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Christmas Puppy Love

Initially Christmas was a holiday only for we religious to mark the birth of Jesus and God's love for all. However today it also celebrates general good-will, happy days and nostalgic whimsey. While we all struggle with our budgets this year, truly great gifts are easy on the wallet. Personal greeting letters and cards of love have value beyond the paper, ink, and postage. Our Church has a saintly woman who serves others by sending personal cards to many. My girls, Christin and Faith, look forward to her notes. Thank you Ms. Donna Jackson.

It's a big heart, not a big wallet, that secures a perfect gift. Sometimes my girls are disappointed because I shun video-games, TV, and plastic stuff. For me the perfect Christmas involves a family gathering, lots of baked goodies, a wood-burning fire, Christmas carols, a few modest presents under the tree and in the stockings, and a visit to our Church. Additionally I seek to secure one special treasure for the family. Last year it was an authentic key-wound mantel clock complete with my personal sentimental lecture on keeping time together. Everyone's enthusiasm was less than I had hoped. This year was different. I found the perfect gift that keeps giving, and it is literally a gift of love ... two puppies.

When it comes to time and effort, puppies are not cheap even if you find a free puppy this time of year. But this is why puppies makes a great gift. The whole ordeal requires so much time together as a family that the puppies give back more than they ever take. Together, we all bath, brush, hold and play with our new puppies. The attention they require, demands our combined efforts as a family. The puppies have given our family a gift this Christmas of more time together as as a family. So if you are the kind of parent who is a bit old-fashioned try a suitable pet for the family this Christmas. A kitten would be suitable if I you are not allergic. I don't think that a tropical fish, however tempting they might sound, will have the desired effect. You can do better than that. With this I wish everyone to find the gifts of love that truly typify this blessed season. We wish you a Merry Christmas and God bless.

By Michael G Anderson MD FAAP

Doc Anderson (M G Anderson, MD, FAAP) writes for *North Georgia Kids*, and is a practicing pediatrician in Canton, Georgia. He is a medical director and Asst Prof of Pediatrics at Children's Pediatrics Center, East Main 391 East Main Street Canton, Georgia 30114

770.720.MyMD (6963)

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