

DAVE and CATHERINE MATOS

225 Amicalola Way • Jonesboro, GA 30236 • (770) 389-0269
dmatos.che94@gtalumni.org • AIM: Dave GaEPD • cmatos.ae94@gtalumni.org • AIM: DrAtropos

HOLIDAY UPDATE LETTER 2003
"BETTER REALLY LATE THAN NEVER"

Dear Family and Friends:

First of all, catch your breath after that huge sigh, whether it was a "thank God they're still alive" or a "oh no I already deleted them from the Christmas Mailing List Database" sigh. We're alive and well and absolutely do realize that it is nearly Valentine's Day. It's been, I think, our busiest year since 1997 (wedding) or 1999 (new house) and we have lots of good news to share. So sit back, keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle at all times and enjoy the ride (can't you just here the clink-clink-clink of the rollercoaster climbing that first hill?).

Spring was relatively uneventful at least until we decided that we were driving way too far to and from work everyday, and decided to move to the south side of Atlanta. We found a good neighborhood near Lake Spivey and put a deposit on the last basement lot in the subdivision at the end of March. Unfortunately, the lot had the sales trailer on it, which meant construction would be delayed for a few weeks. (or at least, a few weeks was what they told us!)

Catherine is continuing in her position as an Instructor of Mathematics at CCSU and still enjoys both the students and the teaching. Dave also continues at his job working for the Georgia EPD. At the end of the spring semester, we decided to start our "tour of the nation's rollercoasters" by driving up to Cedar Point in Ohio, which boasts 3 of the top ten steel coasters in the US, and then hitting King's Island in Cincinnati on the way home (it has the world's longest and fastest wood coasters and the only one with a loop). We managed to ride something like 20 different coasters in a span of 3 days without getting sick once. We really enjoyed the trip in spite of the long hours in the car. Millennium Force alone was worth the trip (yes, it's that steep) →



Suzie and Jason had moved back to the Atlanta area at the end of last year, and in April Suzie sprung the news on Catherine that she was going to be an Aunt. Her pregnancy went well up until the end, when she was told to go on bedrest. Little Benjamin Reese was born after a very short labor on November 2nd at 6:10am, about 4 weeks early. In spite of being a little premature, he is doing great. Suzie and Jason are still tired, but very happy.

Mike has moved back to Atlanta and is managing the Durango steakhouse in downtown Atlanta. He's really made an impact there, just a few weeks ago PETA dressed up like cows and boycotted his restaurant. We are happy to have him back in the area!

Both sets of our parents are doing exactly the same... Moseleys still in D.C. and Matoses still in Augusta. All are thinking of moving to Atlanta, but none have made the jump yet.

After some foot dragging on the part of the builder, our new house was finally started in mid-July (3.5 months later, not ~6 weeks like they said!), and we closed the day before Thanksgiving. So we now have new contact info (see up top), although the old address still works since we haven't managed to sell that place yet.

The house is still full of boxes, but it is already beginning to feel like home. The 7 mile commute (20 minutes on a bad day) for Catherine has made her much happier. Loki, Freya and Tyr all adjusted to the new place incredibly well. The new house is a bit bigger than the old one, and they really love having the extra space to play chase in. Tyr and Loki are still crazy as always, though Tyr has slowed down a small bit from last year, as he outgrew his kittenhood. Freya is still overweight and psycho.

Lastly, as we wrap up the year's review, we found that there must be something "in the water", as we found out in October that we will be expecting a baby boy in May 2004. Catherine was nauseous for all of September, October and most of November, but thankfully has managed not to throw up yet (knock on wood). She is finally back eating regularly, though, which is a good thing, since her doctors were beginning to yell at her for losing weight. Dave's "we had about given up hope" parents were told in early October, ecstatic doesn't even begin to describe their reaction (I think the Olive Garden waitress will recover). Catherine's parents were told a few days later when they came down to help Suzie get ready for her baby. Catherine's mom was a little slow on the uptake, thinking that the sonogram included in the pictures of her "grandkids" (Loki, Freya and Tyr) was of Benjamin. So fingers are crossed that the baby (affectionately nicknamed "Taco") will wait until after Spring final exams to arrive! That's all for now, we'll try to talk to you all soon! Look for baby announcements around Christmas next year!



Love, kitty bites and all that other mushy stuff. **Dave and Catherine**
Loki, Freya and Tyr

(and "Taco")



P.S. I got to ride the Zamboni at last week's Thrashers game.

Eat your hearts out ☺ (Cath won it and gave it to me, isn't she the greatest?) – Dave

Pictures of New House, ultrasound and other Random stuff at: <http://dmatos.instantlogic.com>