

FRIDAY FOLLIES

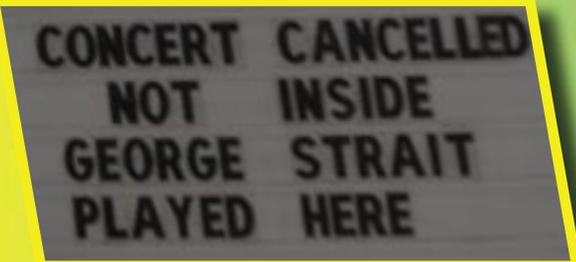
FRIDAY FOLLIES

February 27, 2004

Hey!

Remember back in January when I told you about a second trip to Warrington, Virginia and my mom's old saying, about "If you ever go somewhere for the first time, it always seems that you end up going back there shortly after. Well, that proved true once again. Greensboro, North Carolina this time.

After a very long, hard week at work and numerous political events and functions every single evening, we headed to NC for George Strait's concert! We deliberated making the four-hour trip back down there after such a long week, but we decided we needed a break. I am so glad we did. It was wonderful and we had a blast! We met so many nice, nice people. Just loved every minute of it. (Well, almost.)



CONCERT CANCELLED
NOT INSIDE
GEORGE STRAIT
PLAYED HERE

The fun started when we pulled into town and everyone we met last weekend actually remembered us. At one place, the wait staff even came over and greeted us! It was real cool...and kinda scary if you think about it. (Ha!) We stopped by the Ham's restaurant on the way into town and this time even met the owner. He was very young and cute and also excited about the concert. He introduced us to many of his friends and then invited us back as his guests after the show. We accepted.



We checked in and freshened up and off we went to the concert.

George Strait's office had told us this week to give our cell phone number to someone before the concert to send backstage to Erv Woolsey, George's manager. If George was



feeling well enough to have guests backstage, they would give us a call to come on back. We just knew that since Greensboro was the headquarters of Wrangler Jeans and since George is one of their biggest spokespeople that the big-wigs would be the only ones to probably get back there, but we were still hoping. We also knew that since he had cancelled a week's worth of concerts, he was going to be slammed backstage. But, once again, his office had been very encouraging, and we were still very much hoping.



We had stopped at a Wal-Mart on the way down and bought a basket and some angel hair pasta shaped like little bird nests and fixed the neatest



little basket using the angel hair as straw. Then we put in a couple of jars of our "Gus and Judi's Sunshine Pasta Sauce" along with one of the USA Weekend magazines with J.P.'s picture on the cover, a smiley face balloon, and most importantly, a card with our cell phone number on it.

When we got there, things were slammed and the first act, Kelly Coffee, was already performing. We found a security guard

(older gentleman -- actually he looked more like a volunteer than a hired security professional) gave him the basket, explained who he should give it to, and asked if he would take it backstage for us. He said, "Sure," and off he went.

We found our seats, (which were incredible!) and started to enjoy the show. Kelly was just finishing up



when we sat down, and then Dirk “What was I thinking” Bentley came on for his act. He was very good. We were enjoying the show,



but I also wondered if J.P. was a little disappointed, too, because we had not gotten a phone call yet. I know he was because twice I saw him pull out his cell phone from his pocket and glance to see if he had missed a call.



Soon it was time for George to come on, and we totally forgot about all of that. He was fantastic! No smoke and mirrors, no stage full of fancy



costumes and back up singers...just George, his band, a guitar, a fresh starched shirt, pressed jeans and a big ole cowboy hat... then great, great music! The audience was every size, shape, color and age you could name. Very cool. He played for over two hours!

Bottom line, as we were leaving the concert with smiles from ear to ear...the little man to whom we had given the basket came running up to us. He was so proud of himself. He said, also with a huge smile from ear to ear, "I took the basket backstage like you asked and told them it was for Mr. Strait. Someone took it from me and said they would make sure to take it straight to the bus for him."

I am sure our faces looked as shocked as could be, but after J.P. and I gawked at each other for a second, we thanked him and walked off. Once we were out of ear-shot, all we could do was look at each other and laugh and laugh



and laugh! I mean, what else could you do at that point? Everything was over! It would have been awesome to meet Mr. Woolsey and Mr. Strait and to get a quick photo with them, but the truth is, we had a blast anyway.

After the concert, we went to meet our new friends, and as luck would have it, it was karaoke night at the restaurant. Needless to say, J.P. and his new buddies had fun. It was a great, eclectic crowd and way too much fun...WAY too much. We didn't get to bed until after 2:30!

We were a bit tired when we got up and had to drive home today. Those four hours on the road seemed like eighteen. We broke up the trip with frequent stops at shops and places along the way - something we NEVER do. It was a very pleasant drive and a gorgeous day. But guess what? They are calling for snow again this week. Actually the long-range forecast is for snow Thursday and Friday. Wow! What is it with this winter? I am anxious to get our garden in the ground!

OK. That is about all for right now. I have work to catch up on.

March is our "Anniversary Month," and I am planning an "unusual Follies" for that. Stay tuned for MORE!



Some of my favorite "Country Times"



To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Maine, Australia, Europe, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week.

God bless.
Remember, life is short...we need to make it a good one.
Grow in peace and wisdom.

Your Friday Friend,



Judi Godsey

PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. P.S.S. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!