



CHRISTMAS NUMBER 1 CHRISTMAS 1981 TIMES



Paul, Becky and Angela Van House 2733 Waldron Rd. #71 Corpus Christi, Texas 78418

We may be in trouble in a few years. We've only been married three years and we already have a mailing list longer than National Geographic! We've decided to take the easy way out and type our Christmas greeting.

This has without a doubt been the busiest and most exciting year of our lives. The highlight of the year came at 12:35pm Monday, April 20th (1981) as Becky gave birth to our first child: Angela Marie. She weighed 8 pounds, 13½ ounces, and as you can tell from the picture, she's been smiling and pretty good natured ever since birth. We took LaMaze childbirth classes and Paul didn't even faint in the delivery room. Becky did real well too. Becky's mother spent a few days with us right after Angela was born and Paul's mother came up right after that. We really appreciated their help. Angela already has 3 lower and 4 upper teeth (sharp!)

We didn't take any extended vacations this year as in the past. In mid-June, we took a weekend trip to St. Joseph, Michigan to one of Paul's friends wedding, and then on to Chicago for 2 days. No sooner did we get home than Paul was offered a job as Continuity and Production director (writing commercials) at radio station KIKN in Corpus Christi. Having been wanting to leave his job at WMRN, where he'd been for 3½ years, for quite some time, Paul jumped at the chance and gave a 1 week notice. After that, we hit the road again on the July 4th weekend visiting friends in Dayton, then taking an impromptu trip to Syracuse, New York to see Paul's sister Linda and her husband Stu. We had a real good time and were treated to a cook out and slides of Stu's trip to Japan. After New York, we took a quick trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania then back home to Marion, and Paul left for Texas two days after that.

Becky stayed behind trying to sell the house with no response, so we decided to rent it until it sells (it still hasn't) and move everything down here. Once again, families to the rescue. Becky's family pitched in and helped pack 3 years of accumulated junk in just 2 weeks. Paul's brother David helped too and in the meantime, Paul's parents were all the way up in Alaska and missed out on the "fun." But we're counting on them to help us move the rest of our stuff down here. We were finally all together again in mid August crammed into a one

bedroom apartment. When the lease expires in January, we hope to move to a bigger place, but with 98% of the apartment space occupied here, it's going to be slim pickings.

In addition to work, Paul is attending night classes aiming for a degree in computer programming. Becky meanwhile is back to work at a restaurant part time.

At the moment, we live 5 miles from the Padre island national seashore, an island in the Gulf of Mexico that's more than 100 miles long, forming one of the longest lagunas (between the mainland and the island) in the world. The beaches are abound with snowy white sand (our white Christmas?) and the water is usually very clear and in the summer gets as warm as 85 degrees. It gets very hot (mid 90's every day from May to October with 80 to 90% humidity is normal.) In the winter, we've been told, it sometimes gets "all the way down to the 40's!" The sight of heavy coats, hats and gloves when it's 60 degrees is really funny to see, especially when we're wearing no jacket and short sleeves! We're looking forward to Angela's first Christmas and we'll miss not being with our families (and maybe the snow,) but we're all very happy down here.



HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Paul, Becky + Angela