

Reel Connections - Issue #5

All Elves on Deck!

A Weekly Sunday Newsletter from Stilson Video Services



It is officially **crunch time** here at Stilson Video Services. This is our busiest time of the year as we scramble to meet Christmas deadlines for our customers. There's no doubt we'll meet the deadlines. This is our **19th Holiday rush** and we have never missed a Christmas delivery. It's not easy, and my team and I are exhausted.

We're not complaining, however, quite the opposite. We feel honored and blessed to be able to provide holiday joy to so many families over the years. It truly is a wonderful gift idea. Never once have I heard anyone say they regretted sharing their family memories over the holidays. That's why we make sure every gift is delivered on time.

The Gift of Sharing Memories

If you haven't already, think about this unique gift idea. Our customers have their home movies transferred for all kinds of reasons and occasions including:

- Anniversaries
- Birthdays
- Mother's and Father's Day
- Family Reunions
- and of course, Christmas

There are far too many examples of meaningful gift giving to recall, but just in the past week or so there are three that come to mind:

• **A voice returns after 80 years**

One of my customers has a Mom turning 104. He found some records that her late husband recorded while he was serving his country in the 1940s. These messages were recorded on a Voice-O-Graph machine in a USO center. They were in pretty rough shape, but we were able to record and improve the sound quality such that she could hear the young man's words once more.

• **A surprise look back on life in the 1950s**

Another customer is very excited to give to her Mom home movies her Mother has never seen. Imagine seeing images of yourself from 70 years ago for the first time. What a great way for them to spend the holidays together.

• **Vietnam audio letters**

A young man walked in our studio last week with a couple items his grandmother wanted to see and hear one more time before she passed. No pressure there, right?

One was an audio recording to her husband serving in Vietnam. Sending audio reels through the mail back then was a common way to communicate along with written letters. The other was a reel of film of their wedding day.

I'm happy to report we completed this order FAST and in time for all to enjoy.

Examples like these are all too common in our business and the positive feedback we receive from our customers is what keeps us going.

Back to Work

Well, this newsletter is a bit shorter than most because we only have a few more days to deliver A LOT of memories.

From all of us here, we wish you a very **Merry Christmas!**

Lives are important.

Our mission is to connect them to future generations the best way possible.

Finally, if you have a topic you'd like me to write about, let me know at stilson@stilson.com and I'll add it to the list.

— Bill Stilson

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