

FRIDAY FOLLIES

July 2, 2004





Happy Fourth of July!





Hey!

July 2, 2004

How are you? I am writing this two weeks "after the fact." I took photos and had so much to tell you, but "life" has been a bit topsy-turvey lately. I'll explain later.

Anyway, I hope you had a wonderful Fourth of July! For the first time in probably five years we did not have a party. There has just been too much family trauma of late. No time to plan for a party and, actually, no heart in it this year. But that doesn't mean it wasn't a wonderful day, and a time of thanksgiving, and a time to contemplate how lucky we all are to live in this great country! I just get down right maudlin on the 4th! I tear up at every patriotic song I hear/sing.

OK! This ELVIS photo is a HOOT, isn't it! It was actually on the front page of *The Virginian-Pilot*, Hampton Roads section, on Sunday, June 27. From Left to Right are Guy Hyatt (JP's best friend), Bobby Malloti (another good friend and the Head of Beach Events), JP (dressed as Elvis and pushing to the side . . . making it very difficult for his teammates), and Morgan Davis (the president of Virginia Beach TowneBank - complete with plastic wig and buck teeth). They had a blast . . . AND they won the First Place Trophy!

You see, it was the "Viva Elvis Festival" here in Virginia Beach which has gotten to be a really big deal. It went from Thursday through Sunday nights. There was an Elvis parade, which, since they won the "Racing Recliners" race on Saturday, they got to be the grand marshals of the parade (for the story go to: www.mrhappyusa.com and look at the latest in the News section), a HUGE Elvis Karaoke Contest on stage in front of hundreds, and Elvis Concerts ALL weekend-long up and down the Boardwalk. In town for the festivities were Young Elvis, Black Elvis, The Gracelanders, SKY-DIVING Elvises - you name it! Great fun! As I mentioned before, JP was going to do the Karaoke this year, but he got a call wanting him to be one of the celebrity judges for the event. (He, Rudy Bosch, and Jackson, a DJ with a local station.) It was a fun, very weird weekend!

Two of the winners with one of the "Elvis guys."



Judging. JP (not Rudy) was the SIMON of the group!



JP, Jackson, and Rudy.



Rudy and the GRACELANDERS from Canada



A very RED Elvis!





Here are some photos of the contestants. These first three are of "Little Elvis." Man, could he move!

There were literally all sizes, types, and shapes.

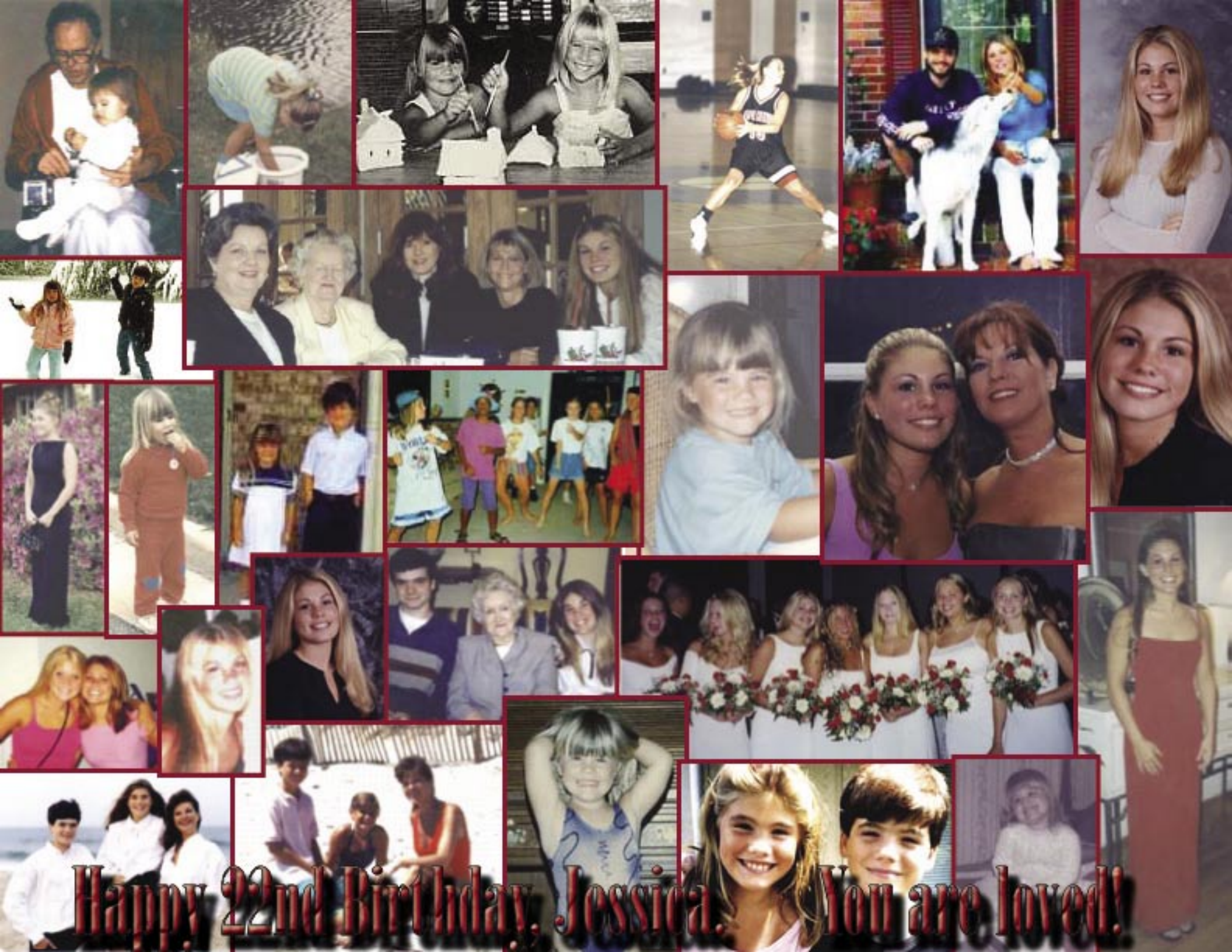


This little Cherub was having her Fifth Birthday. For whatever reason, she and I really hit it off backstage. Her daddy was working the lights, and she and her sister were enjoying the summer night on stage with all of the hoopla. Aren't they beautiful!



July the fifth we also celebrated Jessica's 22nd birthday. She actually went out with friends and celebrated at mid-night on the fourth - (can you blame her?) - but she came over the night of her birthday, and we had some family "face time." It was fun, especially right now with the way things have been. The next page is dedicated to my beautiful 22-year-old Jess!

I guess that is it for the "Fourth." I will do another Follies for the week of July 9 and will send them out the same time as these. My thoughts have been with you, and thank you to so many of you for the kind words. To those of you who have wondered what the heck is going on - maybe the next Follies will explain.



Happy 22nd Birthday, Jessica. You are loved!

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, Costa Rica, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, 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!