

A quick word to relatives related to Grandma Beth, from whom I (Theresa) likely inherited the oral cancer: Dr. Rhodus has told me that "more than you know" due to my situation, their research is going full steam ahead; and they are looking strongly at genetics as a predisposing factor for cancer like mine. The doctors continually tell me to remind you to never forget to remind your dentists and physicians about your heredity potential for oral cancer. As education for you: they feel that one risk factor probably does not give you the cancer. But if you have two or more risk factors, then you could develop it. Some of these risk factors include heredity, tobacco use, alcohol use, (possibly even in moderate amounts), or lichen planus (as I have), stress or other illness, etc. So I wish for you only the best and hope that you can eliminate any risk factors. We want you healthy! (Remember this has shown up in young people as early as in their twenty's, although the average age is 57 for first occurrence.)

This "cancer talk" reminds me that several of our special friends and relatives have endured the rigors of other cancer treatment during this past year: Sandy Botes, Steve Bless, and Marilyn Quam among them; and we are glad to hear that in all cases, things look good. Nothing like that to cause a family to step back to realize what is important in life. Continued good wishes to each of you! And welcome to the club of survivors. The more we ponder, the more we can think of several others of you who have brushed against medical situations and come out ahead of the game. Bravo! (Are we all getting older or what???)

Also, already touched on above, and very high on our list of satisfying life experiences is Roger's barbershopping hobby. We are very grateful for the many friends we have maintained over the years in this great and life-enriching pastime. Keeping him busy even tho retired, Roger continues to add creative features to the computer scoring program (which he wrote); he is still on the judging team; and this year, he is again President of the Hilltop Chapter (home of the Great Northern Union Men's a Capella chorus). Theresa continues to call it "her" hobby too, and helps out with various things.

\*Tickets are available for their biggest show of the year to be held in Roseville, MN, Bethel college, beautiful Benson Great Hall auditorium on January 25, 2003, both afternoon and evening. We can get those tickets for you, or you can order per flyer. If you like easy-listening music with an excellent level of talent, this is for you!! There is another show open to the general public in June, just before International. That one will be in Eden Prairie. Generally the rest of the performance dates throughout the year are summer church appearances, and for "private" audiences such as conventions, community festivals, local concert series, etc. \*Your local town or school or church can hire them for reasonable rates, and it is much better than anything on TV or what you might often see at your local fair,