

# CHRISTMAS HERALD

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## HEADLINE STORY



**Calgary, AB, May 31, 2023**

Julie and Greg are delighted to announce the birth of Emily Charlotte. The whole family are delighted with her healthy arrival at 7:24pm, weighting 7lbs 5oz. Emily is the third grandchild of Mary and Ed Kuntz and the sixth grandchild of Shirley and Ray Clarkson.

1. In last years edition I referred to the comical political machinations in Alberta. Well, the election at the end of May hasn't not changed that situation. I hope all of you non-Albertans have an alternate plan when Alberta removes \$334 billion or over 50% of the assets of the Canada Pension Plan. Then we have the privatization of our Medical Labs. Well, that lasted about 9 months. The latest is the splitting of Alberta Health Services into four distinct and independent entities. And so, the saga continues.

2. On February 9 Mary and Ed started a 3-week trip to Majorca, Spain. They had a wonderful holiday exploring the island and its main city, Palma. In late March Mary began a

great 39-day Pacific cruise from Auckland, New Zealand to Vancouver including 6 stops in New Zealand, 3 stops in Australia, 2 stops in New Caledonia, 2 stops in Fiji, 1 stop in American Samoa and 3 stops in Hawaii. At the Port Chalmers stop in New Zealand she was able to meet up and enjoy a day with Julie's parents. She also made a trip to Newfoundland to visit with her brother Philip and wife Sylvia and their family. Also visiting were Ed's sister Carol and her daughters Cassandra and Jennifer. During the visit they spread Carol's husband's (Mary's brother) ashes into the Atlantic as he had wished. Jeff and Kelly continue to enjoy their vacation trailer near Lake Koocanusa, BC. They enjoyed the lake even more with their purchase of a trimaran boat. Jenn and Barb were again able to spend time in the Gatineau's visiting friends who have a cottage there. Needless to say, Greg and Julie kept close to home tending the needs of their dear Emily.

3. We all managed to keep relatively healthy in 2023. Mary has had some back and knee issues. She underwent Radiofrequency Ablation to some back nerves which has reduced the back pain she was experiencing. She was also fitted with a knee brace to strengthen her right knee. Ed continues to have monthly bladder treatments to keep any cancer at bay. Much to his hesitation, but much to the delight and subtle encouragement of family, Ed is testing hearing aids. But it was Kelly who gets the top health story. While walking on the boat ramp where they launch their new boat, she slipped, lost her balance, fell, and broke her leg and ankle in 5 places. Surgery involved the insertion of metal rods and screws. She is slowly getting her mobility back. During Julie's pregnancy and after Emily's birth, Julie suffered severe gastric attacks which were misdiagnosed as acid reflux. It was finally diagnosed as a gall bladder issue resulting in removal surgery.

4. Noelle finished her third year at the University of Lethbridge and started her fourth year this fall. She continues to excel in her studies. Caleb graduated from grade 12 at Bishop Carrol. He is now trying to figure out what comes next.

5. There were few job changes in 2023. Everyone has continued in their respective jobs, Jeff at Canadian Natural Resources, Kelly at Canadian Blood Services, Jenn, Barb and Julie at Alberta Health Services and Greg at Rev Engineering. Jenn continues to develop her various businesses including a contract with Veteran's Affairs to treat PTSD sufferers. Ed worked full time during the month of May and part of June as the Election Clerk for the Calgary-Glenmore. He experienced his second Judicial Recount in which the two top candidates ended up within 42 votes out of 27,743 valid ballots.

6. Mary continues her role as Treasurer of the Holy Spirit Charitable Society. Its next Casino is scheduled for June 11/12. Again, this year, Mary and Ed were hard at work all summer and early fall making preserves and some 325 pounds of Christmas Cake to sell at the CWL Christmas Craft Sale and through her maryspreserves website. Ed is still a member of the Holy Spirit Funeral Choir. He continues his involvement with the parish hamper program. Mary and Ed's 2023 garden got a very late start due to election activities. It did produce some potatoes, a good crop of endive and a fair crop of raspberries. Mary continues to knit baby hats. She enjoyed a limited golf season in 2023. Ed's online piano lessons took a break over the summer and fall but he is now back at it. He has a new toy, Greg's old 3D printer. Jenn remains a serious gardener. Her green house again yielded a good supply of vegetables, tomatoes, yellow and green beans, and more summer squash than could be used. Onions and potatoes rounded out her harvest. Ed keeps working on the Kuntz Family website. From the Kuntz family, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best in 2024.

7. [www.chickeringregistry.ca](http://www.chickeringregistry.ca)  
[www.phiaparia.ca](http://www.phiaparia.ca)  
[www.kuntzfamily.ca](http://www.kuntzfamily.ca)  
[maryspreserves.kuntzfamily.ca](http://maryspreserves.kuntzfamily.ca)  
[genealogy.kuntzfamily.ca](http://genealogy.kuntzfamily.ca)  
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