

## After the Wedding

*By Joan Mish*

In November of 1999 our daughter was getting married here in Denver on Thanksgiving weekend. Our son drove our car out, for her exchange family was coming from New Zealand to attend the wedding and we invited them to come to Wisconsin. And we took the plane. At this time my husband was in a wheelchair and was determined to walk his daughter down the aisle. He had just gotten out of nursing home about a month before.

It was a great weekend with so much family coming. Cousins I did not know who lived in Colorado even came. And my husband's niece came in from Hawaii to go to the wedding, for she was going back to Wisconsin to visit family for the holidays. They chose this weekend for Corey, as her husband was working with the Olympic team for the event which would take place in Australia, and this was one weekend he could get off. Otherwise he was traveling all over the US and the world.

The day after the wedding and reception, my daughter's father-in-law took us out to DIA. And of course my husband, Tom was using the wheelchair to get around that crazy airport! Doing that journey in a wheelchair was not very quick. By the time we finally got to our departure desk they had closed off the desk and no one else was allowed to get on the plane. And yet the plane was still right outside the gate. In fact I think there was still 10 minutes before they left! I have never seen my husband's anger blow up like it did! So they said they would get us a hotel room and book us on a plane for tomorrow. They did drive us to a nearby hotel, which was a very nice place. I think they even provided us with food, as I recall.

When we finally got back to Madison, Wisconsin, fortunately another son picked us up and drove us home. Later that day the son who took our car out to Colorado arrived with Yvonne and Ray Morgan from New Zealand. We had a great three or four days together. She went to a friend's Christmas Tree farm and he showed us all around. And they helped us pick out our tree. The Morgans from New Zealand had a walnut tree farm outside of Christ Church, New Zealand. We had a great time getting to know Missy's family from New Zealand.

Six months later my husband passed away. It was a good way to finalize our marriage.