

Merry Christmas

Grand Chapter of North Carolina

Order of the Eastern Star

In North Carolina our State Motto is "Esse Quam Videri" which is a Latin phrase meaning "to be, rather than to seem". It is taken from "An Essay on Friendship" written over two thousand years ago by Cicero about his friend, Atticus. When Cicero wrote his letters to Atticus, the friends were miles apart; however, they shared a deep, lasting friendship that would span the course of many years, many miles and many tragedies. In today's world of social distancing, limited travel, and in some States the banning of both private and public gatherings, the concerns of depression stemming from isolation can be very real. It is more important than ever to remember the importance of friendship. Just as Cicero stated in his writings so many years ago, a true friend is the greatest treasure of all.

In the 1920s, famous American author, Taylor Caldwell, was a single mother, alone, jobless and nearly destitute. She later wrote a short story about that period in her life entitled "My Christmas Miracle".

*"I'm not alone at all, I thought. I was never alone at all.
And that, of course, is the message of Christmas.
We are never alone. Not when the night is darkest,
the wind coldest, the world seemingly most indifferent."*

Taylor Caldwell

Sisters and Brothers, your friends in

North Carolina

wish you a very Merry Christmas.

A time of joy, love and comfort.

A time to renew old friendships
and to begin new ones.

May the New Year bring you peace and good health.

Star Love from the "Plant Seeds of Friendship" Grand Family
2019-2020 and 2020-2021

Louise Markham Taylor

Worthy Grand Matron
Christmas 2020

