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For our McElroy Family Christmas we like to get together a few weeks before the holiday. It usually involves between 50-60 people (depending on who is home and who can come) getting together to eat lots and enjoy each other

Our traditions started years ago when my grandmother was alive. Lots of food and singing of Christmas carols.

Lots of food and lots of laughs.

Our favourite part is the singing of the Christmas carols and the family favourites are 12 days of Christmas- we all break into groups with Silent Night being our closing Carol. My mom and her siblings have a 5 candelabra. Right before we sing Silent Night, each sibling lights this candle or if they have passed, their child does. This is a special song for us as it was my Grandmother's favourite. The lights go off, everyone gets quiet and we sing (and some tears flow).

These last few years have been hard not doing this. We tried Zoom last year (nice but not the same) and we did cancel this year.

So many family traditions you didn't know meant so much to us until we can't do them.

Have a Merry Christmas and here's to making new traditions with the ones you love. Please see the attached video to see what I mean.