

PAULINA

“Beepbeep” (as the kids call her) & Grandpa are still getting along well as ground-level housemates. She continues to work as a Spanish-English interpreter and has 1 year left at UMBC, but is looking forward to a semester off—to be spent traveling around Europe with friends and family (using Dublin for frequent pit stops). She enjoyed traveling to Las Vegas with us, the Helms, and her best friend Tessa; to Wyoming to visit home; and to Chicago to visit her brother and sister-in-law.



Beeps w/ girls; Grandpa at church

GRANDPA

Grandpa remains witty as ever, entertaining us with his jokes and unique stories. He credits his stable health over the past year to Jenn’s cooking and says that his eyesight has actually been improving! He will be staying with Eric’s brother Kevin in Annapolis while we are in Ireland and moved there just after Christmas.



Now bath time is quadruple the fun

HANLYS’ 2007 @ A GLANCE

- Mar-** Jenn/Paulina “Bartered Bride”
- Apr-** Family in Vegas with Paulina, Tessa, and the Helms for SAGES
- May-** Don Jr visits; The fam at the Outer Banks w/ Floyds/ Helms/ Peytons; Lots of O’s games
- June-** Eric/Jenn 10th anniversary VA
- Aug-** Alex & Rachel visit; Walkersville home school camp, Trin’s Colorado wedding!
- Sept-** 1st Orioles v Yankees game; Don Sr visits
- Oct-** Mimi Susan visits; Eric & Jenn in New Orleans for ACS and visit the Helms; 1st NHL game Capitals v. Penguins; Tedd Trip w/ Kandi
- Nov-** Thanksgiving in Ohio with Don Sr, Aunt Lida, and all the cousins
- Dec-** Kevin engaged to Laura; Packed house and moved to Ireland



Duckie, Elmo, Buzz, & Fighter Pilot

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IRELAND!!!

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Hanly 2007 Christmas Letter?



Merry Christmas?

Please accept our apologies for the lateness of this letter. March is hardly the time for Christmas cards, but rather than writing this letter, we spent Christmas packing up our house, readying it for tenants, and then moving to Ireland! Anyway, the message of Christmas—that God incarnate was born on earth, making Himself available to us, teaching us how to live, and then submitting Himself as the ultimate redemptive sacrifice for all of humanity—is a message for the whole year, not just late December! We have loved all your letters, cards, etc., and hope this letter, tardy as it is, finds you well.



Mical (angel), Micah, & Josiah (shepherds) celebrated the birth of our Lord by being part of the Floyds’ Nativity play.

JENNIFER

In 2007, Jenn completed (we think) a more than SEVEN-year stint of being either pregnant or nursing! She remains Eric’s hero and again held the family together in 2007. When she’s not homeschooling the kids, she enjoys visits with the Floyds, game night at the Peytons’, O’s games at Camden Yards, good books, and hard-core workouts. She enjoyed Tedd Trip’s parenting workshop (w/ Kandi Helms) and drove the kids w/ brother Don to Ohio for Thanksgiving w/ their dad.



Jenn w/ the boys & at an O’s game

ERIC

Eric is still plugging away as a surgery resident at Johns Hopkins (15 mo. to go!). Eric’s sister, Trinity, married Alex Lubneuski this August in Colorado, affording Eric and his dad the chance to take Mical and Micah on a hike up 13,500 ft of Mt Sherman. Eric enjoyed surg. confs. in Vegas & New Orleans, and dinner w/ the Talaminis in B-more. Eric’s brother, Kevin, got engaged in Dec!



On Mt Sherman & bjornin’ Rachel

MICAL

Mical (6½) is growing up very quickly. She started 1st grade in the Hanly Home School where she has learned how to read, write, and do addition and subtraction. For history, she read books about the American Revolution—"Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?" was her favorite. She took field trips with her family to Constitution Hall and the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, as well as to the Statue of Liberty in New York. She again had fun at Walkersville Homeschool Camp. She enjoys the fruit of her studies by doing crossword puzzles with Mimi and reading to her little brothers. Thanks to Mimi, she started piano lessons this year, giving her first recital in December (Mom, Dad, Mimi, & Papa were all SO proud!).

In August, Mical had the honor of being Aunt Pickle's flower girl at the outdoor Colorado mountain wedding where she also got to play with Megan, Juliet, Shane, Tipton, and Colton (Eric's cousins' kids). She continues to enjoy swimming lessons w/ Papa and can now swim the length of a pool without help. This came in quite handy on our vacation in the Outer Banks of North Carolina with the Floyds, Helms, and Peytons. At Christmas, she was an angel in the Floyds' nativity play. Mical is becoming a great help to her mom—changing diapers, getting Josiah dressed, cleaning bathrooms, and even fixing a weekly meal!



Big girl and as flower girl for Trin

MICAH



Handsome boy & playful soldier

Micah (4½) continues to be Daddy's little boy. His favorite clothes are his surgical green scrubs, his shirt & tie, and his BDUs (camouflage)—all are just like dad's and are quickly put on to match dad as soon as he comes home from work. Micah enjoys going on weekend morning rounds with dad—on one such occasion, the ICU nurses adorned him with a surgical mask, latex gloves, and his very own stethoscope! His favorite stuffed animal, "Okoks" (a Beanie Baby owl) goes "to work" each day to "use the operating robot." When Micah grows up, he says he wants to be, "a surgeon and a cowboy."

Micah started preschool in the Hanly Home School this year. He seems to be very good with numbers and loves his Spiderman alphabet workbook. As you would expect from any youngster considering a career in surgery, he is fascinated with the way the body works. He also loves to play with legos, paper airplanes, and any weapon-like thing (gun, sword, bomb, etc.).

This year, Micah started swimming lessons with Mical, and Papa also continues to take Micah to gymnastics—a sport at which he really seems to excel. Micah is very patient with baby sister Rachel—allowing her to pinch and scratch his face and hands without retaliation. Finally, Micah was a perfect little ring-bearer at Aunt Trin's wedding.

JOSIAH

Josiah (2½) remains the happiest child in human history for the third year in a row. He continues to have an infectious smile and laugh that brings joy to everyone around him. He also continues to love singing, and will frequently make conversation or requests to the tune of a song, hymn, or radio jingle. It's like the boy is trapped in an opera! Consistent with his artistic bent, Josiah also loves to dance. Of course no dance is as fun as one in the kitchen with really loud music completely in the nude. Ah, the joys of being 2! Mimi continues to take Josiah to music class where he enjoys singing, dancing, and playing drums with a bunch of other toddlers.

Josiah loves to go to Mimi and Papa's house where he plays with "Wolfe" (pronounced "vulfee")—a musical wolf named in honor of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. He also loves to operate Papa's electric lazy boy chair—especially when it means he successfully dumps Papa out of the chair. When Papa is not around, there are always plenty of stuffed animals around to dump out. Josiah also loves to play with his friends (which he makes easily). Of note, he is particularly fond of Emma Floyd, and even when he hasn't seen her for weeks, he talks about her. But his best friend has definitely become his baby sister Rachel—particularly because he can make her squeal on cue with his flirtatious smile.



Always smiling: 2nd b-day & MD fair

RACHEL



Smiley baby and hungry pigtail girl

Rachel (1) is by far the most affectionate and snuggly baby of the Hanly brood. She loves to be held, and will burrow into your chest or shoulder for hours if you let her. In keeping with her docile nature, she is not yet walking, but she crawls up stairs (occasionally falling back down them!), and is beginning to "cruise." She is the only Hanly kid with brown eyes (Daddy's eyes), and man, are they ever big! She is a favorite attraction for passers-by at the grocery store and mall when she sports her little alien-antenna-like pigtails.

She is already taking on the role of the family baby, and loves to be waited on hand and foot by her big siblings. She lets Mical change her diaper and get her ready for the day, loves to wrestle with Micah, and is always up for a good squawking session with Josiah. When her brothers and sister aren't around, she loves to play with Grandpa, and will roll around on the living room floor for the better part of an hour just poking at grandpa's feet and cane, and playing peek-a-boo with him. As well as they get along, it's hard to believe that there is a 92-year age difference between those two!

Rachel (as well as her sibs) very much enjoyed all the Floyd, Peyton, and Helms kids during our week at the beach in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. She is also looking forward to Ireland where she will blend in with all the Leprechauns.