

“Let’s see if I have everything I need: computer, calendar, receipts, TurboTax updates, last year’s return, draft Form 1040, endless supply of Glenlivet.” “**Dad**, are you getting ready to do your 2004 taxes?” “No, I’m starting to write the **Tisdale Family Christmas Letter®**. This year I’m gonna design it just like a Form 1040 ‘cuz by the time people finally get it, they’ll be working on their taxes! And when they see our letter in the form of a tax return, they’ll laugh!” “You think a tax return is funny?!” “Are you kidding? The IRS thinks mine is a *hoot!*” Anyway, it’s time for...

**CHRISTMAS 2004**  
**THE YEAR IN REVIEW – VOLUME XXII – “SHE PIONEERED CHANGE!”**  
**The Tisdale Family Christmas Letter ®**

The Year That Changed All Our Lives is over. We got through it intact and have great things planned for 2005. But let’s look back at the good things that happened in 2004....

Memorials to our ♥**Pat**, the center star of the **Tisdale Family** constellation, who left us on January the 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004 (*See The Tisdale Family Christmas Letter®, Vol. XXI*), continue to pour in. Charitable gifts and endowments in her honor exceed \$125,000.00. The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute at the University of Denver Law School now has an endowed annual prize named after ♥**Pat**. {Thanks to **Holme Roberts & Owen** and especially **Larry Levin!**} A memorial bench will be placed outside the Beaver Creek Chapel. {Thanks to the Beaver Creek Resort Association and especially **Tony O’Rourke!**} The Colorado Neurological Institute’s Stroke Center now has the **Patricia C. Tisdale Memorial** Physical Therapy and Rehab Room. And on and on. Our ♥**Pat** continues to live on in the hearts, minds and lives of thousands of people all around the world. She was the most magnificent person you could ever imagine, and we all miss her terribly!

**Doug Jr** continues to improve the lives of young people. He’s teaching 5<sup>th</sup> Grade at Side Creek Elementary in Aurora, and *loving* it, although there are always issues. (“It’s not the kids who cause me grief. It’s the *parents!*”) He found a great apartment within walking distance from the school. (“Shh! Not too loud! The last thing I need is a parent knocking on my door at night for a ‘conference!’”) **Dr. Sara** continues in her modest task of saving lives and improving the health of children. She is in her second year of a pediatrics residency at Creighton University / University of Nebraska Medical Center / Children’s’ Hospital. She still enjoys her lovely condo in Omaha. (“Nothing else to report because I don’t have *time* for anything else!”)

**Maggie(!)** graduated with her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in acting and production from the **Tisch** School of the Arts at New York University in May. She did okay. {“Okay?! She made the Dean’s List each year!”} She’s primed to pursue production possibilities in a plethora of possible venues. **Maggie(!)**’s Big News: after an extended courtship overseen with growing interest by **Doug Sr** and with an informed sense of inevitability by ♥**Pat**, **Marty Schettler** of Denver, a Doctoral Candidate in Applied Mathematics at Johns Hopkins University, called **Doug Sr** in March. **Doug** was running to a Candidate’s Forum in his Council Re-Election race when the phone rang. **Doug** was suitably brusque and business-like, a “man on a mission” (for re-election), until he realized **Marty** was a “Man on a Greater Mission.” **Marty**, not to be put off by a mere campaign event, asked **Doug Sr** for **Maggie(!)**’s hand in marriage. (For the record, Yes, **Doug Sr** cried, but he held it together during the phone call.) **Marty** set the stage

perfectly, with a romantic picnic and a final surprise, which delighted our “hard-to-please” {“What?!” “Hey! Be glad I didn’t say ‘high maintenance!’”} **Maggie(!)**. The wedding will be June 25, 2005 at the Beaver Creek Chapel in the Vail Valley. Be sure to visit **Maggie(!)** and **Marty’s** website: [www.maggieandmarty.com](http://www.maggieandmarty.com) for much more info!

**Vicki** excelled in her leading role in *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon Marigolds* and then enjoyed a total triumph in her powerful portrayal of **Hamlet**, her last play at St. Mary’s Academy. She won, as **Maggie(!)** and **Sara** had before her, the SMA Best Actress Award. She graduated in May, just two days after we were in New York for **Maggie(!)**’s NYU graduation in Washington Square. **Vicki** performed “For Good” from *Wicked* at the Baccalaureate Mass. {“How embarrassing! You can hear **Dad** sobbing on the videotape of her solo!”} **Doug Sr, Doug Jr, Sara, Maggie(!), Grandma Pat Brennan** and **Jean Brennan** all sat in the front row for **Vicki’s** graduation! **Patty & Jim Mason, Paul & Donna Atkins, Jean’s** husband, **Martin,** and **Piper** and **Cadence** were all there! A fabulous lunch at Maggiano’s with all! Hard to imagine what could go wrong! And, ultimately, nothing important did. **Vicki** was admitted to NYU and to **George Washington** University {“With a full Presidential Arts scholarship!! But who’s counting?!”} and to USC {“No, that’s *not* University of Spoiled Children! It’s the University of Southern California!”} **Vicki** campaigned (successfully) for Congressman **Bob Beauprez’s** re-election in the fall. After taking a semester off to be home with **Doug** {“Which, it turns out, her **Dad** needed.”}, **Vicki** moved into her new life at USC on January the 6<sup>th</sup> of 2005. {“It was the first dry day in LA in a *month!*”} Needless to say, more to follow.

We all flew to Detroit at the end of January for a second celebration of The Life of **Pat**. Many thanks to our friends at The Palm in Troy, who treated **Doug, Maggie(!), Vicki** and **Tom McClain S.J.** to a fabulous dinner as their guests! Then **Vicki** and **Doug** joined **Maggie(!)** in NYC for **Vicki’s** audition at NYU {“We had a lovely evening with **Dean Mary Schmidt Campbell** of the Tisch School and NYU Development Director **Adrienne Hines!**”} We saw **Idina Menzel** (another Tisch grad) and **Kristen Chenoweth** in “*Wicked*” – a fabulous musical that ♥**Pat, Doug Jr, Sara and Doug** had seen in previews in San Francisco in May 2003. We took the train to D.C. for **Vicki’s** successful **George Washington** scholarship audition, where Fiancé **Marty** joined us for a great time.

**Doug** was in London in February. {“I had a fabulous dinner in the West End as the guest of dear good friends **Ann** and **Peter Andrews, Q.C.!**”} Their support was a wonderful uplift to **Doug’s** spirit. {“And after a day of trying to placate some petulant Pakistanis, a tremendous relief!”} Back and forth to Albuquerque for court hearings, including two trips for a most pleasant stay with cousin **Don Seeger** and his wife **Phyllis Arlo** in their lovely Santa Fe home. A weekend in New York for a dinner party that **Doug** and **Maggie(!)** enjoyed with **Anna Strasberg** in her memorabilia-filled home {“**Dad!** Did you see all the autographed pictures from **Al Pacino, Robert DeNiro** and everybody?!” “I know! It’ll be *years* before she misses the one from **Marilyn Monroe** and **Jack** that I swiped!”} **Doug** and **Vicki** stayed at the Ritz Carlton Marina del Ray to visit USC and ran into good friend/former partner Judge **Wiley Daniel** and his wife **Ida**. {“Yes, **Wiley**, this pretty young girl with me is my *daughter!*”} Other trips to Omaha, Wilmington, Nashville, Montreal (to celebrate **Mary** and **Jon Miller’s** 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!) and points in-between. {“Geez! You’d almost think **Dad** didn’t wanna stay home anymore!”}

But the real “Founder of the Feast” for **Tisdale Family Trips** this year was good friend **Richard A. Eddy**. The Great **Dick Eddy** generously hosted **Doug Sr** and **Vicki** at his beautiful home on the beach in Manzanillo, Mexico in March and then entertained **Doug Sr, Sara, Maggie(!)** and **Vicki** at his villa in St. Tropez in the south of France in September. {“**Dad!** Put away the binoculars! **Dick** already said that **Brigitte Bardot** doesn’t sunbathe naked in her backyard anymore!” “I’m just bird watching.” “Well, most of those ‘birds’ you’re watching on the nude beaches of St. Tropez don’t have wings!” “Some of those things sure *look* like wings!”} We ended up the year with all of us – **Vicki, Maggie(!) and Marty, Sara, Doug Jr and Doug Sr** – at **Dick Eddy’s** home in Newport Beach, California. {“**Dad,** even though **Dick’s** not with us this time, can we still have four bottles of wine at lunch?”} We spent a restful New Year’s Eve in Disneyland. {“**Kids,** it’s time to leave now.” “But **Dad,** we’ve only been here 14 hours! The Park doesn’t close for another four hours!”}

**Doug Sr** was re-elected to the Cherry Hills Village City Council, got on the Denver Regional Council of Governments Board and continues to sit on the Vail hospital board and chair the Eagle hospital board. Happily his Associates, **Steve Klenda** and **Gwen Shotwell**, and his Special Counsel continue to bill enough hours to support his vagabond lifestyle.

We can’t say enough about the outpouring of support from good friends, who have generously and warmly comforted us through this difficult time without ♥**Pat**. If we tried to name you all, we would surely leave someone out. The **Tisdale Family Roll of Honor®** would add three pages to this Letter! So we just say *thank you* to all of our Blessed Friends and express our deepest appreciation. We are doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances, and we look forward to the great things we have in store in 2005. It has been a year of change for us, and change is difficult, and often uncomfortable to encounter. But as **Vicki** so sagely noted about our ♥**Pat**, “**Dad!** She *pioneered* change!”

Belated Season’s Greetings to all, with a hope that the comforting Love of **God** – as best exemplified in ♥**Pat’s** love for us – will be enjoyed by all of you throughout this New Year and for years thereafter, and for life eternal!

Okay, time for all of us to get back to our *taxes!* .... Hey, who drank all my Glenlivet!?!

<b>Doug Sr</b>	<b>Doug Jr</b>	<b>Sara</b>	<b>Maggie(!)</b>	<b>Vicki</b>
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**PICTURES:** All of us at Disneyland on New Year’s Eve; **Dick Eddy** in his natural habitat—surrounded by gorgeous women and good friends; **Doug Sr** with the **Girls** at the St Tropez Disco; **Vicki** with friend Congressman **Bob Beauprez** (R., Colo.); **Doug Jr** at The Palm-Denver.

**IN MEMORIAM: Patricia Claire Tisdale, Esq. September 7, 1951 – January 6, 2004**  
**Beloved Wife, Mother and Lawyer**