

Christmas Challenge

Christmas 2006
By Rod Dawson



We set off in fog and drizzling rain. We picked up Sybil's son, Kent, and he drove to the airport. He let Sybil and me out at the terminal and parked the car. I was so very thankful he parked the car because I doubt I could have walked from the parking lot back to the terminal! The flight was uneventful and we arrived in Charlotte right on

schedule. Sheri, Sybil's daughter who lives in Columbia, SC, met us in Charlotte. That was another blessing for me because the hike from the terminal where we landed to the terminal where the plane leaves for Columbia is a long, long hike. Sheri didn't realize how sick Sybil and I were so she had planned a shopping trip after a lunch at the shopping center. After lunch there were two stops for shopping. Sybil and I sat those stops out in the car.

As soon as we arrived at Sheri's house, I went to bed for a long nap. Sheri is a great cook and the meals she prepared were outstanding. I missed some wonderful meals because I just did not feel like eating. I even lost eight pounds while we were there! Christmas found packages stacked under a beautiful tree. Sheri and Mike, her husband, have a sixty inch TV screen and they found a program that broadcast a wood fire the whole day. It looked so much like a real fire in a fireplace that Sybil backed up to it to keep warm!

After spending as much time in bed as I did visiting, it was time to leave. Sheri drove us to Charlotte. She let us out at the terminal and we said our goodbyes. We were unprepared for the length of the line of travelers waiting to board planes. The line snaked back and forth and we missed our flight by the time we reached the desk. By this time I was feeling very much under the weather. However, by missing our scheduled flight, we were able to eat a leisurely lunch.

We boarded our flight and the flight attendant announced our flight. Possibly she had a party the evening before the flight because before we took off, she said, "Welcome aboard US Airways flight number uh, uh, Oh heck, we are going to Norfolk and I hope you are too!" We all were! We really had a wonderful Christmas. Sybil and I did feel well enough, at times, to make it through!