# Millican Family Newsletter



Linda, Ann Marie, Maury, Holly, and Peter at Stillhouse Hollow Lake near our home in Harker Heights, TX.

Going to the lake is one of our favorite activities. A great way to cool off in the Texas heat!

## 2013: Happy New Year from our family to yours!

After 14-wonderful years of life and ministry in the Dakotas, the Millican family returned to Texas in June 2011.

Maury went on active duty at Fort Hood, TX, where he trains Chaplains that are deploying to Afghanistan.

Linda resumed her piano teaching business at home and at the Music Conservatory at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX.

Ann Marie and Holly enrolled at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. Ann Marie is studying Sociology. And Holly is studying Physical Therapy and Military Science through ROTC.

Our family started attending Grace Bible Church, and now Maury and Linda enjoy playing regularly on the worship team.

Peter is the only one who stayed behind in North Dakota to continue his Music Education studies at North Dakota State University.



We began 2012 by attending the NCAA FCS Championship football game in Frisco, TX. Peter performed with the Gold Star marching band, and the Bison won the game. We were so excited that we all rushed the field after the game!

In the spring, Holly traveled to China performing with the UMHB Jazz Band at colleges in the cities of Guilin, Wuhan, and Chongaing. And Ann Marie performed as Mary Magdalene in the Easter Pageant at University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX.

On June 30, Maury and Linda celebrated their 28<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary kayaking on Lady Bird Lake in Austin, TX. We thank God for our marriage and our family.

In late summer, Peter and his girlfriend Diane traveled to Texas to join us for a family vacation to San Antonio. We went to Sea World, the Riverwalk, and of course, the Alamo!

In the Fall, Peter took the field as a Drum Major for the NDSU Gold Star Marching Band. As of today, the Bison are returning to Frisco to play in the NCAA FCS Football Championship game!!

### Remembering 2012 Special Events

- Jan 7, NDSU Bison won the NCAA FCS Championship football game in Frisco, TX.
  Peter performed with the Gold Star marching band, and we all rushed the field after the game!
- March 6-16, Holly traveled to China performing with the UMHB Jazz Band at colleges in the cities of Guilin, Wuhan, and Chongqing.
- April 4, Ann Marie performed as Mary Magdalene in the Easter Pageant at University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX.
- June 30, Maury and Linda celebrated their 28<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary kayaking on Lady Bird Lake in Austin, TX.
- August 6-10, Peter and his girlfriend Diane went on our family vacation to San Antonio, TX.
- Sep 1, Peter takes the field as Drum Major for the NDSU Gold Star Marching Band.
- Oct 7, Gramma Hollie died.
- Nov 16-18, Maury & Linda attend Army Strong Bonds for Families retreat at the Flying L Ranch in Bandera, TX.
- Dec 21, World did not end...

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## One of the Millican Family sayings:

It's a new day with new possibilities.

## Millican Family Update continued...

Since returning to Texas, we have enjoyed family reunions, weddings, and frequent trips to Cushing, TX where Maury's mother lives. Maury has become the "family minister."

We also had some losses in the family. Shortly after moving back to Texas in 2011, Maury's father died. And in October 2012, Maury's grandmother Hollie. "The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

In addition to leading worship music at Ft Hood chapels and Grace Bible Church, they regularly lead Army Strong Bonds retreats for couples, singles, and families.

Recently, Linda went on an errand to Lowe's yesterday after working out at our Fitness Club – so she still had shorts on. It was 42 degrees! She was standing in line waiting to pay and a man asked, "Are you a part of the polar bear club?" She smiled and said, "I am from North Dakota, and will always have North Dakota in my blood!"

We miss all of our wonderful relatives and friends in the Dakotas! It is challenging to make long-term friends in a military climate. Families are usually here for 3-years and then they deploy to other areas of the world. We've learned to enjoy the friendships while they are here, and thank God for these people in our lives.

Linda's piano teaching business is going very well. Her students come from various ethnic and religious backgrounds, and she always has a positive influence on their lives and families.

Please let us know how we can pray for you. And pray for us that we would be faithful to God to serve Him at Fort Hood, in our church, and neighborhood. The Lord has been so good to us in so many ways. Being thankful has made all the difference in this transition back to Texas.

And please come visit any time. We would love to have you.

Love, peace and blessings to all of you!

The Millican family

One of Our Favorite Scriptures:

"The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail" (Isaiah 58.11).

God promises to guide us on the journey, even in the deserts of life. Even more, the Lord promises to nurture and strengthen us. We thank God for our partnerships in the gospel with all who love the Lord. Thank you for your love and friendship which refreshes our spirits, so that our family is like a well watered garden.

Thanks be to God.

#### Jackelope

This is a Jackelope. It is friendlier than a Chupacabra. These are two strange animals running around with rattlers and mountain lions in Texas. Yes, we have mountain lions in Texas too. So North Dakota and Texas have a lot in common!

