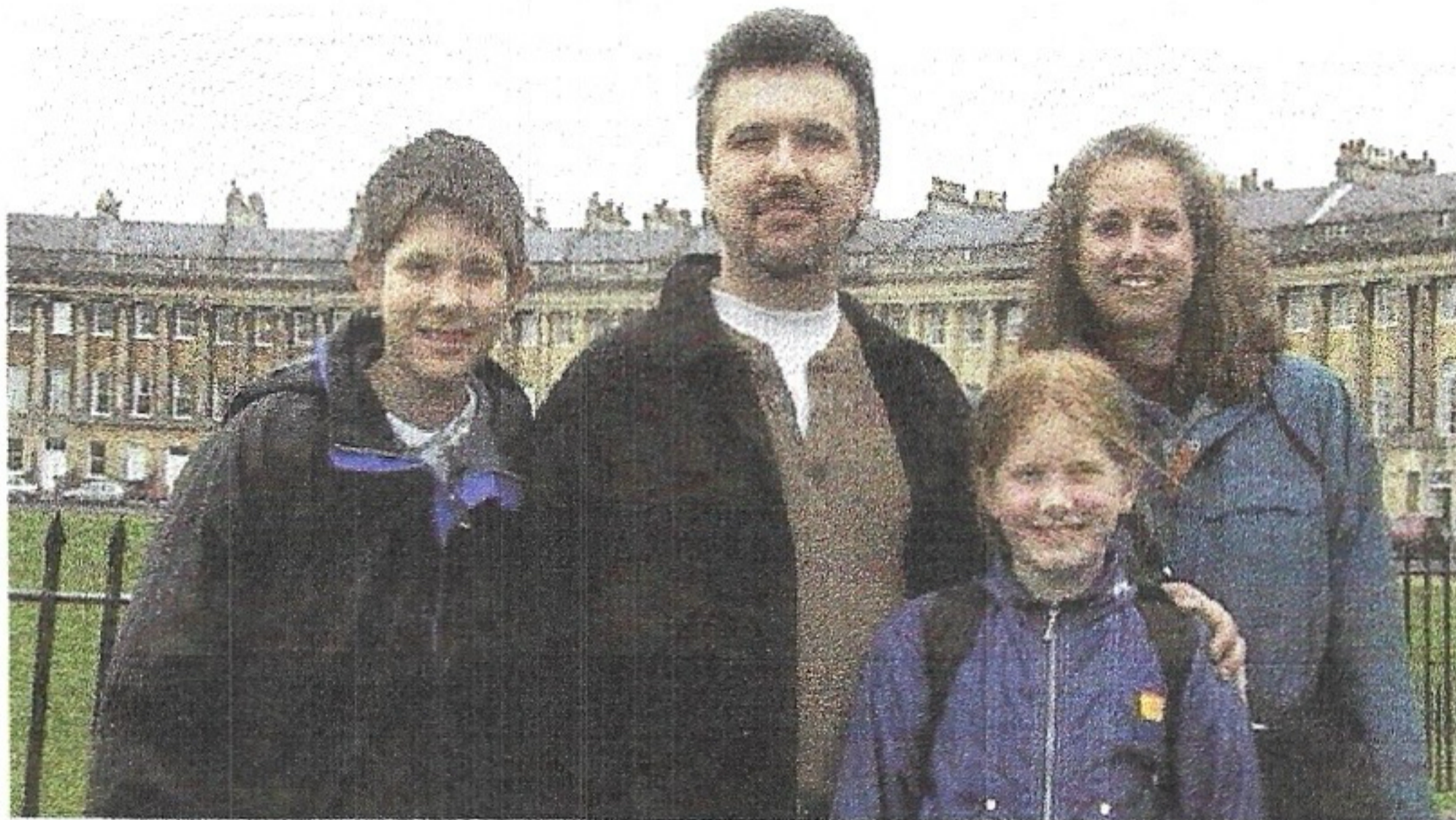


Y2K IS FINALLY DRAWING TO A CLOSE, and if you are reading this before Christmas Day, it will be a Christmas miracle. Getting the cards written slipped a few notches on the priority list, and yet we didn't want to cross it off entirely as sometimes this is our only communication all year! (A sad commentary on our hectic schedules, but better this than none!)

Much remains the same from last year, but there are always changes. Same house, but the color changed from white to cream. Same schools for the kids, but a grade higher. Same business being run out of our home, but focussed more on web design and less on print media.

The big excitement for all of us this year was a three week ramble in England last spring. We visited with some of Don's relatives who we hadn't seen since before James was born, and also tramped through castles until we were giddy. We spent two of those weeks with my parents, drove from York to Cornwall to Wales to the Cotswolds. The picture above was taken in front of the Royal Crescent in Bath. All of us are big Anglophiles, so we enjoyed all the history and the country side. To see what the kids liked best, check out their on-line journals at www.gnumediadesign.com/james or [/emily](http://www.gnumediadesign.com/emily).



out of his cast in time. He's still playing percussion in the band, and recently joined the Chime Choir at church. He's also very active in Boy Scouts; skiing, camping, or doing something else every month. At Scout Camp this summer, he learned to sail and loved it so much, he is planning a week of it in Florida next summer. Especially exciting this fall was a nomination for a "CAMMY," the Oscar of the community access television world. James filmed a documentary of the traveling Viet Nam Wall when it was here in Naperville. Don edited and narrated it. While they didn't win their category, it was quite a thrill for a twelve-year-old to be nominated.

Kate's still teaching Sunday School, shelving books in both kids' school libraries, leading Emily's Girl Scout troop, playing in the Bell Choir, editing the church and homeowner's association newsletters, and active

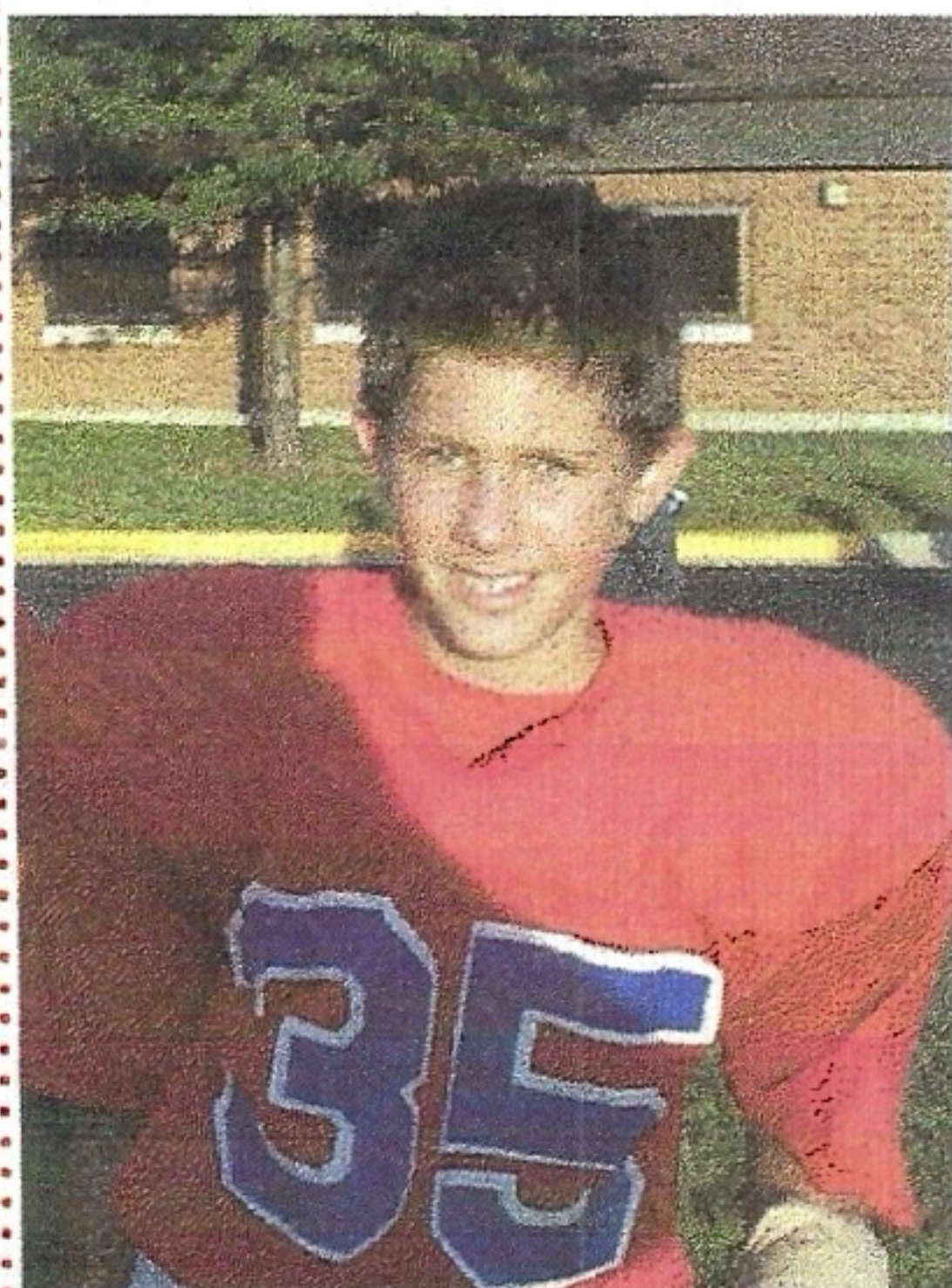
with the Chamber of Commerce with Don. The big change, and you can barely make it out in the above picture, is that she's doing it with three less feet of hair. It's a revelation how easy it is to handle shorter hair, and yet, she misses it. In fact, it's five inches longer now than in the picture. We turned the "Big Cut" into a little party, and it became Kate's fifteen minutes of fame. The **Chicago Tribune** ran an article and pictures, as did the **Daily Herald**. WGN filmed in the house and ran it on the noon and nine o'clock news. Fox News and CLTV did pieces as well, along with three different radio stations. What a kick!

Emily is in her last year at Mill Street School. As fifth graders, they had a few days Outdoor Education at George Williams College in the fall. She still plays the piano and plays the violin in two different orchestras, as well as handchimes with James at church. Emily is also busy with the Girl Scouts, conducting Bird Counts in February snow and camping in autumn thunderstorms. She also still volunteers as a Junior Interpreter at the Naperville Settlement, as you can see from her costume at right.

Time is zipping past — just look at these kids! — but we try to stay in touch with friends and family. Email us at don@gnumediadesign.com so we can keep those contacts.

God bless you in 2001,

Don and Kate,
James and Emily



James, as you can see, tried out for football this fall as a seventh grader. It's a good thing we took this picture at the first game, because it was also his last due to a broken wrist. He's back to normal now, but he had to blow off the basketball season because he wasn't

