



NICA NEWS FROM ED & LINDA BAKER

JULY, 2009

We must begin with an animal update. We are finally free of all wildlife living in our house! PTL! Ed used a fishing hook to entice the iguanas to a tasty morsel of meat (as recommended by the locals). One iguana was already out of the house, and then the other iguana took the bait! While both iguanas were out, Ed boarded up their entrances. Needless to say, they weren't very happy about losing their home, and came back regularly to try to get in. They have finally moved on and we are very happy that they have a new home.



July 4th we spent in Tipitapa with fellow missionaries. We had a good cook-out with hamburgers, good company, but no fireworks. We continued south to Granada. July 5th is Ed's birthday, so we spent a couple of days celebrating in Granada. Like most tourist towns, there are lots of street vendors, and pottery is a popular item to sell on the street. On Sunday, we had met a lady carrying heavy pottery pieces to sell. We didn't buy anything from her on Sunday (and later felt that we should have), but met her & her daughter again on Monday. We

invited them for breakfast. It was a pleasure meeting & talking with her. We were able to find out about her family & her life as a street vendor. She said the smaller number of tourist had really affected her livelihood. She said last year she would have sold all her items by 10:00 AM on any given day. This year on Sunday she didn't sell anything. On Monday, we did buy 2 items, the plate and 1 of the vases.

The remainder of July was very difficult for us. Linda headed to Texas on July 9th. Together with her 2 sisters, Brenda & Judy, they cared for their oldest sister Martha. She had been battling cancer for the past 5 years. On July 8th, she had elected to discontinue her chemo. Linda, with sisters, stayed in Texas, returning to Nicaragua on July 20th. Then on Wednesday, July 22nd, Martha lost her battle with cancer. Ed had initially stayed in Nicaragua, getting rid of iguanas and such. Actually, Martha enjoyed the regular "iguana updates" as we talked on the phone nightly. We both headed to the states on Wednesday, July 22nd.

The remainder of July was spent with Linda's family in Texas. We did manage just 3 days in Atlanta, which was a nice rest. We were able to visit with our youngest daughter Kara. However, Rhian & family stayed in CA; but lots of visits via telephone.



On the 22nd, we were just starting a well for the Amigos for Christ new property when we received the call about Martha. Amigos plans to build a team headquarters on a recently purchased piece of property just 10 minutes from our house in Chinandega. We were able to leave the project in the capable hands of a Nicaraguan well driller and two gringos. The well was finished while we were in TX, and is a successful well, producing 30 gallons of water a minute. We still need to have a water analysis performed, and add an elevated tank.

You might notice in this photo that we are not using our drill rig. Our rig is still “out of commission”. We have some parts we need to replace, and decide if we want to “trailer mount” the rig or not. In the meantime, Amigos for Christ has not only the same rig as we have, but also the rig we used here which is a Deep Rock 100. We look forward to borrowing Amigos’ rigs for future projects.

This has been a difficult newsletter to write. Not only was Martha Linda’s oldest sister, but a good friend. We talked with her often, as she also installed Skype on her computer. She will be missed by many. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Ralph Cole, and their daughter Vanessa. She was only 70 years young.



Martha Ann Davis Cole
September 22, 1938
July 22, 2009



**IN HIS SERVICE,
ED & LINDA BAKER**

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