

ESTEBAN S.
AGUIRRE

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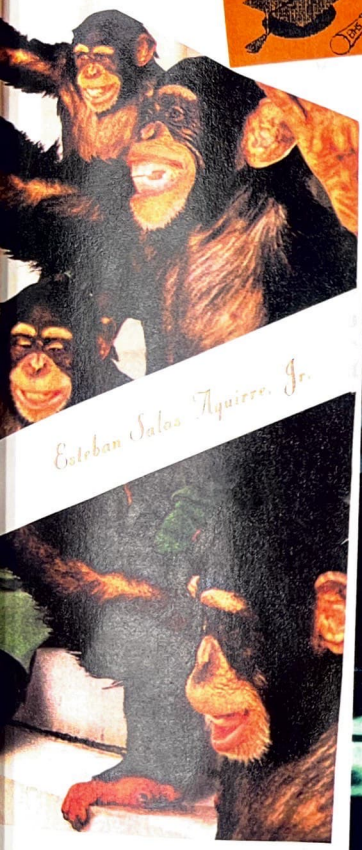


DEAR GRANDCHILDREN....

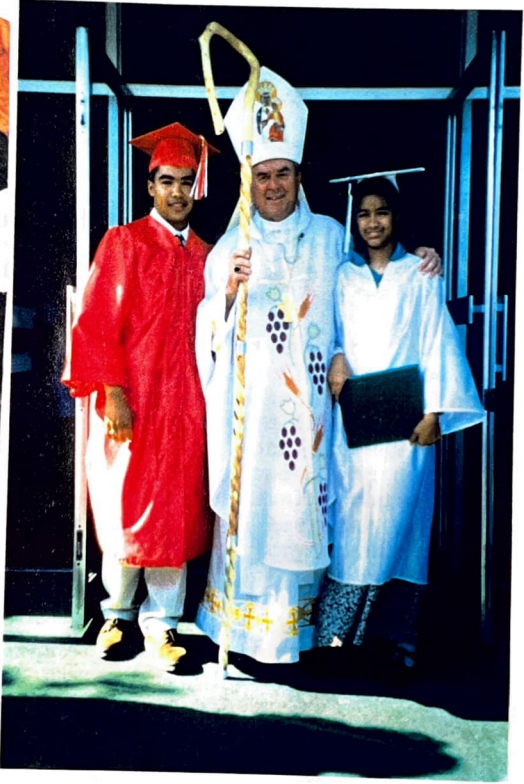
Graduation

Burbank H.S.

Class of '95



Esteban Salas Aguirre, Jr.



Notre Dame



Hey Kids! Well, it's getting close to the end of the century, and I thought that I might interest you a little about your grandma and my days. I wanted to let y'all in on some of the technological advancements and some major political events that are hitting our news headlines.

First of all, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I am the first child to attend any college or university in my family. There are three children, and I am the second oldest in my family. I am interested in becoming a trauma nurse or a registered nurse. My dream is to attend the University of Notre Dame. So one day I hope that I can successfully accomplish these goals. I am a freshman in college in the year 1995. I am currently attending Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Some of the classes that I take are Freshman Composition I, Political Science, and U.S. History. In my freshman composition class, I am using a computer instead of writing by hand. Computers are fairly new to us, and the technology of computers are improving on a daily basis.

Not only computers, but cellular phones, and compact disc (C.D.s) are rather new. In the 1970's, cassettes were one of the newest resource to listening to recorded music. In the 1990's, CDs are now the most popular listening device. CDs are medium-sized discs that have laser printed signals that play the music when they are read. Also in the 1990's, cellular phones were introduced to us. Not only can we talk when we are at home, now we have a phone that can be used anywhere as long as the phone is in reach of its signal. Now that I have told you'll about some technological advances, let me give you'll an insight to some political issues.

There are two major trials that have either just ended or just getting underway. First, the O.J. Simpson case. This trial had been shown on most all television channels for the last year. O.J. was a famous football player in the 1980's, and a famous movie star after his career playing football. He was accused of murdering his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ron Goldman. This case was very controversial because O.J. Simpson was a major role model for the African American community. Finally at the beginning of October a jury found O.J. Simpson innocent of all he was accused of.

Second, there is another case that recently got underway. This is about the murder of Selena Quintanilla Perez. Selena was a very famous Tejano singer, and a role model for most Hispanic teenagers. Selena was not only known for singing, but she was also known for her fight for education. She was shot down in a Corpus Christi hotel room in March of 1995 by Yolanda Saldivar. This was a major shock to the Hispanic community. Many Hispanics loved Selena like if she was their relative. Yolanda Saldivar is currently going to trial for this murder. Now let me give y'all an insight to the controversial issues that we have faced.

Two controversial issues that affect every American citizen are abortion and AIDS. Of the two, abortion, in my opinion, is the most talked about issue. Abortion is a way of getting rid of an unwanted pregnancy. This is a good example of the separation between church and state. The state allows abortion to be practiced in a state licensed facility as long as the pregnant female is of the legal age. But the church is against this practice. They feel that this is immoral and should not be practiced at all. They believe that this practice is murder and people who do this are killing the unborn fetus. In my opinion,

I am for abortion, but only in extreme circumstances. First, I feel that a woman can have an abortion if she is sick. For example, cancer of the uterus that could cause long term suffrage to the child. Second, if a woman had been raped, to avoid any recollection of that tragic day she might want to have this procedure done. The other controversial issue is AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency System). This disease is now one of the most scrutinized diseases in the nation. It can be contracted by practicing unsafe sex. AIDS eats at the immune system then slowly but surely, this disease will kill you.

Well these are some of the issues that are facing the 20th century. Political and technological issues will face you every day of your life. I hope in your century the abortion and AIDS issues will be abolished. God Bless You and Take Care.

Love Always,
G-pa Steve



Letter From A Friend: Mission High School student, Deborah Harwood displays the letter she received from President Clinton.

Virgo (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

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**FREEEDOWN
AMERICA**

October 19, 1995

My Dearest Grandchildren,

I am in awe that you might be reading this forty or fifty years from now. As I sit here and wonder about what your lives might be like and what kind of persons you and your parents will be, as well as who your grandfather will be, I become even more bewildered. Words cannot begin to express the sentiments that I wish to convey to you. However, I will try my very best.

At this point and time in my life I am a freshman at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi where I am pursuing my degrees in Communications and Political Science. I hope to go into the field of journalism or at least something related to it. I would imagine that you, as my descendants, love to write. After all, my father is a journalist based in Mexico and my mother an English teacher. However, we must keep in mind that I am a mere 18 years old at the time that this is written and, therefore, possibly prone to many detours in the future. At this very moment I really don't have the slightest clue as to where my life is headed. I can only hope that it is similar to the plan that I have laid out. Unfortunately, I have no say as to what will happen; only God and the progress of time will be able to tell.

The progression of which I speak will be tremendously affected by the current situation in my world. The technological advancements, foreign relations, and political/domestic state which I am now experiencing is of extreme importance to your generation. It is difficult to envision myself at this point as a part of your history. The possibility that there might be a cure for AIDS when you read this and that things which I now find so richly fascinating and out-of-this-world will someday be trivial to you all, is amazing to me.

Greatly affecting what your generation will be like are the technological advancements that are happening right now. Laptop computers and cordless phones are popular at this moment, as are phone caller identification mechanisms (gadgets which are able to identify the calling party before the receiving party answers the phone) and compact discs for precise music listening. And on the horizon is the full distribution of monitor telephones equipped with television screens so that the parties can see each other speaking. Also, watches that will be able to download information from computers, therefore, allowing people to carry their software with them at no inconvenience, are predicted for the near future. Obviously, the microchip is extremely essential to my generation; much, if not all, of what we do is dependent upon the accuracy of it. Right now, my generation is awaiting the day when every automobile functions on either solar power or disposed of waste. (Yes, my current car is a massive ton on four rubber wheels that uses petroleum, a non-recoverable natural resource, to move.)

Foreign relations are somewhat stationary at this point. There really isn't as much conflict as there was say, five years ago when there was possibility of war against the Middle East. (To you all that time will probably be better known as "Operation Desert Storm".) However, that is expected to soon change. Many of today's nations are aiming for recognized superiority by the entire world. Right now, the nation that is considered socially ahead of the rest is our beloved country. Political bodies such as Japan and the Middle East, though, are threatening to change that. With the recent fall of the Berlin Wall, as well as the disassembling of the Soviet Union, most of the U.S.A.'s enemies

have been weakened. That, in turn, has caused for the American government to focus on domestic problems, such as health care reform and civil unrest, instead of trying to make peace abroad. Sadly, though, methods were not found to improve foreign relations...only ways to stall for time. Therefore, the foreign situation should also be a touchy subject in the future.

I hope political circumstances will not monopolize your generation, although I'm sure it will as they controlled all of the generations before it. Because of the heavy role of politics, the present domestic state in which I'm living in, is in the dire situation that it is. A lot of racial hatred and social confusion is taking place in 1995. The "trial of the (20th) century" was just decided last week, and the accused, O.J. Simpson, a legendary professional football player, was acquitted of murdering his ex-wife, Nicole Brown and her friend, Ron Goldman. Due to the interracial marriage of Brown and Simpson, as well as the racial hatred expressed by one of the investigating officers, the acquittal awakened questions concerning equality and whether it ever really existed in the first place and confirmed that racism is still a very serious issue, no matter how much people try to deny it. Americans are at war with one another and foreign nations are loving every second of it.

Perhaps the most prominent factor for today's problems is the rise of domestic terrorism, and violence on a whole. Just six months ago, two former American soldiers planted a bomb in a federal building in Oklahoma City, killing over 100 people. And at this moment there is speculation as to whether or not the very recent derailment of an Amtrack train in Arizona was a result of domestic sabotage. It is slowly becoming dangerous to even walk out into one's own front yard for fear of being shot down by a drive-by shooter. Children are killing children, and some are even killing their own parents.

Ironically, though, I haven't had to endure much of what my counterparts in New York or Dallas have had to; I'm from the sheltered area of the Rio Grande Valley in deep South Texas and, as a result, I have not been exposed to the travesties which have plagued the rest of the nation. Therefore, I'm more ignorant than most of my classmates; however, going away to college is quickly changing me. I have now been able to see and experience things that I otherwise wouldn't have. I have grown more in the past month-and-a-half of college than I did in the previous 17 years. My hope for you, my beloved grandchildren, is that your world is more free of hatred and social discontentment. And, that you learn from the mistakes of your forefathers and move to make America the lovely place it was once meant to be. Never forget to strive for peace and harmony...

Love always,
Grandma Deborah

P.S.

Today, October 19, 1995 marks the 45th birthday of your great-grandmother (my mother) Sandra.



GUMDROPS ON RODENTS AND FISHSTICKS ON CHICKENS,
LIGHT WOOLY LEGGINS ON UPPITY MUNCHKINS,
MOLDY OLD SAUSAGES EATEN WITH FANGS,
THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THANGS!



My dear grandchildren,

Believe it or not I, at one time, was as young as you. I sit here at a computer in a lab in my freshman year of college. I can imagine that my world of today is much different than that of my tomorrow and of your present. I'll not hold back that the future both excites and terrifies me. I have seen many changes in my time, not all of them being for the best. Things have gotten more violent. I do hope, for everyone's sake, that the violence has not increased by the time that you read this.

The biggest legal case of all time (or so we have been told) has recently come to an end, the O.J. Simpson case. If this is in your history books or not I do not know, but it has become the biggest brouhaha of media coverage that I have seen in my young life. It does, however, give a few commentaries on today's society. One is that if you have money, no one can touch you (O.J. payed millions of dollars for his defense team and they got him acquitted); another is that anyone can become famous for the stupidest reasons (Kato Kaelin was a good for nothing mooch who lived with the Simpsons and he has gotten his own radio talk show and countless interviews). The media swears the case will be in the history books, so we'll just wait and see.

As for the "normal" world around me, some of it is good and some of it is horrifying. One of the biggest scares in today's society is AIDS. I hope that by the time you read this, that AIDS has been eliminated. What is it? AIDS is a horrible disease that attacks the immune system of the person infected. The way to be infected is through bodily fluids, so you can get it by having sex or sharing needles or even getting a blood transfusion. Thousands of people have already died from it and I fear thousands and thousands more shall die before a cure is found. On the up side, the technology of today is unlike anything I could have imagined just a few years ago. I am certain that you will probably look back and think I lived in the stone age compared to yours, but all these advances are new and exciting to me now. One such thing is the internet. Since I have been going to Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, I have been able to explore this new wonder. One can talk to anyone in the world at the touch of a button, and if electronic mail keeps advancing as it does, the post office may become obsolete. But enough of these boring things, you are probably wondering what your old fogey of a grandmother did for fun in her day.

I love music. Bands such as Toad the Wet Sprocket, R.E.M., and Bush being some of my favorites. I still like to listen to some old music as I also enjoy watching old movies. It is a way to look back and see a time long gone; one that seemed so much nicer and cleaner than that of today. I also enjoy the current movies, in fact they are one of my favorite pastimes. The biggest ones of late include Pulp Fiction, Forrest Gump, and Batman Forever, to name a few. I love reading classic literature as well as just plain old magazines and such. Reading is an excellent escape from the hassle of day to day life. Don't think, however, that I never go out to have fun. I love going to concerts, dancing at clubs, going to parties, and just going wherever to do whatever I want. It is great.

Well, I suppose that's it for now. My grandfather loves to

tell stories about his youth, so I am pretty sure that I'll be the same. I hope that this has given you some kind of insight into a time long passed. I suppose that I'll see you in about 50 years; until then, good-bye.

Love always,
Melanie



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IL GAMES

Texas A&M University
Corpus Christi



BUST



Foot Locker.
Where it all begins.

OF FUN.



Dear Grandchildren,

I writing this letter in my freshman year of college, at Texas A&M--Corpus Christi, to show you how a normal day in my life goes. My normal day begins way too early, it seems like the night goes flying by. I begin my day off by waking up around 8:30 A.M. to the sounds of Tori Amos blaring through my stereo speakers. Her soft, subtle voice slowly wakes me. Tori Amos is a musical artist that uses various talents in her deep, quite songs. This usually tends to wake me, although sometimes it helps me fall back to sleep. After finally deciding to get out of bed, I turn on the television which always seems to be set on ESPN Sportscenter. ESPN is a television channel set up for the pleasure of viewing sports all day long. This time is one of my more relaxing moments of the day. After enjoying this peaceful moment of the day I begin to prepare myself for what the day has in store for me.

Each day tends to bring new and interesting things into my life, this includes information that I learn in my classes, whether we're talking about the politics of today the past or even the future. My day changes as the world changes, changes are made by politics and through the variety of people I converse with. The politics today in my opinion are in drastic need of change in order to assure a bright future for you and your families. Our government has difficulties setting aside their own beliefs to listen to the feeling of the general public. This is a major reason why I wish more people will become involved in the politics of this country and strive towards changing this nation for the future. The topic of getting the public to vote, is a major topic in my political history classes.

This problem has plagued the United States for all of its duration. The only way this country can resolve this problem is by evaluating the consequences and encouraging able voters to do so, to save and protect the future of this country from unwanted rule.

My day also tends to include the viewing of The Rush Limbaugh Show. This helps me stay on top of this nations political events. Rush Limbaugh is a strong political character in this country, he uses his money and power to show the effects of poor governmental rule and to deplete the reputation of the Democratic party. After having a full day of learning about politics through television and the words of others, I like to relax by going to the beach with my roommate Omar, and some of my good friends, namely Melanie, this gives me a chance to experience nature and reflect on my day and my life. I enjoy spending time with my friends because they usually bring me some peace in this crazy, mixed up world we live in.

At night I tend to do a little studying(occasionally) while listening to some of my favorite music. My favorite bands to listen to are Bush and Nine Inch Nails. These bands are alternative rock bands, that express very deep emotional messages in their music. The reason I like these bands so much is because they tend to release some of the energy I might have built up inside during the day. When finished with my homework I try to watch the nightly news, to see what events occurred in the world today. Recently, the world has been paying attention to the trial of O.J. Simpson an ex-football player, accused of killing

his wife and one of her male acquaintances. This trial lasted a little over a year and a acquittal verdict was awarded, this trial is the longest in U.S. court history. The decision was not liked by everyone because there were signs of racial favoritism by the jurors. Although this decision was not liked by everyone, I feel that it was the right choice due to lack of substantial evidence. Support for the legal and judicial system of the U.S. is another problem that this country faces and is trying to resolve.

I sincerely hope this letter has helped inform you of the kind of person I am and the kind of world I live in. The only piece of advice I can give you is be very concerned with and strive to make the world a better place for your children.

Love always,
Grandpa "Kevin" Holley

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