

## July 1999

Greetings from Charlotte!

There was a time a few weeks back that I did not think that I would ever be in Charlotte again. I want to report to all of you that I am recouping well. I still weaken very quickly but I am gaining strength on a daily basis. The doctors say it will take time and that I need to "go slow." Both Grace and I are doing well.

Kyle arrived in from Ethiopia a couple of weeks ago. Today, Kara will be flying in from Kenya. We head to the airport in a few hours to pick her up. YEA!!! How wonderful to have them come back after leaving them in such an unexpected way. Drew is in Rwanda working with child headed households with Food for the Hungry. He is battling some loneliness but is hanging in there. Ryan is loving his time up at Camp of the Woods as the "maintenance guy!"

The last week of July we will be having the first Harding reunion in nine years. We will be up in the mountains of North Carolina. Mom, who is battling cancer with chemo treatments, has requested the family to get together. This is a season to minister to her. She has had some good days but still wrestles with fatigue. What a joy it will be to be together. The Lord is so good! Drew will be the only one missing. Thanks again for all your prayers during these past weeks on uncertainty.

In His way too,

Bill and Grace

Note: Update on Elaine : Mom (Elaine) has just finished her fourth round of chemo. In spite of intense fatigue, she has had some very good days. The doctors report that the chemo is working effectively shrinking the tumor in the lung. She has been able to go to church and has gone shopping with Grace a few times. She will be off the chemo for the next three weeks. During this time she will be gaining strength. The last week of July will be a Harding family reunion in the mountains of North Carolina. This is the first reunion in over nine years. David and his family have come in from Jordan. Joe and Bill and their families are here from Ethiopia. Don and Gwen are here. What a blessed time this will be to honor Mom!