, took Autumn to Denver to a Connecting Point Convention and saw the Garden of the Gods, the Air Force Academy and Central City, Kathie saw her first Nebraska football game live, and a Kansas City Chiefs Football game just recently, although I think she went for the shopping.

We also pitched in a little, helping with Tony's folks' farm sale and move into a new house this fall. It was a little sad to see all the equipment and farmstead sell, but change is inevitable and they have a very nice home in Osceola.

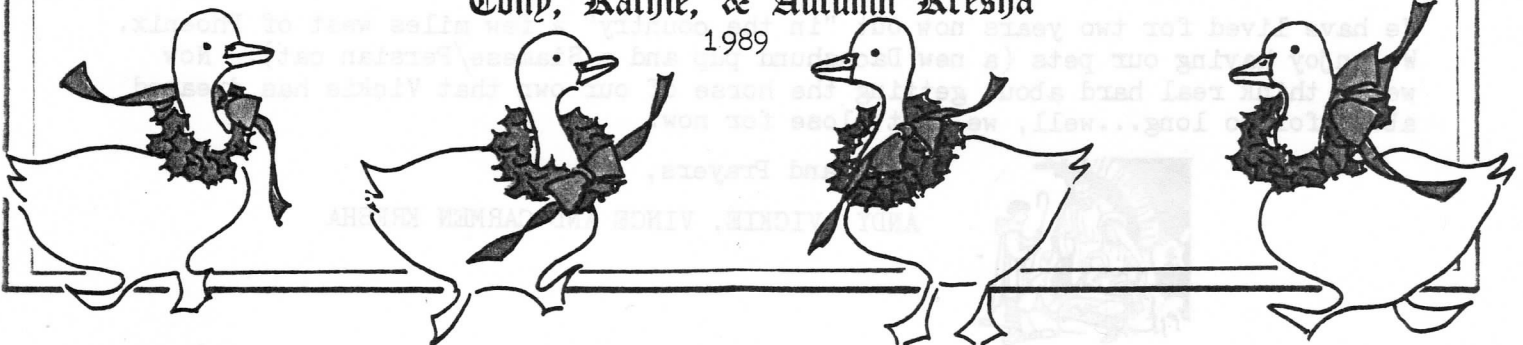
Tony still owns a computer retail store, Connecting Point, and a computer leasing company, Amerilease. We also have become landlords, purchasing some rental property across the street from us that went into foreclosure. We spent many hours this past summer, with the help of Kathie's folks, in cleaning, painting, etc. The work seems worthwhile, now that it is occupied and generating income. Tony also helped Aunt Lillian complete a family history book this past year. It took just a "few" hours at the computer and laser printer to complete, but seeing the finished product made the time rewarding.

Kathie is home, raising Autumn, and is "rental property manager". Those tasks and the household chores keep her busy. We still live out at the lake, which will finally be finished next summer. We are looking forward to not seeing a pumping dredge and pipe around the lake, but not the street paving assessment that also is coming!

It has been a great year for us, but the time seems to go so fast. It seems we never have enough time for all our friends family and each other. Our family wishes you a blessed and joyful holiday season and healthy and prosperous new year!

Tony, Kathie, & Autumn Kresha

1989



Christmas 1989

Dear Friends and Relatives,

MERRY CHRISTMAS! May you find a rebirth of Jesus in your life that creates a great joy in your life. May that joy and love touch everyone you meet, particularly the needy who wear the many faces of Jesus Christ today.

Vickie and I have enjoyed being involved in our parish as the infant Baptism instructors. We also are preparing children for First Communion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a part of the Sunday CCD program. I spend my Monday nights providing a bible study for prisoners at a State Prison near Phoenix. My work at Valley National Bank as a training and organizational development consultant is going well. I'm involved in helping managers with major changes to their departments, helping plan for implementation strategies, including any skill or training needs they have.

As for the lady of the house, she'll tell her story: I taught a summer vacation bible class to fourth and third graders at our parish. Things then started to heat up. The kids and I spent a lot of time together this summer. Outings to the library, swimming at the town pool, and mowing "mucho" grass on our acreage kept us busy. Things got even "hotter" one Sunday. It was my turn for disaster. On August 27, I went for an early morning horseback ride on a neighbor's horse, which I had been riding for some time. I never finished the ride, he finished it for me. He spooked at another horse and then bucked me off. I suffered a broken arm at the shoulder, had surgery to put a pin and two screws in, and began physical therapy to regain movement in my left, "good" arm. Oops, forgot to tell you how painful it was! I've had to learn to use my arm all over again because all my muscles had "shut down". While exercising, a screw came loose, and NOT IN MY HEAD! So back to surgery AGAIN! The surgeon took the pin out and so my muscles shut down again and I had to start physical therapy all over again. I'm still trudging to the physical therapist a couple times a week. Now I'm able to reach the top of my head, comb my hair and put light weight items in lower cupboard shelves. Still have a way to go; my prospects are good for regaining 80 to 90% of my movement back. My family had to take over housekeeping for a while and were pretty terrific about it. I discovered one important fact: that my family has loved and cared for me during the hard times and that it is more important than anything else in the world (along with good health). The love Jesus has for me was always there, too.

As for our children--Vincent is growing up fast (at age 9). Dad and Vincent are enjoying football and soccer together. Vince loves to read and is into "Great Brain" books by John D. Fitzgerald and anything that will help him improve his art and drawing skills. Carmen is 7 and now almost as tall as Vince. She is loving Barbie dolls, playing cards with the family, and "teaching school" in her play-house to neighbor girls.

Vickie has really spent a lot of time encouraging and tutoring our children's reading and other school skills, with impressive results. Carmen has moved from mostly B's on her report card to mostly A's. Vincent has continued to improve his reading and math and is getting mostly A's, too.

We have lived for two years now out "in the country" a few miles west of Phoenix. We enjoy having our pets (a new Dachshund pup and a Siamese/Persian cat). Now we'll think real hard about getting the horse of our own that Vickie has dreamed about for so long...well, we must close for now.



Love and Prayers,

ANDY, VICKIE, VINCE AND CARMEN KRESHA

Dear Friends and Relatives.

The past year has been a mixed one for me — some very happy events and some unhappy ones.

I completed the move to Colorado from Iowa early in the year, coming a little sooner than I had expected after my mother fell and had to have a shoulder joint replacement in January.

I have spent much of the year working on my parents' home here and winter has come and I'm still not done.

I bought The Fruita Times Aug. 1, so am back in newspapering — in fact back to the paper Pat and I first bought in 1957, and things are going fairly well.

Mom fell again in September and broke her hip. She has made a good recovery, but still suffers from a great deal of mental confusion and memory loss and now needs someone with her most of the time.

My dad had failed considerably in the past year or two, and died on Dec. 8 after being in the VA Hospital Nursing home a little over four years.

My kids are doing okay. Karen and her family are here now and the others are all planning to come for Christmas.

Joe still works for the optical company in Denver. Teri survived the earthquake in San Francisco and is now an advertising copy writer for a furniture company. Karen

is kept busy caring for my granddaughter, Donegal (name changed from Agave), while her husband attends college at Olympia WA. Gloria was married to Brett Beckfield in June at Fonda IA and we were all there for the wedding. They now live at Ft. Madison IA where Gloria is a reporter for the newspaper and Brett is an engineer for the Dial Corp.

*Let the magic of Christmas bless one and all with the spirit of brotherhood.*

*Dene Thomas*



### The Rev. Monsignor Alphonse J. Lisko

DAVID CITY — The Rev. Monsignor Alphonse J. Lisko, 75, of David City, died Monday, Feb. 26, 1990, at David City.

Funeral services are 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in David City. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

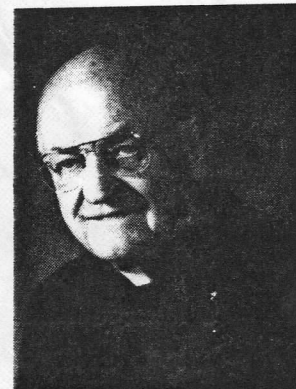
Visitation will begin at 2 p.m. Friday at the church. There will be a 7 p.m. wake servie, followed by a Knights of Columbus Rosary on Friday at the church.

Monsignor Lisko was born Nov. 27, 1914, in Osceola, the son of Louis B. and Anna Marie (Sak) Lisko. He was dean of the David City Deanery and was pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church for 38 years.

Surviving are four brothers, Frank of Osceola, Edwin, Bernard and Eugene, all of Omaha; three sisters, Loretta Cockson of David City, and Helen Binder and Rose Merten, both of Omaha.

Memorials may be directed to St. Mary's School or Aquinas Endowment.

Knott Funeral Home in David City in charge of arrangements.



You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 5:6

# Floyd R. Thomas



Floyd R. Thomas, 94, of 306 Pine St., Grand Junction CO, died Friday, Dec. 8, 1989, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center Nursing Home in Grand Junction where he had been a resident since 1985. Floyd Rush Thomas was born Aug. 29, 1895, at Tower Field Thomas. He attended Towner School through grade 11 then attended Holly High School at Holly CO for his senior year and graduated from that school in June, 1913. Mr. Thomas first came to the Western Slope in 1914 at the age of 19, where he did orchard and general farm work for

Arthur Swartzlander at the Wyoming Orchard Co. a mile east of Loma CO. He worked at Bingham Canyon UT during the winter of 1916. He enlisted in the US Army in 1917 and served 29 months. He was a private first class in the 1st US Cavalry. He returned to Loma in 1919 and then in 1920 filed homestead papers on a farm in the New Liberty district northwest of Mack CO. He moved onto the land in 1921 and began construction of the buildings and irrigation system. He lived on the farm until selling it in 1955, engaging in general farming

and livestock.

Mr. Thomas was married to Marjorie Estellene Morrow, daughter of other New Liberty homesteaders John B. and Margaret Morrow, on Dec. 20, 1930, at Fruita CO with Rev. J. Edwin Elder officiating.

The couple moved to Grand Junction in 1956. Mr. Thomas worked as a nursing attendant at the State Home at Grand Junction from 1956 until 1963, then as a custodian at the Mesa County Courthouse in Grand Junction until retiring in 1970.

Mr. Thomas had served on the New Liberty School Board and the Fruita Union High School Board. He had attended Columbus Evangelical Free Church near his home on Orchard Mesa. His memberships included the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of World War I, the Public Employees' Retirement Assn. of Colorado and the American Assn. of Retired Persons.

He enjoyed reading science and medieval and ancient history, and, as long as he was able, raising flowers and working around his home and yard.

Survivors include Mrs. Thomas of the home; two sons, Hubert Eugene Thomas of 308 Pine St., Grand Junction CO 81503, and Curtis E. Thomas of 531 1/2 Placer Dr., Grand Junction CO 81504; a daughter, Alice Kathleen Pershing and her husband, Jay Pershing, of 348 Homestead Rd., Elizabeth CO 80107; a

grandson, Joe Thomas of Denver CO; three granddaughters, Teri Thomas of Foster City CA, Karen Higgins and husband, Shawn Higgins, of Olympia WA, and Gloria Thomas and husband, Brett Beckfield of Ft. Madison IA; a stepgrandson, Jim Pershing of Denver; a stepgranddaughter, Cheryl Pershing of Denver; a great granddaughter, Donegal Higgins of Olympia WA; four nephews, Bernard Wagner of Coolidge KS, Donald Wagner of Holly CO, Paul Wagner of Coolidge and Lawrence "Buster" Wagner of Hoisington KS, and a niece, Barbara Clifton of Denver.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Charles Thomas and David Thomas, and a sister, Olive Wagner.

Funeral services were held at Martin Mortuary in Grand Junction on Monday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m. with Pastor Jack Olsen of Columbus Evangelical Free Church officiating and Pastor Mac Wiener assisting. Burial was in Memorial Gardens of the Valley Cemetery at Grand Junction.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Disabled American Veterans or Columbus Evangelical Free Church in care of Martin Mortuary, 550 North Ave., Grand Junction CO 81501.

February 15, 1990

Thank You!

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you all for your prayers and concern for my little grandson, Chance James Bauman. Please continue to remember him and his parents in your prayers. Patsy his mother, started to have pregnancy complications before Christmas and stayed off her feet. Several days before Chance was born Patsy was rushed to the hospital in Cheyenne, where she was stabilized, when the weather cleared (snow storm) she was air lifted to St. Lukes hospital, Denver where he was born, (Jan. 20) then taken to Children's hospital where he has been since. He weighed 1 lb. 6 1/2 oz. His parents usually see him once a week and call daily to get the latest info. from his assigned nurse. Last Friday when I saw him he weighed a bit over 2 lbs. We're hoping all goes well and he will be home by May 10, which was his due date.

Well, the seed corn salesmen are out doing their thing, that means spring is just around the corner. This year we're going to plant some sunflowers again.

Cattle prices were good earlier, we had some on that market and some were sold after the market started down. Calving has been going quite well, we haven't had our spring blizzard ----yet.

Sending my love to you all,

Mary



Febr. 20, 1990

Dear Family,

We are finally feeling better after the flu. I don't have much pep yet, but I do as much as my strength will allow. 'Hope the flu escaped most of our family.

How many of you use the KRESHA FAMILIES IN AMERICA book as a reference book? Recently, I looked up one of my brothers to see how old he was. Once I refered to it to find the date of someone's birthday.

In January we went on a sightseeing trip to points south. We went as far as Center, Texas, then the fog closed in on us so we went east into Louisiana. We love to drive in a National Forest. The trees are so tall and close together. Arkansas and Missouri were nice, too. They get more rain down there. We saw many pretty scenes, enjoyed the country, and arrived home rested.

Harold is busy remodeling an old farmhouse. He'll either rent it out or sell off an acreage. That has kept him busy all winter.

Was anyone lucky enough to have the pretty goldfinches spend the winter in their yard? We had two pair. They didn't have their yellow feathers. How they love to eat African Thistle seed!

We are looking forward to the Kresha Reunion in June. It is so nice to see all of you even though we don't find time to visit with each of you personally.

May the joys of spring and the blessing of the Risen Christ be with all of you.

Love and prayers,

HAROLD AND LILLIAN WITULSKI

December, 1989

Dear Relatives and Friends,

May the light of Bethlehem  
shine in your heart  
and bring you joy.

Sorry this is late, but we wish you all a lot of love, joy, happiness and good health in the "1990's".

Love to all,

THE SMITHS

RONNIE, ROMONA AND FAMILY



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Just a reminder. The Kresha Reunion will be held at 12 noon on Sunday June 10, 1990. (East shelter, Pawnee Park, Columbus, NE) Mark your calendars now! More about this in the next issue.

Please note on the last page of this issue is a Kresha Ancestry Book order form. Lillian and Tony inform me that they do have extra copies available for those who still want a copy or who need additional copies. The books will also be available at the Kresha picnic. Cost is \$38.

I am sorry, but I don't have the list of paid subscribers ready this time as I had promised.

GOD LOVE YOU!

*Elaine*

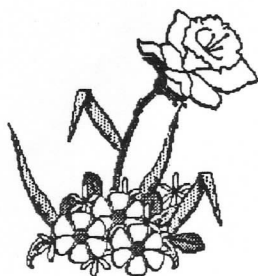
**Eva S. Kresha**

COLUMBUS — Eva S. Kresha, 97, formerly of Osceola, died Saturday afternoon, April 14, 1990, at Morys Haven in Columbus.

Funeral services are pending.



## Where the Shadows Meet



Once more young April stirs our hearts—  
The fields, late fallow, now are green;  
From bud and root a new life starts,  
And in the garden here is seen  
A golden-chaliced daffodil.

In leafy glades the thrushes spill  
Their song of rapturous delight;  
No more the winter's icy chill  
Can mar our joy with sudden blight,  
For Spring, with sandals on her feet,

Steps lightly where the shadows meet...  
Long shadows through the purple haze.  
Again the quickening pulses beat  
As down the passing years we gaze,  
While Time on winged feet departs,  
And it is April in our hearts.



## The Kresha Families in America 1888-1988

### Book Order Form

- \* Complete History Of Kresha Ancestry
- \* Lots of Family Pictures, stories & Documents
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- \* A must for every Kresha Decendant
- \* Includes Kuhnel & Karges Families
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Mail this form or call:

Lillian Witulski  
Rt. 2 Box 181  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
(402)228-0633

or

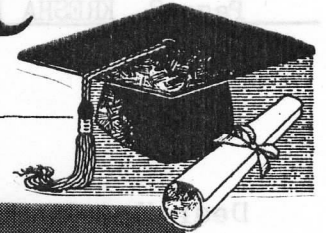
Tony Kresha  
Rt. 2 Clear Lake  
Columbus, NE 68601  
(402)563-4294

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ books at \$36 \_\_\_\_\_ Total

# Kresha Kronicle

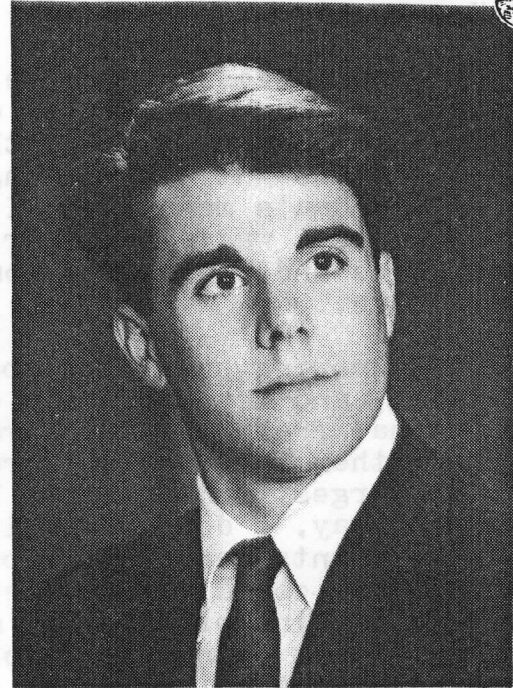
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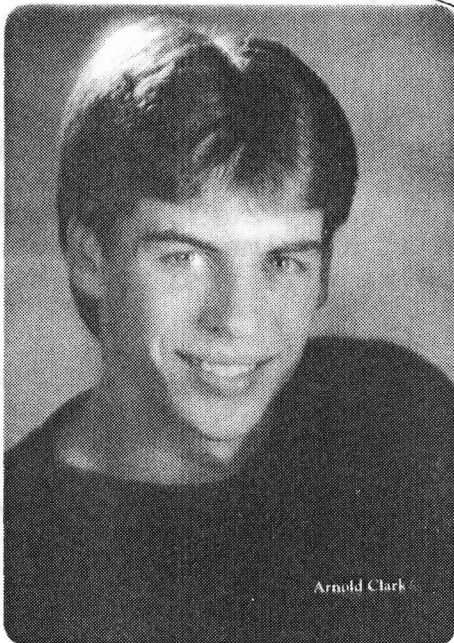
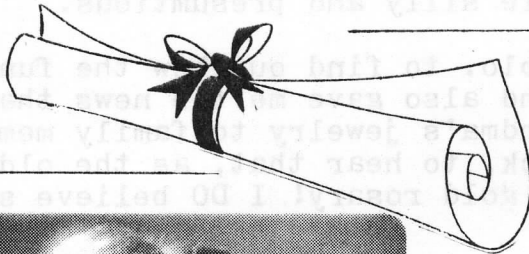


Jeff Kresha

JEFF is the son of Dennis and Carolyn Kresha and the grandson of the late John and Carolyn Kresha. Jeff is a May 20, 1990 graduate of Scotus Central Catholic High School, Columbus, NE



ROSS GABRIEL, son of Dr. William and Dian Kresha Gabriel and grandson of Art and Irene Kresha, graduated from Breck High School June 7, 1990 in Minneapolis, Minn. Ross was an honor student and participated in varsity track, wrestling and swim teams. In track Ross was a pole vaulter and ran in the 400 meter relay team. He was also active in the Chess Club and Key Club. Ross received a scholarship to Creighton University and was accepted to several other colleges. He chose to attend St. Olaf undergraduate college this fall, near Minneapolis.



MATTHEW THOMAS O'BRIEN, son of Tom and Mary O'Brien, and grandson of Lillian Kresha Witulski, graduated on May 19, 1990 from Connestoga High School in Plattsmouth, NE.

JOLENE MARIE KRESHA, daughter of Martin and Elaine Kresha graduated on May 11, 1990 from Central Community College, Columbus, NE with a Graduate Practical Nurse (GPN) Degree. In October she will take her state boards. After successful completion of the exams, she will be a Licensed Practical Nurse. (LPN) In the fall Jolene will attend the College of St. Mary in Omaha, NE.



May 15, 1990

Dear Kresha Kin,

My condolences to all the relatives of Eva who will miss her dearly. I was not able to come to her funeral, but I heard it was very nice, even with all the driving around. Thanks to Rita for all her thoughtful planning and I look forward to the tape she made of Grandma's memories. I used to correspond with my Grandma, I guess since I was a teenager, and I miss that unmistakable sound of her voice and laugh, her common sense advice, and the wit she used to have.

Just knowing something about her life-long faith, many church activities, and her suffering during the last years, I felt certain that she had probably gone straight to Heaven. At Medugorje, Our Blessed Mother told the children that most souls go to purgatory, the next largest number go to hell, and only a few can go right to Heaven. Anyway, I don't know if our family in Heaven can "hear us", as famous saints seem to do, but I prayed to God that Grandma, also my Godmother, could somehow let me know that she was indeed in Heaven. All I could think of, was that maybe the rosary she had given me many years ago might change to a goldish color, as the rosary I took to Medugorje did. And I did feel a little silly and presumptuous.

On Weds. I called my Mom from Colo. to find out how the funeral went. She told me all the details, and also gave me the news that they had decided to give some of Grandma's jewelry to family members as keepsakes. Imagine my joy, and shock, to hear that, as the oldest grandchild, I will get Grandma's old gold rosary! I DO believe she made it!

We are looking forward to summer vacation, and planning some sports and "classes", especially to keep an active 6½ yr. old Zach from dying of boredom... We will have to leave for the Kresha Reunion the day after our last work day. In late July, daughter Jennie may come for a visit with some friends, or else in early Aug., join us in Florida. We exchanged for a time-share condo at Kissimee, Fla. near Disneyworld. Murl's mother is coming too, and we will visit her sister and family near Atlanta, Ga.

For Mother's Day I got an 8' windmill for our garden which stands by our storage shed with a barn design door. Now when my corn gets tall all the neighbors will recognize us as true city-farmers at heart!

I pray for good health and lots of rain for all.

Love, Marcie, Murl & Zachary Etter



## IN MEMORY

EVA F. KRESHA



Eva F. Kresha, 97, died April 14, 1990, at Mory's Nursing Home in Columbus, NE. The daughter of Martin and Amelia Scholz Karges, she was born December 12, 1892 near Silver Creek, NE.

She married Adolf Kresha, Sr. in Duncan, NE, June 24, 1918. She lived in Osceola, Holdrege, and Columbus, NE. She was a member of Christian Mothers, 3rd Order of St. Francis and St. Andrew's Altar Society.

Survivors include four sons, Martin, Arthur, Charles and Wilfred, all of Columbus. Three daughters, Lillian (Mrs. Harold) Witulski of Beatrice, Mary Lukassen of Kimball and Rita Kresha of Sacramento, CA; three stepsons, Adolph Kresha of Osceola, George and Mike Kresha of Bakersfield, CA; two stepdaughters, Sophia Kresha of Mitchell, NE and Ann Hensel of Reseda, CA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, two sons, Walter and Adrian Kresha, two daughters, Amelia (Millie) Lukassen, and Patricia Thomas, three stepsons, Frank, Leo, and John Kresha, two stepdaughters, Cecelia Smagacz and Rose Hilger.

Services were held Tuesday afternoon, April 17, 1990 at St Isidore's Catholic Church in Columbus, NE. Father Ed Scdoris officiated, assisted by Father Floyd Wessling and Father John Howe. Burial was in St. Andrew's Cemetery, rural Osceola, NE.

Pallbearers were grandsons, Tim Lukassen, Callen Lukassen, Ed Kresha, Jim Kresha, Kenneth Kresha and Larry Kosch.



EVA KRESHA --December 12, 1888  
96 years old.

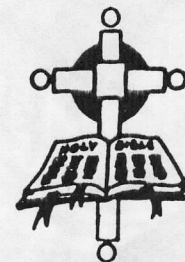
(Photo courtesy-Margaret and George Kresha--June 1988)

### PSALM 90

Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.  
Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

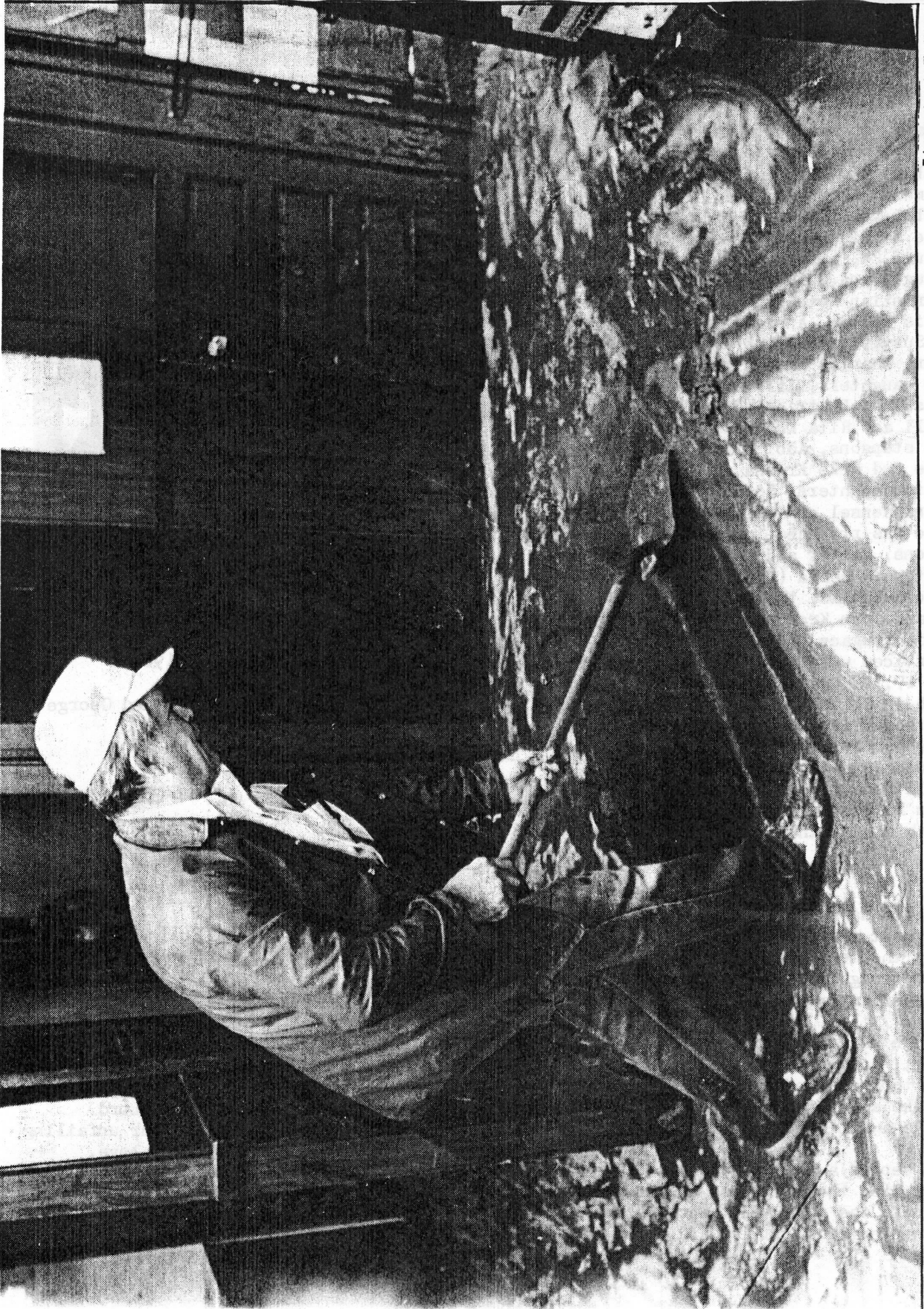
You turn us back to dust,  
saying, "Return to dust, O sons and daughters of men."  
For a thousand years in your sight  
are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away in the sleep of death;  
we are like the new grass of the morning--  
though in the morning it springs up new,  
by the evening it is dry and withered.



Have compassion on your servants, Lord.  
Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing  
love,  
that we may sing for joy and be glad all  
our days.

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us;  
establish the work of our hands for us--  
yes, establish the work of our hands.



Telegram photo by Tim Hynds  
6/14, 15/1990

**CLEANING OUT THE BUSINESS** — Bill Kresha mans a scoop shovel while cleaning mud and debris off the tile floor of the Huddle Bar in Platte Center's business district. Flood waters ravaged businesses and farms in the area.

The reunion of descendants of Adolf Kresha was held at the Pawnee Park East Shelter in Columbus, NE on Sunday, June 10, 1990. Hosts and Hostesses for this year were

## Family Reunion

Jim and Kristi Becker of Madison, and Mick and Nancy Bender of Humphrey.

Attending the reunion were Bill and Ursula Kresha, Charlie and Lucy Kresha, Dolores and Melvin Wetgen, Florence Jarecke, Tom, Joanna, Karla and Scott Jarecke, Martin, Elaine, Jolene and Colleen Kresha, Tony, Kathie, and Autumn Kresha, Greg Jarecke and Kim Vogt, all of Columbus; Andrea, Jackie and Nicole Preister, Jim, Kristi and Jennifer Becker of Madison; Mick, Nancy, Ross and Kristen Bender of Humphrey; Rose Kresha and Adolph Kresha of Osceola; Ronnie, Romona, and Roger Smith of Shelby; Bonnie Kobza of Bellwood; Bob, Sue, Matt and Beth Hilger of David City; Kristi Kresha of Genoa; Rhonda, Fred, Travis and Taylor Simpson of Hickman; Harold and Lillian Witulski of Beatrice; Larry Kosch and Rose Porter of Lincoln; Curt Lukassen of Brighton, CO; Murl, Marcie and Zach Etter of Lafayette, CO.

Host couples for the 1991 reunion, to be held the second Sunday in June (June 9) at the Pawnee Park East Shelter in Columbus, NE are Tony and Kathie Kresha of Columbus, and Hank and Bonnie Kobza of Bellwood.

Karen and Shawn Higgins  
of Olympia, Washington  
announce the birth of a daughter  
Lily Colleen

born at 6:04 a.m. Tuesday, June 5, 1990  
at St. Peter's Hospital, Olympia  
weighing 8 lbs., 4 oz.  
and measuring 20 3/4 inches long

Grandparents are:

Gene Thomas of Grand Junction, Colorado  
Barbara Higgins of Seattle, Washington  
and Dan Higgins of Snohomish, Washington

Colleen joins her 1 1/2 year-old  
sister Donegal at home



Telegram photo by Linda Grinbergs

**WITH A SONG IN YOUR HEART** — Erma Jones and Jim Treadway, standing, and Ila Kresha, sitting, perform a few old favorites with the Heartwarmers for residents at Osceola's Good Samaritan Center.

### CARD SHOWER REQUEST

**50th Wedding  
Anniversary  
July 27, 1990**

**LESTER & LOUELLA  
JONES KROPACH**

3531 West 82nd Place  
Inglewood, CA 90305

July 21, 1990

Dear Family,

We enjoyed the Kresha reunion on June 10. We only wish that more of the relatives could have been there. It was great to see and visit with those who did attend.

School will be starting again sooner than I want it to. The summer went so fast. I did accomplish a lot, but I will run out of time before I run out of work that needs to be done.

Patrick came home from Nevada on May 18 to attend his 10th class reunion. He was here for two weeks. It was good to see him, even though we had just seen him in December. He is still working at Hoover Dam in Nevada. He has recently gone through evaluation and received another promotion. He also just completed a week of intensive CRE training. We are proud of his accomplishments!

Kenneth, Star and Kristi live in Genoa, NE. Kenneth works at Mahoney Sales and Service in St. Edward, NE. He has been employed there for five years. Star is presently a homemaker and a full-time wife and mother. This fall she will become a part-time student. She will be taking some computer classes at Platte College in Columbus. Kristi will turn 17 months old on August 5. She keeps everyone hopping.

Bernard is employed as a mechanic at Bill's Volume Sales in Central City, NE. They sell and repair farm equipment. He likes his work.

Jolene graduated as a GPN on May 11, 1990. Her future plans include attending the College of St. Mary in Omaha, NE this fall. She will graduate from there with an RN degree in the Spring of 1992. She is attending summer school and doing clinical rotations at a rest home in Columbus and hospitals in both Columbus and Grand Island, NE.

Colleen is also attending summer school, but she is at Creighton University. She is taking classes and doing her pharmacy internship at various pharmacies in the Omaha and Council Bluffs, IA area. In October she will be going to Pine Ridge, South Dakota for a month, getting experience at the clinic on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. She is looking forward to the different experiences. She will graduate in May, 1991, with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Lois is working at Appleton Electric here in Columbus. She plans to return to Platte College this fall as a part-time student. She will keep her job at Appleton.

Martin makes a round trip from Columbus to the farm each day. (Sometimes more than once a day) He is on the road a lot, but I think he enjoys it. City living is still not his favorite thing. Living in town is OK, but I miss the peace and quiet of the country.

Martin and Elaine are both still pretty healthy in spite of their occasional aches and pains that accompany old age.

Time to run. It would be nice to hear from lots of you in the next Kronicle.

Love,  
MARTIN AND ELAINE KRESHA AND FAMILY

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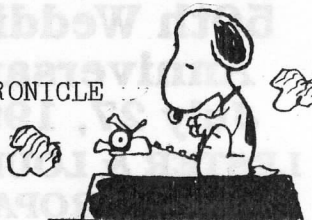
#### EDITOR'S NOTE

Try to have your information for the next KRONICLE in to me by August 20th.

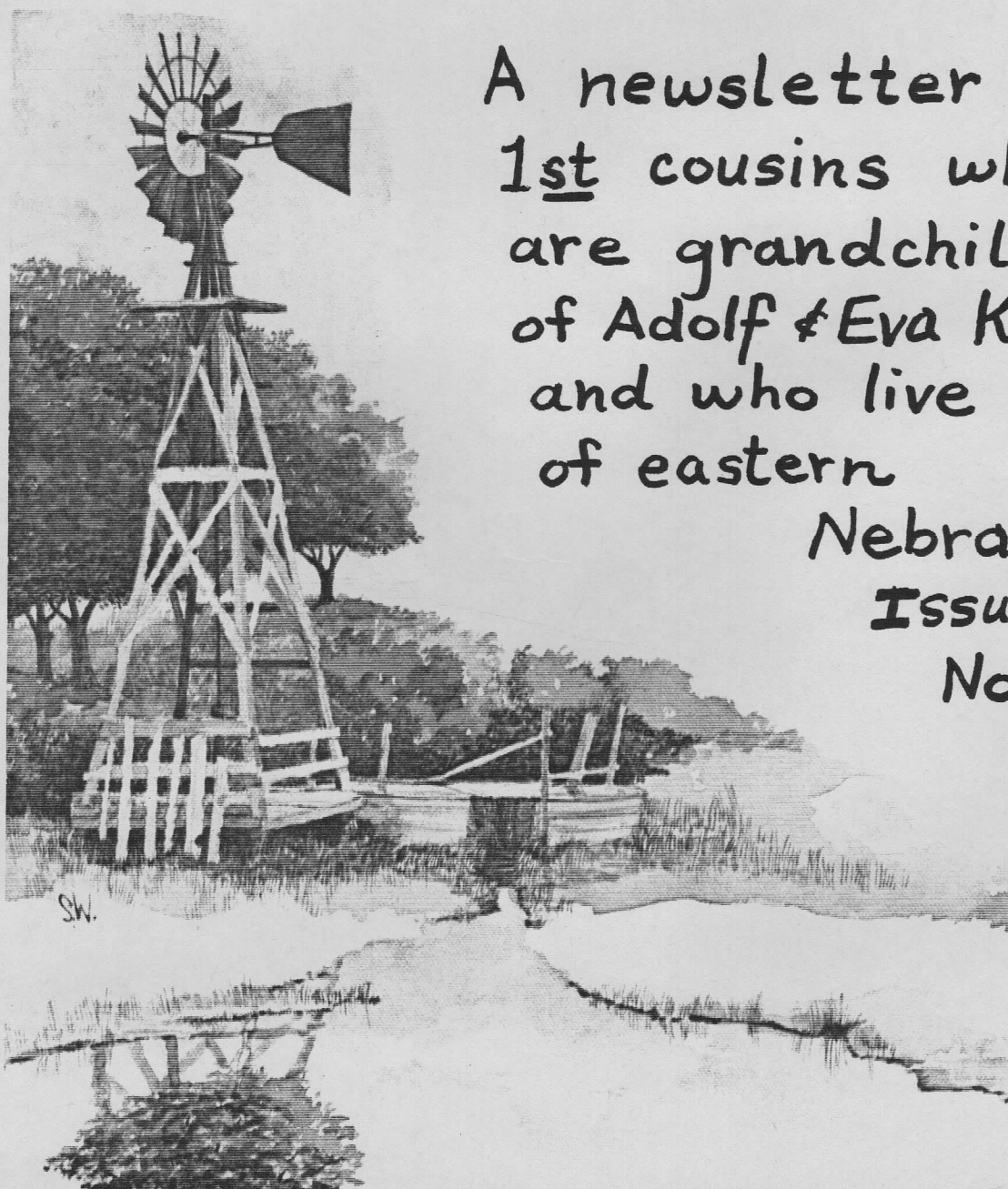
If you have any corrections for the KRESHA FAMILY BOOK, send them along, too. I have some already that I will be printing next time.

Thank You for your cooperation!

ELAINE



# WESTERN COUSINS



A newsletter for  
1st cousins who  
are grandchildren  
of Adolf & Eva Kreska  
and who live west  
of eastern

Nebraska -  
Issue # 1

Nov. 1990





Nov. 7, 1990

Dear Family and Cousins,

Hi from Ft. Lupton Colorado. I would like to thank Marie on this great idea and for making it a reality. Right now I live in Brighton but will soon be moving back north to Ft. Lupton. I teach and coach in the Fort Lupton Public School System. About one year ago I began dating Karen Clark of Ft. Lupton. We had known each from church and a committee at the parish. We started as friends and fell in love. I proposed in July and we will be married December 29th in Ft. Lupton. Karen has two children, Troy and Miki. Karen works as a Travel Agent and as a CPA's Assistant. She's a very hard worker, active in church, and loves the mountains and exercise. Miki is 16 and loves to swim around being productive as a student. Troy <sup>(15)</sup> also enjoys school and plays football, basketball, and baseball. They have all been to my cabin near Westcliffe and find it as a great escape from the busy Front Range of Colorado.

This year I have been teaching Social Studies along with Science at the 8th Grade level. We all plan to stay where we are school and job wise after the wedding. Our new home will probably be a rental in the Ft. Lupton school district. Maybe next summer we will take a family vacation northwest (Yellowstone or even Alaska).

Love, Curt, Karen, Troy & Miki

P.O. Box 268  
Ft Lupton, Co 80621

Joe Thomas  
308 Pine  
Grand Jet, CO 81503  
(303)242-2292  
November 6, 1990

Hi Cousins!

I am Patricia's son, Joe, living here in Grand Junction, CO, with my father, Eugene Thomas, and my grandmother, Estellene Thomas. I have three sisters, Teri (Teresa) & her boyfriend Mike in San Francisco; Karen & her husband Shawn & her two daughters Donegal and Colleen near Seattle; and Gloria and her husband Brett in Iowa.

I am single now, no children, and moved here to care for my grandmother and write a science fiction novel, which I have just started. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to everyone!



Joe Thomas hugging  
Aunt Sophie Kresha  
(1985)

Lord,  
Bless our  
harvest!



Love,

Joe Thomas



Curt Lukassen with his fiancée  
Karen & her children Miki  
& Troy (Oct. 1990)



November 15, 1990

Dear Cousins:

Hello from sunny California! I'm now living in Foster City, a suburb of San Francisco, with my boyfriend, Mike Mahan. We've been living here for about a year, in a nice house with two room-mates and Toby, my lovable cat.

I had been working as an advertising writer but got laid off in September. I worked at the corporate headquarters of a retail furniture chain which was taken over by new owners who laid off the credit and advertising departments in order to cut costs. So I've been furiously looking for another good job and doing some "temping" as a word processor in the meantime.

Mike is going for his real estate license in order to become a loan broker. We hope the recession isn't going to get much worse, or he won't be able to broker any loans! I guess the east and west coasts are faring worse economically right now because we have a more service-oriented economy than the Midwest, and services seem to suffer first during recessions. We may end up moving to Seattle. It seems to be the next boom area.

I just read over the preceding paragraphs and realized we sound like yuppies! We're not really. I drive a beat-up 1978 Toyota, and we don't play golf or tennis. Actually I guess we could be classified as couch potatoes, since we love to watch rented movies all the time. But we're trying to adopt a more active lifestyle before the effects of aging get too out of hand. There's a nice walking path near our home that goes along the bay, and we try to walk at least half an hour a day. We've also cut a lot of the fat out of our diets.

We try to take advantage of the many cultural opportunities in San Francisco, especially theatre. One of Mike's friends, James, is an actor who gets us free or half-price tickets to a lot of plays. We even helped James as stage hands in *Dracula*, which was a blast. We had to wear all black as we crept on stage in the dark to move chairs and things. Between acts we dismantled these big gothic "flats" (they make up the walls of the set) and put others up. At the end we brought out the coffin for Dracula to rise from. It was fun but lots of work! We decided to stay in the audience after that.

I'm also into photography and painting and want to make handmade greeting cards as a cottage industry. My photographs aren't quite up to par yet (I'm a perfectionist), but they're getting a lot better. I like to create abstract designs and work with unusual lighting, so it's kind of hard to capture. You really have to fool the camera.

Well, I'm looking forward to seeing what all you cousins are up to! Many thanks to Marcie for her efforts at getting us all together. Maybe I'll see some of you at a reunion sometime.

Teri Thomas • 989 Flying Fish St. • Foster City, CA 94404 • 415/572-8660



## Western Cousins,

Greetings from Wyoming! I'm the fourth of six children born to Mary (Kuska) Lukassen & the late Howard Lukassen. I live with my husband John, on a ranch about 40 miles southeast of Cheyenne, WY. In fact, the Colorado state line is only 1 mile south of our home.

John is involved with his family's ranching operations of registered Charolais cattle, alfalfa, corn & wheat. They run about 300-400 cows and sell to both commercial & purebred breeders. Dec 5, we will be hosting our annual bull sale & Jan. 15 a female sale at Bennett, CO during the Denver Stock Show. The Baumans also take their "show" cattle to various livestock shows (John is in Louisville at the National Show now) & also have an embryo transfer program using the best cows as donors. John tries to make time for team roping - his favorite extracurricular activity.

We have two children who keep me very busy. I try to fit gardening & sewing in here and there.

Our oldest child is Kassi, who is 3½ yrs. She is busy playing dolls, kitchen, being a big sister & a very good helper for me. This summer she became the proud owner of a Shetland pony. Her Dad will have her competing in the "cans" (barrel racing) sooner than Mom can imagine.

Chance, is our new addition to the family. As many of you know he is quite a miracle. Chance was born premature in Jan. at just 25 gestation weeks at a delicate 1½ pounds. He spent 4 very long months at Denver's Childrens Hospital before coming home May 11, just 3 days after his original due date. God has really helped him avoid major-major problems thus far. Chance had cryo surgery for his ~~textus~~ tetrapathy. He seems to see well but how well will be determined when he is older. Chance has physical therapy every 2 weeks as in progressing on track for a 6 month old - ~~what is~~ what his gestational age is. Now he weighs 16 pounds and rolls both directions - sitting is the next goal. He is working on cutting teeth by chewing on everything in sight and of course he loves his big sister.

Kassi is getting Christmas fever with all the Christmas decorations out in the stores. She has been asking some inquisitive questions that are going to make a interesting Christmas. We plan to spend Christmas with the Lukassens this year. We wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season filled with memories and a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

Luv-n-Happy Thanksgiving too!

Patsy, John

Kassi & Chance Bauman



2920 Ute  
Canon City, Co 81212

Dear Western Cousins,

Holiday Greetings from Canon City. This is a great idea to keep in touch with each other without having to write! Thanks, Marcie, for this chance!

Were living here in Canon City, just as we have since we got married 24 years ago. Talk about settled! John has worked at Safeway, Canon City, for 24 years, too! His spare time is spent doing what ever is in season-- hiking, fishing, skiing in the mountains. We have some of the greatest very close. We're both Bronco fans, since they started, but this year I dont know what to say about them.

Our daughter, Johnna, 23, is a graduate of Ft. Lewis College, Durango, Colorado in 1989. She's in southern California, Manhattan Beach, trying to put her marketing degree to work. She hasn't found just the right job yet, but works in sales and computers til "the" right one comes along.

Jason, 20, went to Ft. Lewis, also, for a year, but is now working in construction. He lives in northern Colorado in Loveland. His girlfriend Jenny's parents live there.

I'm still sewing alot, having the alterations from three local bussiness's to keep me busy. Over the past ten years I have sewn for some of the movie companies that have filmed in the area, "the Sacketts" being the most seen- at least around here. This fall I did set work for a new western to be seen on the Turner Caba Network next spring- Watch for "Conagher" with Sam Elliot--unless they change the name- and they've been known to do that!

Better get this note on the road! Season's Greetings to all and a prayer for PEACE!

Love,

Cindy



NOVEMBER

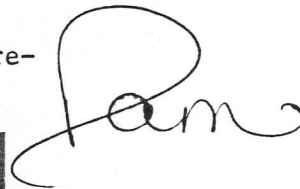


HI COUSINS!!

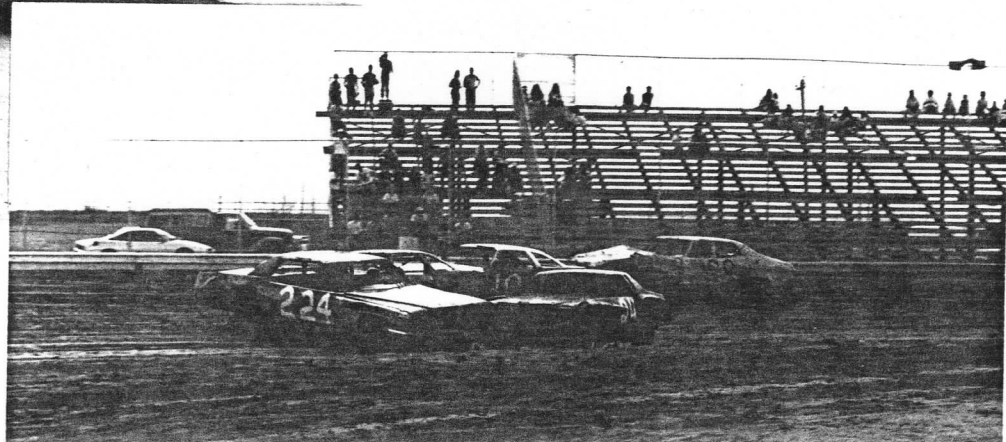
Marcie, you had a great idea! I for one am guilty for meaning to write to the KK, but never getting around to it. Here's an update on myself. I'm still single, and I'm living in Aurora, CO. I've worked at the ColoradoAuto Auction as a title clerk going on four year. If anyone is ever in Denver and would like to see the auction, let me know.

We run app. 1300 cars per week and sell 50% of what we run. It really is amazing, and it's a lot of fun. A couple of years ago, I became intersted in stock car racing. This summer I decided it was time to get involved myself. I raced Enduro this summer! Enduro is ran on an oval track, with the idea to finish 200 laps or 2 hours, which ever comes first. I didn't place, but I finished all my races, which is more than my brother can say! ( sorry Andy). This winter we plan to work on the car and hopefully it willmake another season next summer. I heard from a dealer friend of mine that lives in Cedar Rapids, NE that there are some Kresha's that race in the Albion area. You guys had a great season last year. This summer I also tried water skiing, but I think thats going to need a lot more practise. This week I've started country dance lessons-it's great fun. It's held at a popular Country & Western bar in town, so we stay after class to get our practising in before we forget what we just learned. I'm also including my address and phone number incase any of you are out this way-give me a call!

Take Care-

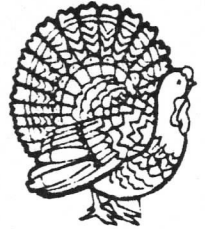


Pam Kresha  
100 Idalia Ct. #206  
Aurora, CO 80011  
(303) 343-3071



Box 236  
Hugo, Co. 80821

Nov. 1990



## Mini Gresha Chronicle or "Western Cousins"

This is a great idea Marcie, to hear what all the cousins are doing or where they are these days! It is always a sad way to hear what everyone is doing, via a funeral! Lets try to make this fly!

Nadine is second eldest daughter of Mary (the late Howard) Lukassen, for those of you who can't remember. Nadine and husband Tom and girls live in Hugo, Colorado (1 1/2 hrs east of Denver). Tom is employed by AT+T and manages 3 surrounding microwave towers (50-mile radius). Nadine is helping teach a at-home-based 2 day a week preschool and working up at the school as a part-time teacher's aide. There are a lot of community activities keeping her busy as well as volunteering in the girls' classrooms.

Haley is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Laureen is in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade and Whitney is in preschool. Besides school keeping them busy there is always the dog Baron (great dane) to feed and tend to the pony and rabbits. Tom is trying his hand at raising New Zealand White rabbits for the meat commercially. The pony is getting to know the girls and Tom is glad to have his hands on a horse again. Just as long as he doesn't think he can resume bare back riding again!

As a family we have enjoyed biking and being outside. We also do a lot of reading and have tried to instill this in our girls, it is so important!

We have enjoyed getting our roots back into a small community after living in a metro area. We still get to Denver or Colo. Springs once a month for doctor appts and mammoth grocery shopping sprees!

As Ever,  
Tom, Nadine  
Haley, Laureen + Whitney  
Tuckerson

1964 Stonehenge Dr.  
Lafayette, Co. 80026  
(303) 665-9369

Hi Cousins!

I'm sure you will enjoy reading these letters as I did! I was disappointed to not get more, but that's up to whomever wants to communicate... Now you will know at least 7 cousins better! I don't plan to send copies to the ones that did not respond, but I will send copies to some of your moms that helped me get addresses, etc. We can try it again early next Nov. and I'll give you more advance notice. We will also try to set something up this summer such as a picnic in a central location for a western reunion.

Have you noticed that among all of us western cousins that we have all lost one of our parents already, at a fairly young age? My dad, Aunt Millie, Aunt Pat Thomas, Uncle Adrien and Uncle Jim. They all smoked except Jim, I believe, and I know farming can be dangerous with all the pesticides, fertilizers, machines, animals, and weather. We seem to have a wide and interesting variety of interests, kind of like we (& our parents) were the adventurous ones willing to leave the E. Nebr. area.

As the eldest of the cousins in the 2nd Kresha family, I can assure you all that as you reach each age, it seems younger than you thought it would be!! I think this is an exciting time in history to be alive, and love the new technology along with old fashioned things.

I have been married to Murl for 9 plus years now, and we live just off Hiway 287 north of Lafayette. Murl still teaches PE in an elementary school and I am an itinerant teacher for hearing impaired students. Both of us teach in Longmont. I have 19 students this year, in 13 schools, ranging from grade 1 to 12. I enjoy the freedom of not being confined to one building, with a principal breathing down my neck. My car does get pretty full of "stuff" since it is really my office.

Jennie is 21 now and has been going to college up in Washington State in Pullman. She is in an apt. now with a girlfriend, and works part time. She now seems to be majoring in psychology, but also minor-ing in anthropology, and some environmental classes.

Zachary is 7 now, grade 2, and does well in school. He is interested in soccer, baseball, drawing and scouts.

I like to do arts and crafts, sew, gardening, sports and still play my accordion once in a while. I'd like to do professional photography someday when I quit teaching. I've sold a few to publications and have won awards at clubs and fairs. I got to go on a pilgrimage to Medjugorie, Yugoslavia, about 2 years ago, where Our Blessed Mother is still appearing to some young people. So I'm also interested in future prophesy, Christ's second coming soon, and how the fall of Communism, and the Middle East trouble, all fits into prophesy.

Our last day to teach is Monday, Nov.19 and that afternoon we are heading out to Nebr. My sister Mary and Tom just finished a new house in Omaha and she teaches now again. Larry is doing great as a computer programmer in Lincoln, and Leon and Sharon just got to adopt the little girl and boy they have been raising for about 3 years. They live up near Tacoma, Wash. and Leon is an expert in fixing computers.

We wish you all a happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and many blessings in 1991.  
Love,

Murl, Marcie, Jennie & Zach

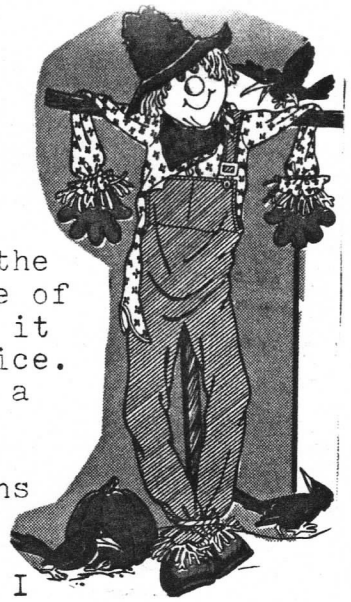




Photo in Life Magazine, Sept 1990

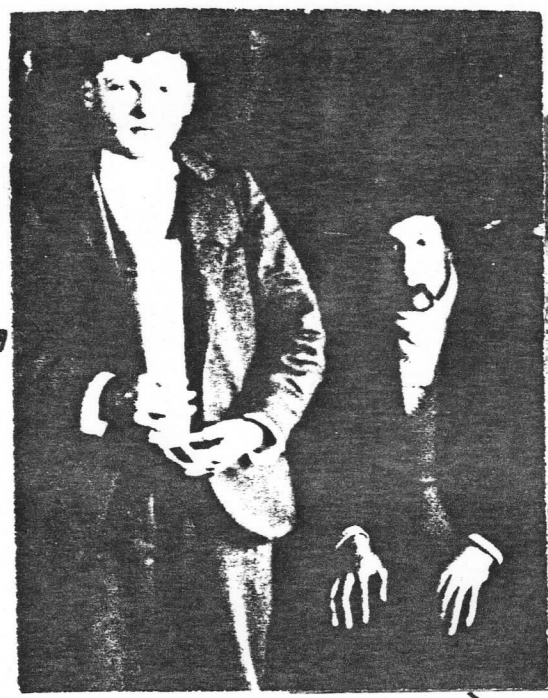
pg. 30 →

Could be Adolf & his brother Theodore at Ellis Island, N.Y. Sept 1988



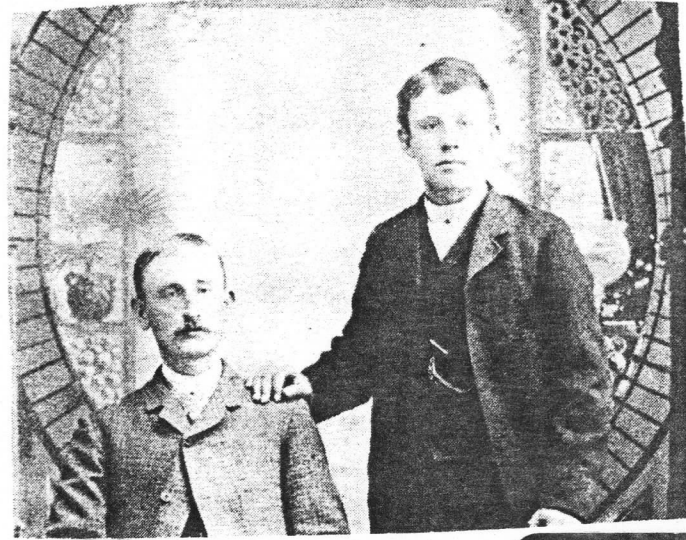
Adolf Kresha (family album)

↗



Adolf & brother Theodore (album)

↙



Nadine Timmons with Whitney Haley & Laureen 3-90



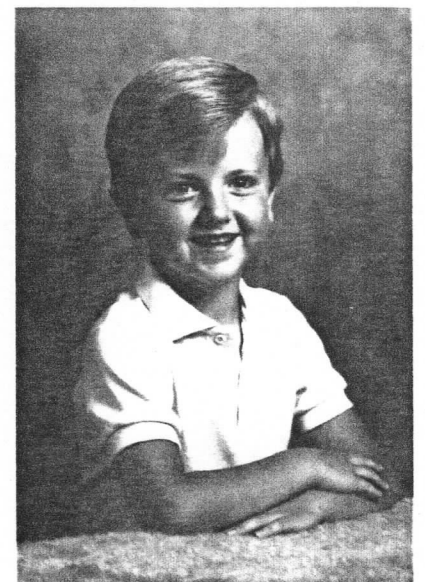
Tom Timmons with Haley Laureen & Whitney 9-90



↑ Marcie & Murl Etter



Jennie Strauss ↑ (high school)



Zachary Etter ↑