

Alex will be done with community college this year while David will be graduating from high school. They have been very busy lately working on college applications. In fact, we've all been so engrossed with applications that it's all we can think about. Writing a Christmas letter in such conditions was a challenge – until we thought of writing out letter in the form of a college application. Hope we get accepted!

University of Waite

Application for Admission
Student Name: Barry, Margie, Alex & David Waite
Intended Major: Alex is interested in civil engineering, creative writing or environmental engineering while David wants both aerospace engineering and fine art. To say they have diverse interests is a gross understatement. Margie has made them promise not to major in accounting.
Ben Franklin enjoyed French cuisine, what do you like? What a strange question. This is a paraphrase of what was on a real application. Go figure.
Describe how your life experiences have prepared you for the university: Heck, our family has been running ragged for years. Who knows what that's prepared us for, but it's certainly been interesting.
Describe your year in a few words: Our year was busy, fun, stressful, long, wicked-awesome (per David)
What school do you currently attend? Alex is at El Camino College and working the meat counter at Bristol Farms. David is at San Pedro High School. Barry teaches a class now and then at USC, but works at the City of Carson. Margie works way too much at Bristol Farms to go to school. She was promoted to controller this year by the way. A well-deserved promotion!
Activities: Where to start? We ripped out our front lawn and replaced it with low-water, low-maintenance landscaping. That's pretty exciting. Okay, it's not exciting, but it certainly looks good. Did you know that cats really like the gravel portion? And not it a nice way. On a more pleasant note, we spent a sunny (really!) week in Seattle to attend an outdoor wedding without rain (really!), rented a house for a week in Santa Barbara and had lunch at Disneyland's private restaurant, Club 33. We sat at Mrs. Disney's table and even had the waiter who used to take care of her. Best meal we ever ate.
What are your career goals? If we don't know this as adults, it's certainly not a reasonable question for teens. Cowboy is always a good career goal for anybody.
Best movie: Toy Story 2 of course. Is that the right answer? Now will we get in?
What do you consider your greatest accomplishments? We celebrated Barry's 50 th birthday with a party and a magician. You should have been there! Margie was promoted as noted above. Alex was named trombone section head of his college band. David was front-row guide for the LA All City Band in the Rose Parade, Alex's spot the previous year. David started a jazz band at the high school.
What are your plans for the future? It will be a year of change. We'll see which colleges the boys pick. In any case, it looks like we'll be empty nesters come September. What will that do to Margie's favorite recreational activity: laundry?
What is your favorite color? Really? You base your choice of students on this?
What else should we know about you? A college counselor told us that Alex has a leg up on the competition because he has a real job. He's found his classmates are amazed by someone who has a paying gig. A raccoon ate four fish out of our pond. At 29 cents each, that's over a dollar for replacements. Nothing interesting happened with Nicks the dog or the two cats. That's good.
Contact information: You can reach us on Facebook (facebook.com/bwaite) although Margie does not partake of such foolishness. Barry is much more foolish as you know. You can also find the boys on Facebook. Our email address is still waite@earthlink.net . And we are among the few people actually listed in the phone book. Hey, maybe you could write us a letter of recommendation!