

Oh happy day!

All my kids came to visit me!



Jeni, John & Nathan Goddard; David, CW, Lelan, Mark Callaway; Joyce & Nick Nicholson

Oct. 9, 2013

My dear family & friends,

My youngest son, David, after many near death health issues, had a liver transplant in Aug. 2011. It was not until recently that his health had improved sufficiently and his schedule was such that he could come again to visit me. He sent to me and his siblings his planned itinerary. My other kids said they would like to “join the party” so they came during the time he was here. He arrived on 9/26 and left on 10/8. Thus I had all my “little ones” here together for almost a week. What a blessing that was!

They showed their concern and love for me in many ways. They helped with needed work and repairs around my house. Lelan, as usual cleaned up my software and hardware and answered my long list of computer and business questions. Joyce and Jeni prepared nice meals. Koi Lin brought in food. We enjoyed Sunday noon meal at Rachel & Jeff’s home. We looked over old mementos & pictures and talked of fun times of long ago. We walked on the Vallejo waterfront. Most of us went on a tour of a ship in San Francisco identical to the ship on which Lois & I with Lelan & Mark sailed from New York to England in 1946. You can read of that tour at www.SSJeremiahObrien.org That tour helped me to recall much that I had forgotten about that voyage 67 years ago. Best of all was just getting to talk of great family times of the past and of our hopes for the future for ourselves and our children in this life and the life ahead with our Lord.

I am so blest that all of my children and many of my grandchildren and great grandchildren are faithful Christians. My own kids and I attended Open Door Church in American Canyon on 9/29. Only David was still here this past Sunday 10/4. He and I went to YMBC Mien church in Richmond. Pastor Kao Kwai Saelee invited David to speak a few words. David thanked the church for praying for him through the time of his illness and liver transplant. He said that through that experience he had learned to say like Paul, "When I am weak, then I am strong" 2 Cor. 12:10

One day we along with Andrew Lai visited the gravesites of Liza Lai and Lois in Rolling Hills Memorial Park. We also went to Wilson & Kreitzer funeral home to make arrangements for my own burial. I have talked with my children on this occasion and previously of my own wishes for when my time to die comes and have clarified with them my will, power of attorney, and health care directive. I have told them that I don't want my burial to be expensive in time or money since I will have a new body and a new and eternal home. I just long and pray for the time when I and all my children, and hopefully all of theirs, can be together forever with the Lord.

When our children were in their teens and preteens our family lived in the very isolated Mien village which we referred to in our prayer letters to our supporters as Tzanzuville. There we had no phone, no electricity, no indoor plumbing, no TV, and certainly no Ipods or computers! But the lack of those conveniences was good for us. It helped us to bind together all the more tightly as a family. We learned to rough it together. And we were able to have regular family devotions at night in our home. As some of my kids were preparing to leave last weekend to catch their flights home after a final prayer we sang together,

*"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above."*

May God bless each of you and your families to likewise have that "tie that binds."

With Christian love,

*CW Callaway / Daddy / Granddaddy / Great Granddaddy / Uncle Dub
Leiz, Zanx-Hiaang*