

# FRIDAY FOLLIES

JULY 16, 2004

A photograph of Rod Stewart performing on stage. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a white fur collar. He is holding a microphone and singing. The stage is lit with red and white lights. In the background, there are red curtains and a band of musicians. The text "FRIDAY FOLLIES" is at the top, "JULY 16, 2004" is below it, and "Rod Stewart In Concert" is at the bottom.

Rod Stewart In Concert

Hey!

Did you miss us? I have been without an internet hookup at home for over a week now, and it looks like it may be a long while before I am “connected” again. I recently had my laptop reconfigured so that it can hook up to the web so I can check email, etc. Sending the Follies may be a bit difficult from it, though. We will see.

I ~~have~~ been writing you, though! I ~~just~~ have had no way to get it to you. I thought my modem was fried in a thunderstorm (again) but no . . . this time it was my Ethernet port. You would ~~not~~ believe what I had to go through to get it fixed, and, of course, “Mr. Happy” is a computer illiterate, or as he calls himself, a “DVD,” (ADHD is what he means when he says that!...) LOL!

Anyway, I will start at the beginning . . .

As you know by now, I ~~went~~ to Mississippi from the end of June until the morning of the 4th of July to visit my mom and family. I am so glad that I did. Did the “soul” good, ya know? Then, soon after I got back, JP surprised me with tickets to Rod Stewart at the amphitheater. JP had never seen Rod in concert before and for years I had been telling him Rod would “knock his socks off.” I guess he listened, but after that night, I know one thing - - He BELIEVED!

What a show! Rod is 61 years old, and he still has more energy than you can possibly imagine. JP was blown away! Everything Rod does is simply “First Class” all the way! I saw his show about eight years ago, and even though it has changed, it has changed for the better. He has matured into a very graceful entertainer who does exactly as he pleases. He does some of his rock and roll classics, but the man LOVES the crooners and romantic music. Good for him! He has brought a whole generation along with him. He even had his 19 year old daughter come on stage to sing a couple of songs. (His girlfriend is 21, by the way.) - - Can you blame





him - - or maybe a better question is - - Can you blame her!!!! Man! He is STILL - - “Rod the BOD!” Very, *very* cool, indeed!

Another interesting tid-bit, every single member of his band is fabulously talented and looks as though they have just stepped out of a magazine! They are all so GQ and *Vogue*! My fav, of course, was the violin/mandolin player. She was awesome!

I cannot wait to play like that. Don't laugh! One day, I will! Or close to it. I have been practicing, and during this stressful time in my life, it is the most wonderful thing I can imagine. It is lovely, soulful, even spiritual. I promise you, I will be able, not only to play the violin, but to improvise and make the sound *magical* before they put me away! Really think for a minute. I probably have twenty years left. If I take lessons and practice *hard* for five of those years, I'll be **playing like** a “pro” for fifteen years! How cool is that? My teacher brags on me already! **She is so sweet** and so talented! She told me that I was much farther along after only two lessons than she can believe. She told me I was extremely creative and coordinated. **That's a good start**, isn't it. At one point in the second lesson, I said listen to this, and I played **a song for here** that I had learned “by ear.” She was so pleased!

Anyway, I digress. **This young woman with the fiddle** was awesome! Not only was she beautiful and **gifted with the violin**, but when Rod cranked up “Maggie Mae” and she cranked up the mandolin . . . Well, the crowd went wild. Can you imagine what that must have felt like? Not being the star, but STILL being able to make the crowd react like that! Amazing!

Another side-story of that night - - when JP told me he was surprising me with tickets, he told me there was **nothing left but the lawn tickets**. He was so “apologetic.” That didn't bother me. **One of the greatest times I have ever had** was with a group of friends on the “lawn” for an Elton John concert. I mean, you have to be pretty narrow-minded to be upset about “Lawn Tickets” at a show of that calibre.

As we were driving into the parking lot, JP pulled out a VIP parking pass. He said a friend loaned it to him for the night. I knew better, but I said nothing. Then we got out of the





car, and as we were walking up to the entrance, he knew he was “Busted.” The couple that had given us the VIP Box seats were standing in line right in front of us as we walked up. JP didn’t have any recourse except to tell me that we were, in fact, not on the lawn, but in the City of Virginia Beach’s box seats.

Do you think I complained?

Anyway, my story gets long. Sorry!

It was a perfectly lovely evening. Saw lots of friends, had a romantic time, and the Maxwells were the best! We look forward to an intimate evening with them - just the four of us. Truthfully, I am just so thrilled that JP LOVED the concert. I was so afraid he would not be impressed, but then again, it would be very hard not to be.

OK, one last thing. I told you all about the “Viva Elvis Festival” here at “The Beach” a couple of weekends ago! But I did not have a photo at the time of the shirt I painted for JP. It is on the last page. What do you think? Pretty good for a spur-of-the-moment thing?

JP found an old country and western shirt he had and he dyed it baby blue. Then he asked me to paint something “Elvis” on the back of it.

Well, I looked - and thought - and finally came up with this caricature/silhouette. I just love it! It was very easy to paint, and then we used fabric glitter to spray gold glitter all over it. Nice effect, yes?

He got compliments all night long! (Even if he did play the part of “Simon at the Karaoke contest...right Jackson?) He looked very “Elvisy,” though.

**T**o 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.



**G**od 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!