

FRIDAY FOLLIES

September 30, 2005



Hey!

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Sometimes I amaze myself...

I mean it! I am such a Forrest Gump! That is meant in a good way, I guess, as much as a bad way - but I really do irritate myself sometimes. Take tonight for example...

I put in a long week at work - a good week - but a long one, and was really looking forward to tonight. All I have been doing is going to work, coming home, and then working here either in the yard or organizing the house until I literally fall in the bed at night. Today, my Rotary Club - the best Rotary Club in Virginia I might add - right Mark? - had its annual golf tournament. I, of course, could not go to the tournament, but I was so looking forward to leaving work and heading over for the dinner and the awards at 5:30.

Well, I got to a stopping point at work and announced to everyone in my office at 4:45 that I was going to my Rotary Club's golf tournament! And out the door I went! I had so much on my mind, but I drove in heavy traffic across town...weaving and darting...planning my timing just right. I got there right at 5:30 - - but as I pulled in the parking lot - I noticed I was at Honey Bee golf course and not at Heron's Ridge golf course. *HELLOO!!* I just wasn't thinking. I got back in the car totally disgusted with myself - and now very late - and headed out. Oh, what a surprise! There was road work and then a wreck somewhere and traffic was backed up in every direction for miles. I just gave up, fought traffic, and headed home the back (long) way. I just felt so stupid!!

But I also have to tell you that the last couple of weeks have proven to me that, without a doubt, I have the best friends in the world. So many nice things have happened that it would actually be hard to recount them all here. But here is one small example...I got home, exhausted with briefcase and groceries in hand, and when I opened the door and went in to greet my animals and birds, I saw this enormous, beautiful flower arrangement on the counter. It was from my house keeper, Darlene! Darlene has been a dear friend for probably twenty years - but she had left that arrangement and a beautiful card congratulating me on my new home. I just cried. How sweet is that?

Earlier this week I helped a friend's son get into the school where I work (I honestly did not do much of anything) and once again, when I got home from work he had dropped off a huge bouquet of autumn colored roses at my door with a card. Enem my realtor! She gave me a very nice, very generous gift certificate to a great restaurant. I have had friends pop in now for two weeks with this and that. It never ceases to amaze me. That does not even include all of the heart-felt and lovely emails, cards, and calls I have gotten. Sincerely blows me away. Very, very humbling. Makes me realize I should be a better friend, ya know.

OK, onward! Just know that it has all been very much appreciated. This has been a very hard move. I do still plan to have the house warming -- but I may slide it to Thanksgiving now with a few other things that have come up. I will let you all know. My mom's house sold (or is going to in the next couple of week) so I may have to plan a trip to Mississippi in my new TRUCK to pick up my furniture! I already know where it is all going to go.

Speaking of furniture, I ordered a beautiful new green leather couch and chair for my living room right after I moved in. I waited for three weeks and then the day before it was to be delivered, I got a call. You guessed it...a new clerk had taken my order, had messed it up, and it had never been placed. It should be here by the end of next week, but it has been rather strange with nowhere to sit. When company comes over, we just sit at the dining room table. Oh well, it will be here soon, and I get a free delivery out of it.

I have been pleased that I have not had to buy much of anything since I moved in. I was very careful at the beach house to only buy things that would “work” in another house...even the rugs and curtains, so the only things I have had to buy have been weed eaters, leaf blowers, you know, stuff like that...but even that has been kinda fun. I put on my bib overalls, jumped in my truck and headed to Sear’s, Home Depot, the Garden Center, and Taylor Go-It Center last weekend. I had a blast. I bought what I needed and just threw it in the bed of the TRUCK! HAHAHA! I LOVE MY TRUCK!



I started some serious decorating this week and I will soon send you photos (waiting on my green leather couch and chair) Ha! But one thing I started was re framing all of the photos for my office upstairs. Remember I call it my Forrest Gump collection? Well, it truly is. I have taken them all out of the frames and have scanned them all so they will all be the same size and I have gotten tons of 8 1/2 X 11, red picture frames for them. They are gonna look pretty cool. Since they were scanned, I thought I would throw a few in this week. Trust me - this is only a small portion of them. It is going to take quit a while. I hope other people find it as humorous as I do. They just make me smile. Just pure, silly, fun!

Other neat pictures this week - well - there were many, but some I cannot put in the Follies...

This one sent from Chattanooga from Parks of my brother's high school reunion in Mississippi. Love it! Man, are we all getting OLD!



And these, I LOVE! Jess and her friends had a couple of parties recently - dress-up parties. (They are getting older, too... smile) They sent me these photos. I just love Jess's green cocktail dress. Matt looks petty adorable, too. *Love you guys.* The one at the bottom is of Jessica and my other Matt. This Matt she grew up with in Alanton, a neighborhood here at the beach. They have been friends since she was five. Cool that they still hang out, huh?



No photos from Jeremy this week, but lots of calls. He LOVES Lake Tahoe!

I have others from some things I did, but I honestly have not had time to download and format them. I have been a bit overwhelmed with all there is to do, plus I have started "going out - you know -

dating again, so I will not apologize. By the way, thanks to you dinner friends this past week and weekend.

OK. Speaking of a lot on my plate, I gotta get going. Love to all of you. Have a wonderful, wonderful week, and thank you...sincerely!



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In Maui with my “catch” - a 110 pound White Marlin! I actually caught a twenty pound tuna and was reeling him in when everyone on the boat started screaming, “LOOK!” This baby thought my tuna was breakfast and came out of the water and latched on - so - I guess in this photo he actually weighted 130 pounds...ten pounds more than I did at the time, I might add! That was a few pounds and a few years ago...Just another Forrest Gumpism! More photos as I continue to scan and re frame.

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. 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!

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