

FRIDAY FOLLIES

August 17, 2007



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Hey!

Wow! My baby is married! She is now Mrs. Miller!

What a very hectic but glorious few weeks! Sorry I have not been in touch. I think other than my mother passing and Mr. Happy being named, this is the longest I have ever been without doing the Follies! I MISSED you! Sincerely! It was interesting to see who continued to stay in touch. That is always a telling sign (smile). Thank you all so much. It was such a great reason to be busy and away from you for a few weeks! But I am baaaccckkk...

Can you believe I did not take one, single photo at my daughter's wedding!? That is why I do not have many! I was determined that I was not going to take any photos during the ceremony and I didn't. I took a few before and a few after, but I thought I would let everyone else take them for once. There were probably 300 people there! Guess what? I am still waiting—even on the professional photographer—to see the photos. No matter. It was glorious! I cried, held my son's hand, and enjoyed every minute of it! Photos can come later. Here are a few sent to me by Jessica's friends.

Thank you to all of you who stayed so close. It really, really meant a great deal!

What a beautiful service. I mean - there is no such thing as a "simple wedding." That I have learned, for sure. Going to Las Vegas would have been simple. Going to the Bed and Breakfast in the Blue



Ridge Mountains would have been simple! But the minute they said they were switching to the beach for a “simple wedding,” I knew my life for the next few weeks had changed. And changed—it did! Absolutely not complaining. I loved it and they were very pleased with the results. I just would have liked to have had more time (and money) to make it totally right.



It was great, though. I am just very tired and very broke... but very happy...

It was switched three times in a month – due to a family illness – and ended up at the first street jetty, a place where all of the local kids go to watch the surfers and where the East Coast Surfing Championship takes place every year about this time. Jess and Ricky kinda grew up there, so that was very cool. (I think I told you that Ricky is a professional body-boarder).

The boaters, surfers, swimmers, and fishermen and women loved it! The reception was at the Jewish Mother, which is owned by Ricky’s family and Ricky runs. The only glitch was that we could not get into the Jewish Mother to decorate until three the day of the wedding and the wedding was at six! Talk about a mad dash to the finish line...



Thanks to Jessica’s wonderful, devoted friends and to Ricky’s wonderful family—we made it. We gathered on Saturday before the rehearsal and put all of the decorations and flowers together and stuck the decorations in the attic and the flowers in the reach-in and walk-in fridges. I stayed for an hour and a half and then went to the hotel room to watch and “help” Jess and her friends get ready. Very sweet. Her friends are an incredible support group—for ME as well as for Jess!

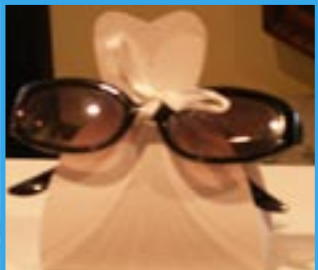
I had borrowed two incredibly beautiful orange, Moroccan umbrellas from neighbors, and they were great “book-ends” and focal points to the ceremony –especially since Jessica had picked out orange and white flowers and the bridesmaid’s dresses were black sun dresses. It really was beautiful!



The Minister was SUPERB! After the ceremony, I had several folks come up and ask where she preaches. I adored her. She was perfect for that type of wedding. Very down to Earth and everyone related and thought about what she said... Very impressive!

Many of Ricky and Jessica's buddies flew in—from California to New Jersey. One was a Vee Jay from LA that I have watched on YouTube conducting interviews. Very cool. He ran the reception. I also saw many of Jess's friends that she grew up with—many I have not seen in a long, long time. Truthfully—the reception was hot and crowded and miserable at first, but after an hour or so, it cleared out a bit, and it was fun to dance and really visit with everyone. Really fun!

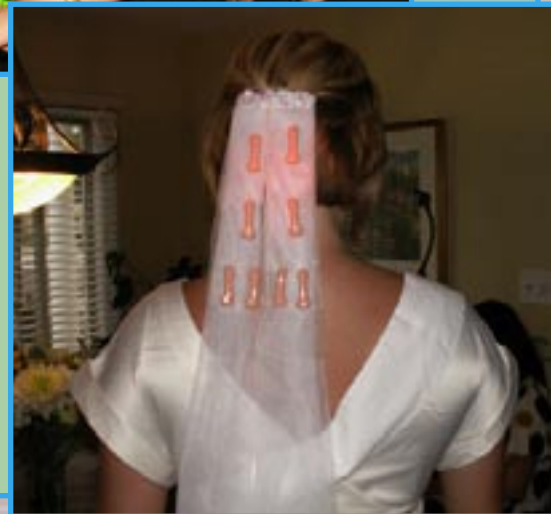
One easy thing was picking out the bridesmaids' gifts. Sunglasses, of course. All of the wedding photos (when I get them)—the girls have on their new sun glasses. Very cute, indeed!



When I sent this photo out as a notice a week or so ago that I was taking a break from the Follies, I think every male on the list wrote back with either, "Wow," or "More!" I am the only woman I know STUPID enough to have my photo taken in the middle of that many twenty-some things! They insisted! When I saw the photo, I simply laughed out loud and had to send it. Even Ricky's mom is a marathon runner...



I swear! I still *feel* their age inside! Why don't I still *look* that way outside?! They were so sweet, though. They wanted me to stay the whole night and go out partying with them (Bachelorette party, it was...) At least I had the good sense to say, "No! Thank you," and get the heck outta there! LOL! They had a blast!



I had to pry Jess out of the bed the next afternoon to go order flowers and such... Really cute. Then it suddenly occurred to me that Jess and Ricky are the first of all of their friends to get married. Wow!





I LOVE this picture. I actually took one! Once the party really got into full swing, Jess asked that they play the “movie” over and over while they all danced to their music. (She and Ricky had asked me to make a movie for the reception.) They had a blast! We watched it as a family the next day during lunch and it had so much more meaning with the music... pleased me that they liked it both ways! (It is soon to be on the website, I hope...)

OK, enough wedding until I get some decent photos of it. You will probably see more of it than you care to. LOL!

Jeremy came home from California and brought his girlfriend with him. She grew up in Lake Tahoe and has never been to the East Coast. She is loving it and her family is very happy that she has finally ventured out of her “Comfort Zone.” I am loving it, too. She is a sweetheart! I think they will be staying a while which pleases me! I get lonely here sometimes! (smile)



Now for more “Big News!”

Remember hearing about Jenna Bush getting engaged to Henry Hager this week! Well Henry is the son of very dear friends of mine! Haha! John and Maggie Hager! How cool it that!!! I am so excited for them! John, as the Lt. Governor, even spoke at Jessica's high school graduation. Really fine, fine people! I am so excited for them. Man! Can you imagine planning THAT wedding! Wow! (I have more photos of them somewhere, but really don't want to go search for them right now. Can you tell that I am pooped!)

Hello to Susan who came to visit from Baltimore! Loved seeing you!



And also this week—I promised I would try to take another photo of the Agave Americana before she faded into forever... Here she is in all of her finery. I wish you could see the close-ups. There were bees and flies swarming like you would not believe. Just awesome to watch!

OK. I am officially tired. I will write more this week and please be sure to watch the website for the new movie soon. Maybe I will do one of the wedding, if I ever get any photos... I need to take some of Jeremy and Karla, too, if they will ever be still long enough for me to get one!



Remember to pray for our men and women overseas—that they return to

us safe, successful, and soon!
I love you, Andy!



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, Lake Tahoe, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Poland, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Saudi Arabia, Chattanooga, France, Phoenix, New York, Oregon, Russia, Maine, Australia, Bangkok, 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. PSS. 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!