Season's greetings!

It's hard to believe the holiday season is here again, and another year will soon be coming to a close.

Special moments

For each of us, the holidays hold special meaning.

My wish for you is that you find and experience the feelings of joy, happiness

and comfort from time spent with family, giving and receiving Christmas gifts, holding hands together and sharing warm fellowship with loved ones from near and far gathered around the table for a family meal.



Moments like these are what life is all about. Those special memories from each gathering and sharing of family traditions are the ones we will carry in our hearts all of our lives.

As the years pass

One thing I do know for certain: With each passing year and the older I get, this becomes even more clear to me; and I begin to think more and more about the legacy

that I will leave my daughter, and, hopefully, someday my grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

With the holiday season, the question always comes to my mind whether my

example of giving is what I want her and her future children and grandchildren to remember me by, and, more importantly, for them to emulate.

Especially when it comes to giving my time, talent and treasure for the betterment of

mankind, whether closer to home — my neighbor, church, community — or the Angus Foundation and Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus for that matter, that benefits the Angus breed and provides a livelihood for my family.

Admittedly, I ponder this often, and even more so during the holiday season when it's so much easier to selfishly think about what I'm going to receive, rather than focusing on what I'm going to give.

Your legacy

As you finalize your Christmas list and give thought to your year-end charitable giving decisions, perhaps the rewards and pleasure you've received from raising Angus cattle will likewise move you to think about giving to the Angus Foundation and supporting the campaign through this year's annual fund appeal, which was recently mailed to you.

I hope that as you enjoy the many activities of this holiday season you will take some time as the end of the year draws near to consider your own personal legacy and how, and for what, you want to be remembered.

May we both find that joyous and special meaning of the holiday season, and let us never forget, it is always better to give than to receive. Happy holidays to you and yours, and May God bless you and your Angus operation with a prosperous 2011!

Miego Howking

E-MAIL: mjenkins@angusfoundation.org

Author's Note: Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information regarding the Angus Foundation, scholarships and the campaign.