



Merry Christmas!

www.marknsara.com

It's beginning to look too much like Christmas in October these days. We couldn't believe how early the lights went up and how Halloween candy morphed into candy cane lane at the stores.

Christmas really did come early this year as Mark changed divisions at Apple in March and is now a happier employee working on the other side of Apple's balance sheet in Apple Online Store Readiness. In his new role, you can't blame him if your Apple Online Store shopping experience is unsatisfactory, but you can blame him if it doesn't get resolved. Mark wants all friends-n-family to know that just because Apple stock outperformed Google this year doesn't mean our stock coffers are bulging. So, we keep working.

Sara continues to juggle Mommyhood in the morning with work at EnviroMedia in the afternoons. Work this year has focused on hitting the 10-year anniversary of EnviroMedia, helping Texans get ready for emergencies (TexasPrepares.org) and teaching litter prevention to youngsters using a team of superheroes. Both sons (Dillon and Kole) have been tapped to provide voice-over services. Luckily, both boys work for M&Ms and are budding new talent for their Mom.



We got the neighbors gossiping in April when a sleek black Ferrari was unloaded at our front door. Mark surprised his Dad with a birthday joy ride through the wildflowers. The boys gave it a spit-n-shine while Mark prayed he'd get the deposit back.





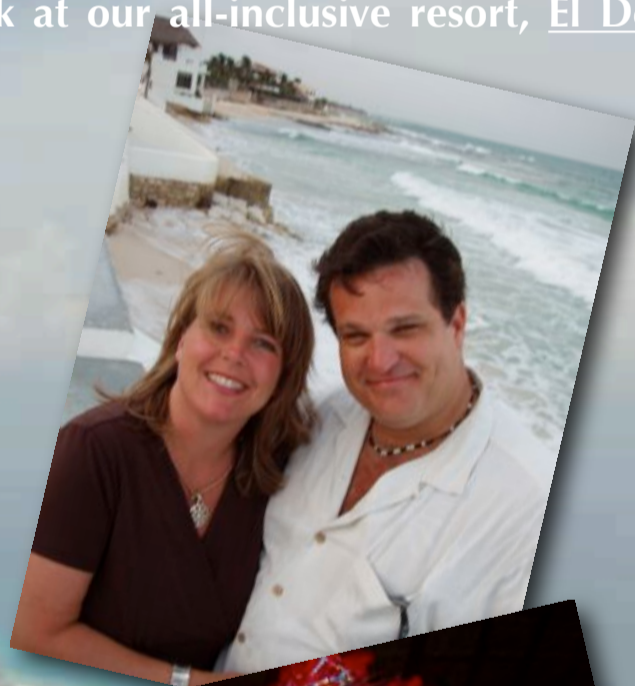
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Our family headed west to Sun River, Oregon for a wedding of Sara's former roommate Toni Atterbury. We loved the cool weather in June and biking everywhere as a family.



In July, Mark and Sara took a break from parenthood to toast friends, Val and Millie, for their celebration on the Mexican Riviera. Mark and Sara adopted "Beer in Mexico" as their new theme song and Mark tries to break the bank at our all-inclusive resort, El Dorado Royale.





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In August, Sara's family headed to Table Rock Lake, Missouri to toast Sara's parents 50 years of marriage. Unbeknownst to Mark, he was suffering from a patch of pneumonia and hacked his way through lots of fun.



The rest of the summer was spent biking, playscaping, and killing off large swaths of grass in the backyard while daring to tame the Splash-a-saurus.



We joined friends for our annual camping trip at Garner State park where Dillon "competed" in his first organized ride with his Dad. "C'mon Dillon help me up this hill!" could be heard echoing through the Frio River valley all that morning.



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As October approached, so did our plotting of our Halloween costumes. Once we saw Britney Spear's jaw-dropping performance at the Video Music Awards, we knew what we had to do. Proud to say, Britney and ex-hubby K-Fed earned top prize and bragging rights.



Obviously, we have not applied our high standards to our kids' costume preparation. It's hard to compete with an off-the-shelf flammable unitard.

In November, Mark and Sara were thrilled with the announcement that friend Randi Shade was announcing her bid for Austin City Council.



Another warm-n-fuzzy day was when we returned to our wedding site at the Salt Lick Pavillion for a little reminiscing, this time with 70 pounds of boys, not barbeque. Dillon served as photographer.



We packed up Santa's sleigh for a trek to Nebraska over the Christmas holidays. Only 13 hours in the car, (each way) 11 of which were spent singing "Santa Clause is Coming to Town".

May peace be with you,
Mark-Sara-n-daBoyz