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Headphones, speakers top gift lists

By THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 @chicago

IT'S CHRISTMAS, and the gift lists are in. Top of the list? Headphones and speakers. According to a survey by the National Retail Federation, headphones and speakers are the most popular gifts for the holidays, with headphones at 17 percent and speakers at 15 percent. Other popular gifts include video games, books, and clothing.

Merry Christmas
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25, 2013
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Christmas of '67

The older I get, the more ordinary Christmas seems. Maybe that's what it means to grow up — the glitter and the whimsy of something that was once magical and wild slowly fades. Or maybe it's because on Christmas will ever reach the highs and lows of the one I survived the year I turned 13.

That was the Christmas my dad quit. It was the Christmas my mom had her first heart attack. It was the Christmas my brother was born. It was the Christmas my sister got married. It was the Christmas my grandfather died. It was the Christmas my grandmother moved to Florida. It was the Christmas my uncle was arrested. It was the Christmas my aunt got divorced. It was the Christmas my cousin was killed. It was the Christmas my friend was kidnapped. It was the Christmas my neighbor was shot. It was the Christmas my teacher was fired. It was the Christmas my boss was laid off. It was the Christmas my company went bankrupt. It was the Christmas my country was invaded. It was the Christmas my world was changed.

It was the Christmas of '67.

Story by RACHEL COLEMAN • Leader & Times