



ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY



LUKE 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

LUKE 2:1-20

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

LUKE 2:1-20

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

LUKE 2:1-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

LUKE 2:1-20

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

LUKE 2:1-20

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

LUKE 2:1-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

LUKE 2:1-20

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

LUKE 2:1-20

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



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Gari Melchers.

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Jesus must flee from home (Matthew 2:13-15)



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Jesus has no earthly home (Matthew 8:18-22)



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Jesus welcomes us home (John 14:1-7)

Jesus is the way home (John 10:7-10)

JOHN 10:7-10

So Jesus said to them again, "Truly, truly I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All those who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

JOHN 10:7-10

I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have it abundantly."



"I Am the Door of the Sheepfold"

Not one that's gently hinged or deftly hung,
Not like the ones you planed at Joseph's place,
Not like the well-oiled openings that swung
So easily for Pilate's practiced pace,
Not like the ones that closed in Mary's face
From house to house in brimming Bethlehem,
Not like the one that no man may assail,
The dreadful curtain, The forbidding veil
That waits your breaking in Jerusalem.

Not one you made but one you have become:
Load-bearing, balancing, a weighted beam
To bridge the gap, to bring us within reach
Of your high pasture. Calling us by name,
You lay your body down across the breach,
Yourself the door that opens into home.

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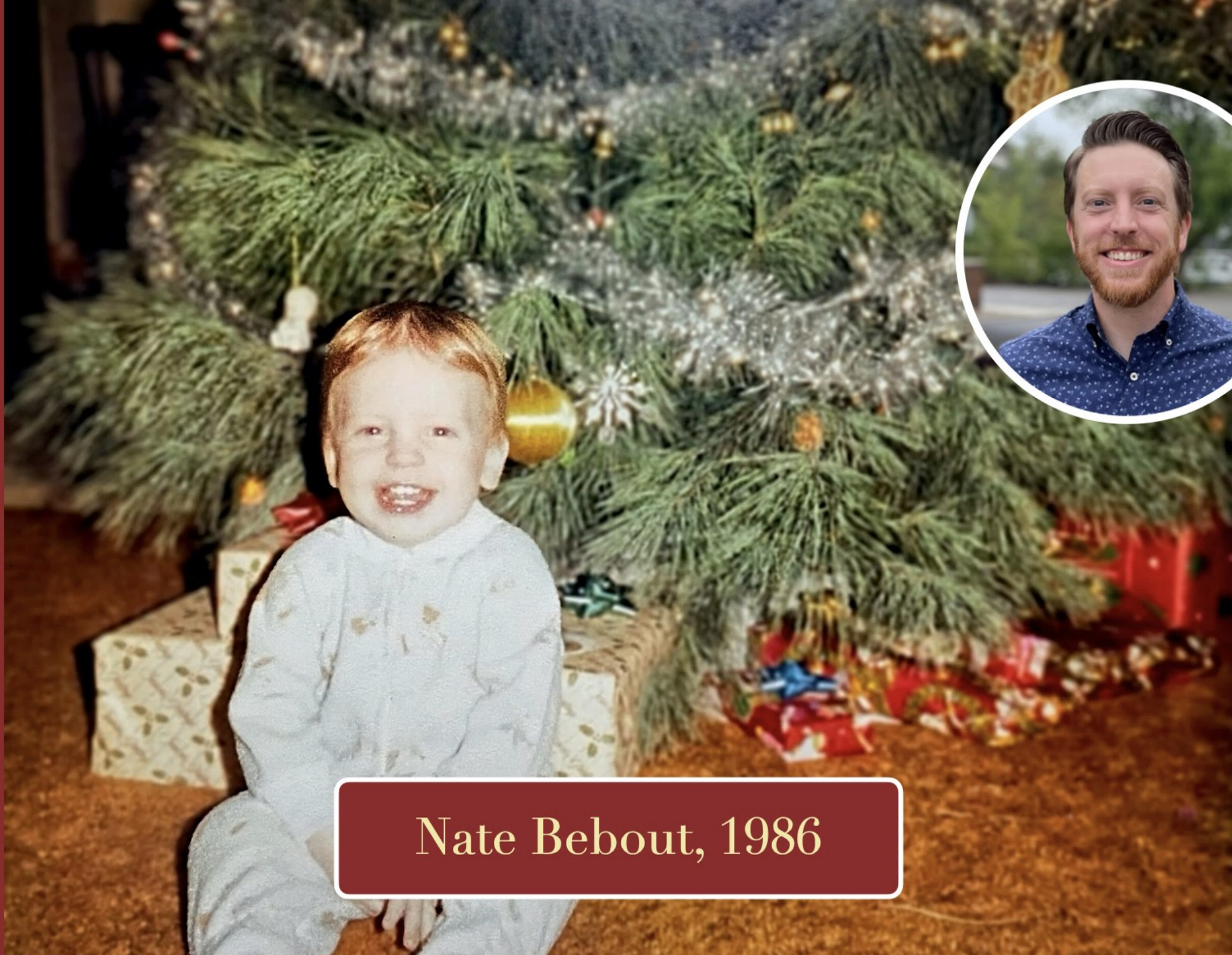




Aaron Mohney, 2003



Mel Plank, 1984



Nate Bebout, 1986



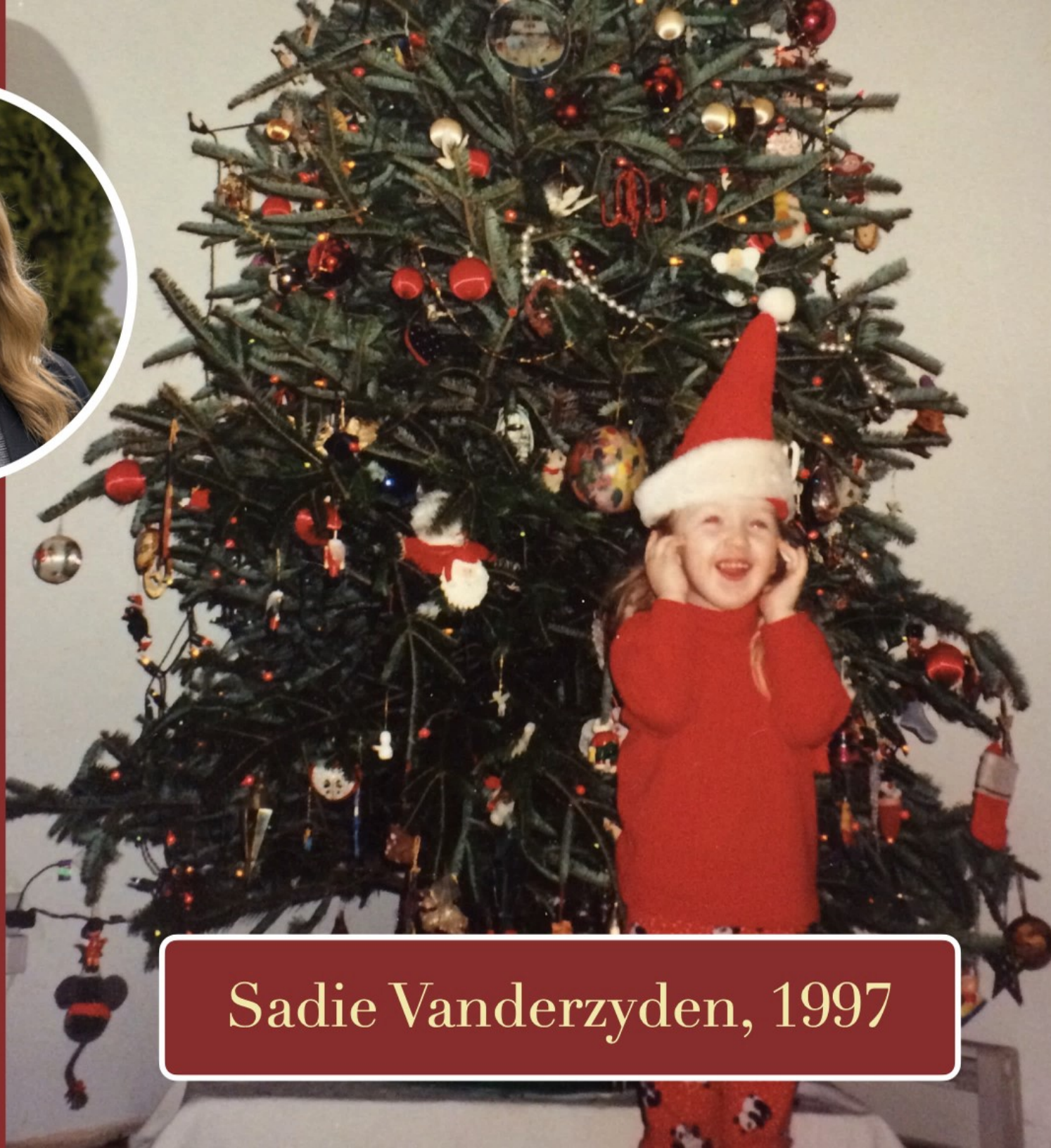
Cameron Johnson, 1997



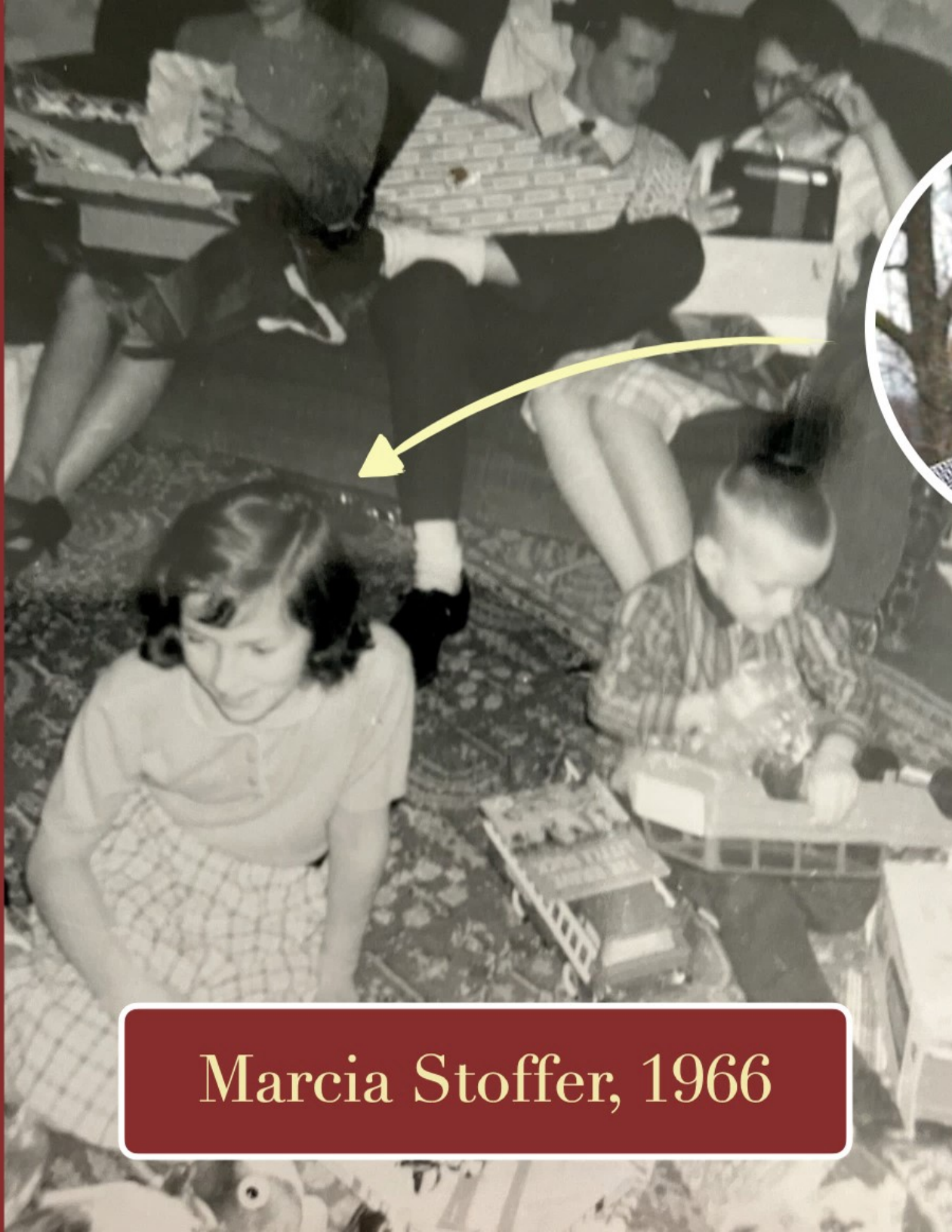
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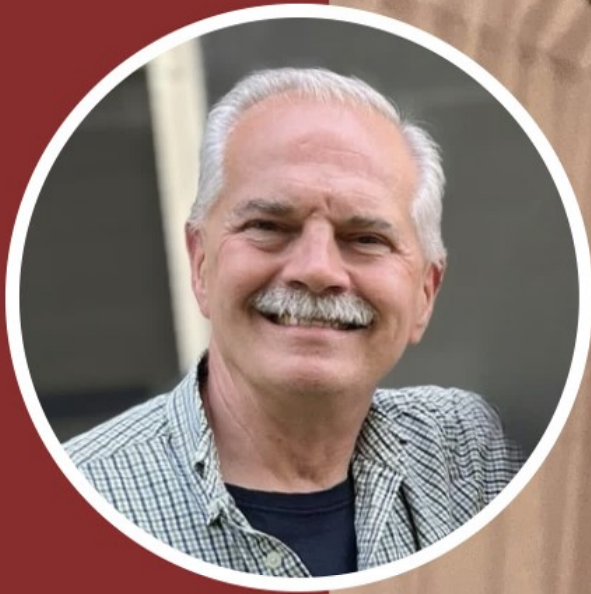
Sherry Van Duyne, 1951



Sadie Vanderzyden, 1997



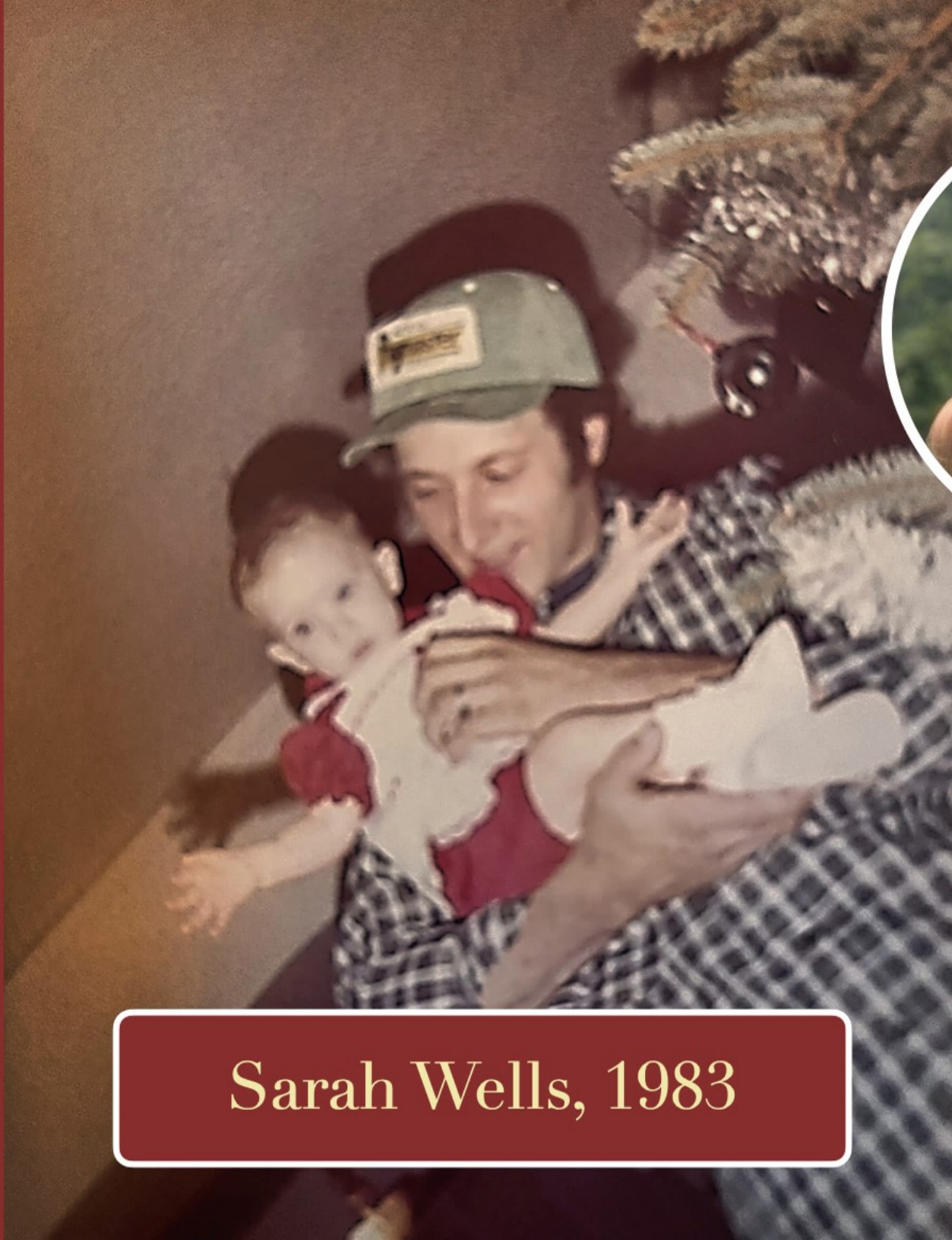
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Brett Martin, 1970



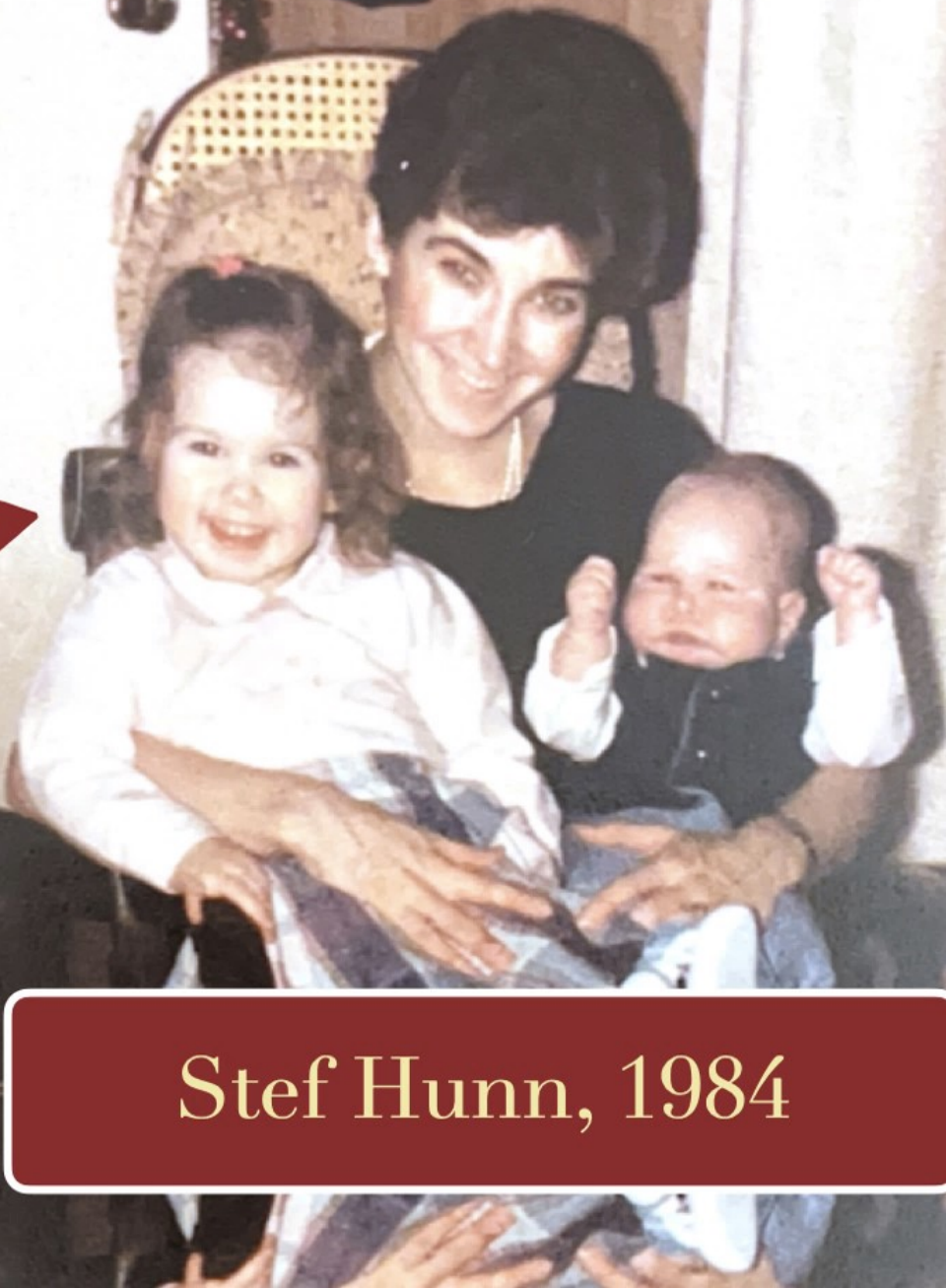
Tony Van Duyne, 1985



Sarah Wells, 1983



Lanie Roberts, 1966



Stef Hunn, 1984



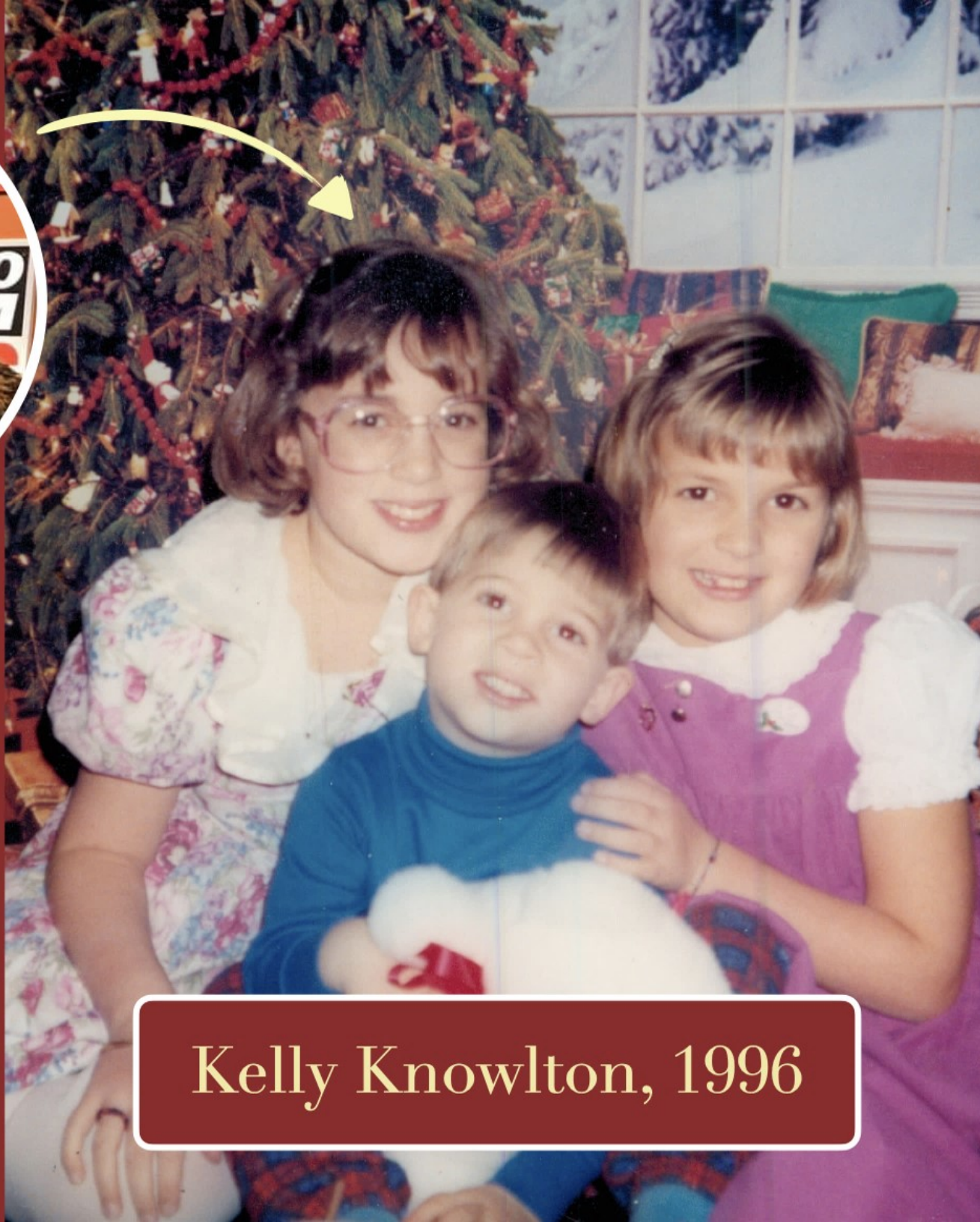
Grace Moricca, 2003



Ryan Gilmer, 1987



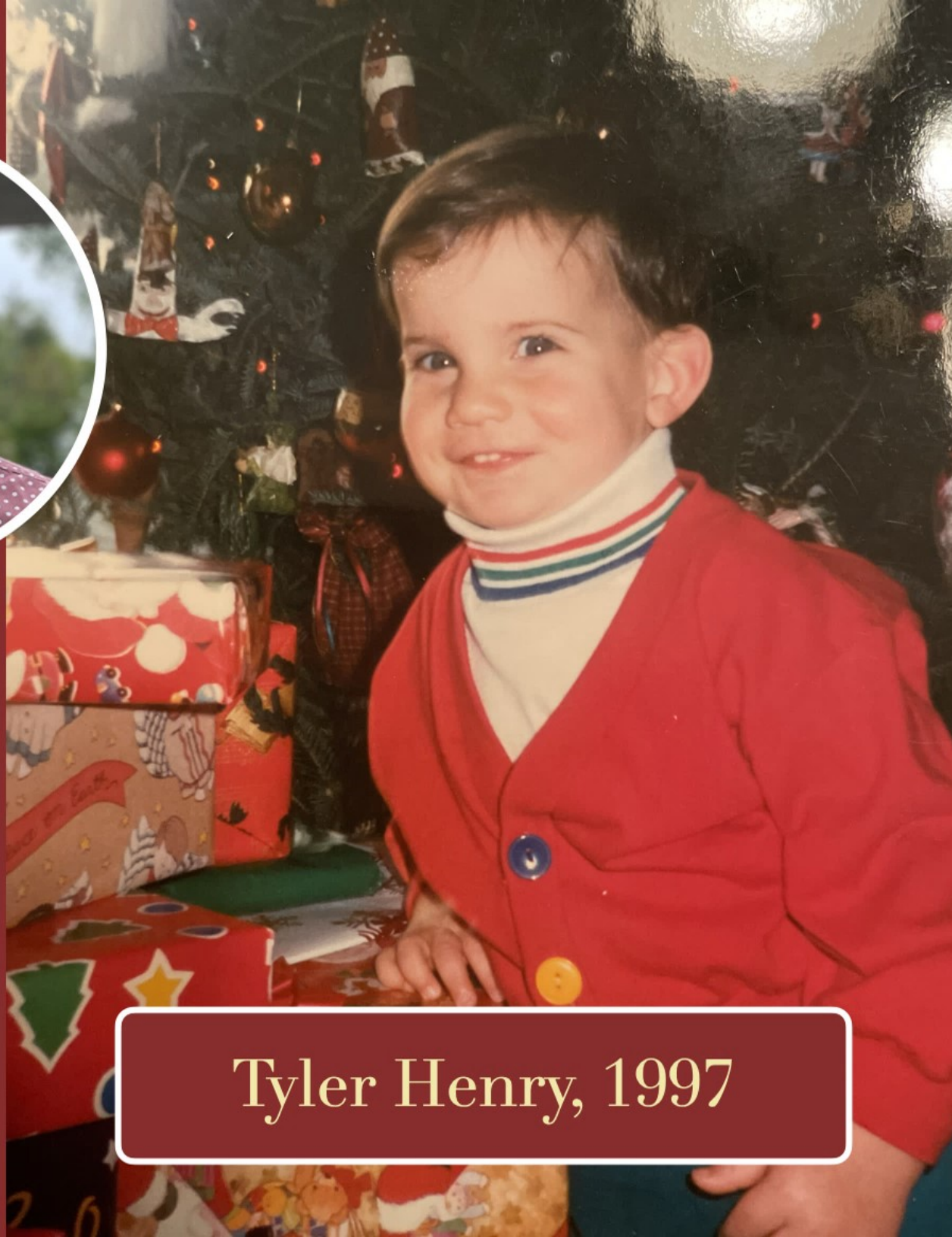
Kyle Hauenstien, 2002



Kelly Knowlton, 1996



Mary Cooper, 1984



Tyler Henry, 1997



Taylor Clay, 2001



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