

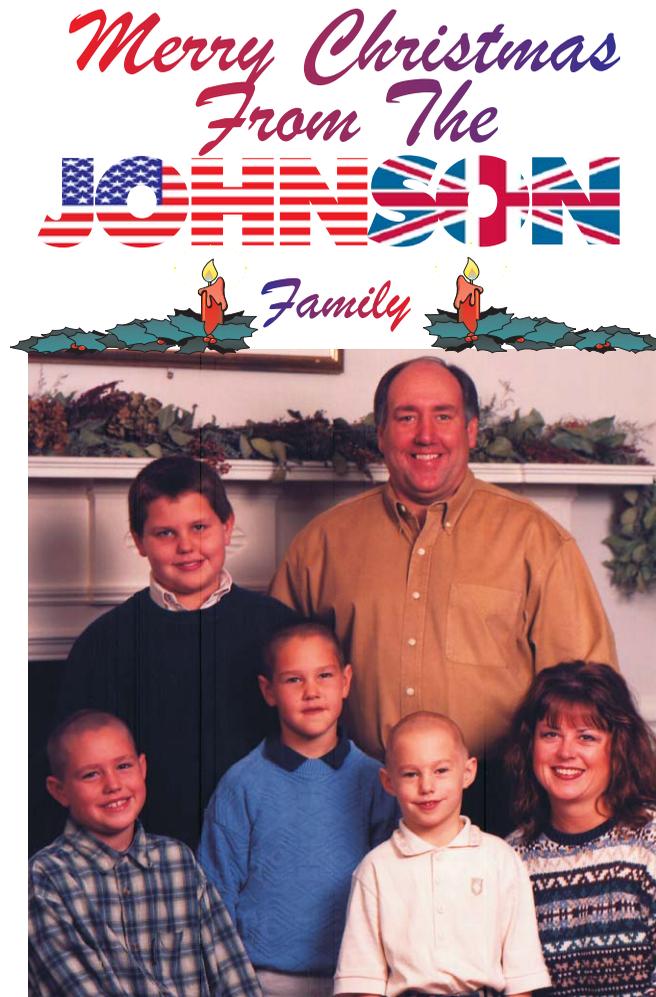
What a year it's been for the Johnson's. Our biggest news has to be our decision to accept an international assignment for Motorola through the end of 1998. In November I accepted a job as European MIS Director based in London, England. I've moved to an apartment in Royal Ascot 15 miles southwest of London. In June of next year Kathy and the boys will join me following the end of the boys school term. More on my struggles later.....

Kathy, 36, is ever busy with the kids, her part-time job and keeping our bank account empty. Earlier this year, she insisted that we join Royal Melbourne Country Club in Long Grove so she could play golf whenever she desired. Being the ever supporting husband, I reluctantly agreed to join with her. She has taken a couple of golf lessons and really does quite well. In October she and I went over on a "look see" trip to London to see if she would be able to cope with living there. Good news in her eyes were the pubs, with the Bad news being, pint sized kitchens, showerless bathrooms, and learning to drive on the wrong damn side.

She hosted Thanksgiving this year, which featured her usual excellent food, and for a novel twist, a small fire in the kitchen started by none other than our beautifully behaved Brett. More on that apple of Mom's eye later.

Bryan, 11, is now in 5th grade. Like his dad, you can see from the picture neither of us miss many meals. Joining a long line of Johnson musicians, he started playing the trumpet this year. He had a first recital which was torture to hear but one we were quite proud of. He is doing well in school and plays baseball in the summer. He had a small part in his class play "Little Orphan Annie" (No, he wasn't the dog). He started playing golf in earnest this year and almost had a BIRDIE!!! He tapped in for par. I had tears in my eyes. He's going to be a good player.

Ben, 9, is now in 3rd grade and is SPORTS MAD!!! He plays soccer, baseball, and just started basketball. As you can see he is sporting his best Michael Jordan haircut. He's a good student and generally good kid in spite of the fact that here in Chicago he is a Packers fan. He also is taking up golf even though he swings from the



left side. He, Bryan and my godson Ricky Wallis celebrated Ricky's high school graduation this June at our other club, Prairie Dunes in Hutchinson, Kansas. Ben wowed us all when he chipped in from 50 feet on the sixth hole.

Brett, "Stonewall", 7, has now graduated from terrorist to arsonist. With me in London, and not home this Thanksgiving, Kathy had dad, the Perrymans, and her brother Gary Batz & family over for the fall feast. After the kids had eaten, and as the adults were sitting down, Kathy

noticed Brett putting his shoes, coat and hat on. As he walked out of the house he casually mentioned to Kathy that something 'might' be burning in the kitchen. Kathy ran in to find a roll of paper towels aflame from a candle on the countertop. The cabinets were singed with the toaster and light fixture already melted. Apparently, Brett was trying to get a paper towel when they ignited.

Brett is in 1st grade and like most class clowns is a popular cut up probably just like one of his parents - his mother. Played great soccer this year while scoring 2 goals in his last game. I can't wait to unleash him in the English soccer leagues when he plays there next fall. He'll show those Brits there ain't nothing left of the British Empire.

Brad, 5, is in morning kindergarten. He has many hobbies which include golf, motorcycles (has to be a Harley) and cigars. Like his dad, he is a homebody and likes nothing more than relaxing in his home rather than going out. His Snow White obsession is now a distant memory which is a relief to us all. He started soccer this year and in a word it was pathetic. I don't think his team scored a single goal. In fact I am trying to recall a single shot on goal. Along with his brothers they went to Camp Royal Melbourne this summer. At his camp they learned to swim, play tennis and golf. Brad likes to ride in the golf cart and putts on every hole with his dad even though he can't say Royal Melbourne. He calls it "Mortal Relbourne".

I (Rick) turned 42 this year even though I look like I'm in my mid twenties. Played a lot of golf this year but saw my handicap rise by 3 strokes. In my new job I have responsibility for all the business computer systems in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The address of my apartment in Ascot is:

11, Ascot Towers  
Windsor Road  
Royal Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5 7LG

You are all invited to stop by at anytime. The Queen and her mother booked time with me in June for Royal Ascot Racing Week, but other than that the apartment is wide open with plenty of room. You don't get many opportunities for free rent in a foreign land. My phone number calling from the States is 011 44 1 344 291 028. E-mail at Rick\_Johnson@euro.csg.mot.com.

**Merry Christmas And Happy New Year in 1998**