

FRIDAY FOLLIES

December 20, 2002

Hey,

You are not going after hundreds and mangers and sleighs and have the neigh-



ing to believe this, but I think of boxes of lights and stars scenes, and wreaths and santas reindeer, they are not going to borhood competition this year.

I kept asking JP about it, and he would say, "The flyer should be here any day telling us when the awards ceremony is going to be." Well, it never did! Ha! If anything changes, I will let you know. We are having his "client party" at the house this weekend, though, so it will be beautiful for that. And he gets MY first prize EVERY year.

I may not send the Follies for the next couple of weeks. I will be tied up at work next week and then off to Mississippi for a week. When I return, my son will be visiting from Colorado, so forgive me if I take a break for a few weeks. I will try to send jokes, though. No promises.

Well, the news this week is particularly disturbing to me. As a very dear friend said to me a couple of weeks ago when commenting about the tornadoes ripping through Mississippi doing millions and millions of dollars worth of damage and not even being on the national news, "It just isn't newsworthy, Judi, un-

less it is some Mississippian saying or doing something stupid. Believe me, if that happens, they will cover it.” Well, I guess we didn’t know how right his words were until this week.

As Faulkner once said, “The past is never dead; it’s not even past.” I guess that is part of what upsets me so much about Senator Trent Lott - - former fraternity guy and cheerleader at Ole Miss. Even though he is older than I am by about ten years, we both grew up in Mississippi during the same era - - the 60’s.

As a child in elementary school I can remember James Meredith being escorted onto the Ole Miss campus. I can remember the riots and guns shots and marches. I can remember the separate drinking fountains and bathrooms and “colored” entrances to stores. I can even remember having black gentlemen my father’s age literally step off the sidewalk until I had passed.

For years, I never understood that. Once I did, I began to question EVERYTHING. Even as a young child, I knew it was wrong. WRONG! PERIOD!

You see, I am a product of my culture and my upbringing, just as Mr. Lott is. I guess what I don’t understand is how we came to such different conclusions. It also disappoints me for every Mississippian I know, black or white. You in other parts of the United States and the world probably do not understand how we relish in the fame and good fortune of fellow Mississippians. Senator Trent Lott made all of us proud.

But alas, like Lott’s wife before him, he looked back and turned to a pillar of salt.

I guess that is about all I can say. I knew it was over for him the first time I heard what he had said. There was no misreading it. And hearing his interview on BET last night, I think, just made it so much worse.

So much for that. You have a wonderful Christmas and new Years if I do not talk with you again before 2003.. I will leave you with a few shots from New Year's past.

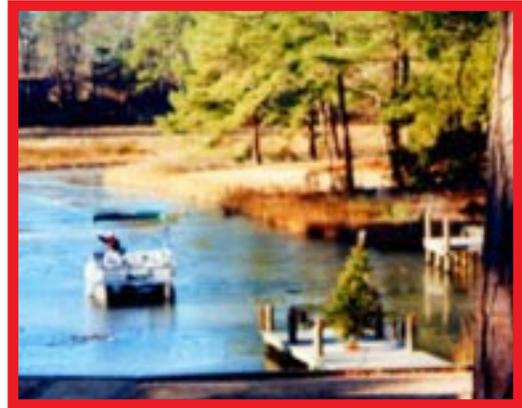
New Year's 1969



New Year's 1992

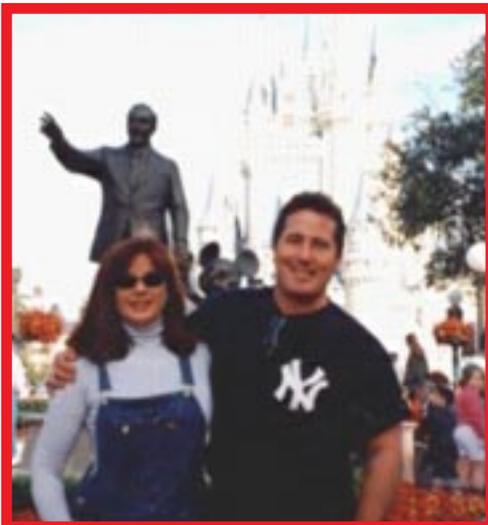


Christmas 1996



Christmas 2000

Christmas 2001



Christmas 2001



New Year's 2001

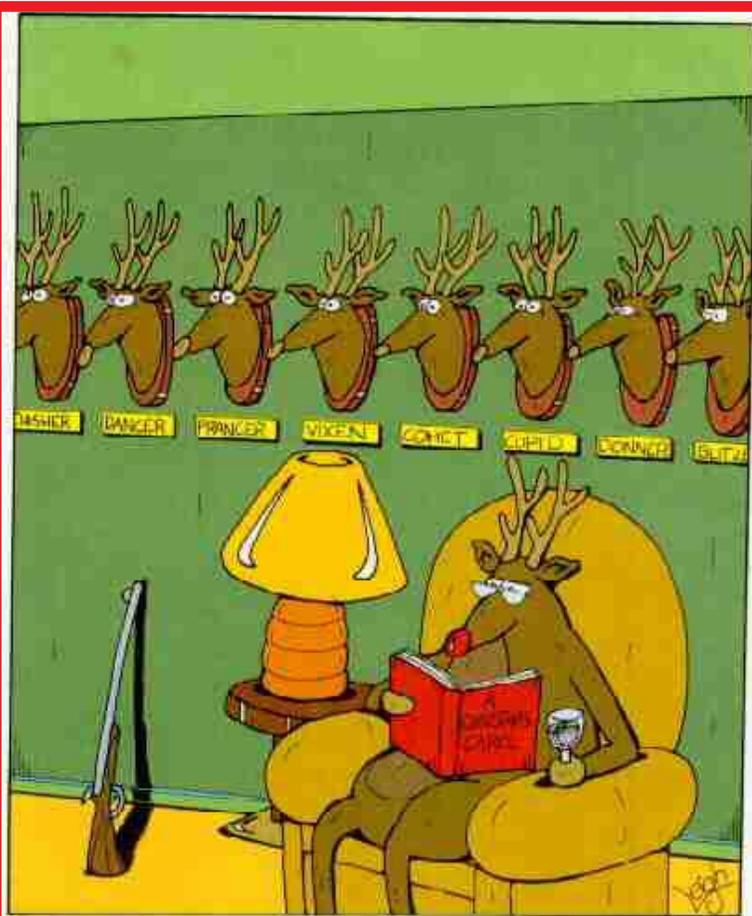
A Bit of Christmas Humor



"Fleas Navidog"



Well, the month of December's Friday Follies contain nothing but Holiday Jokes. I hope you enjoy them. Some are very old, and some are new, but with all of the other things going on in our lives right now, there is not much time to come up with original Follies. Still, I hope these bring a smile to your face.



All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.



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, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, Washington D.C., Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, New York, or Europe, have a wonderful Holiday Season. It has been a JOY hearing from ALL of you this year.

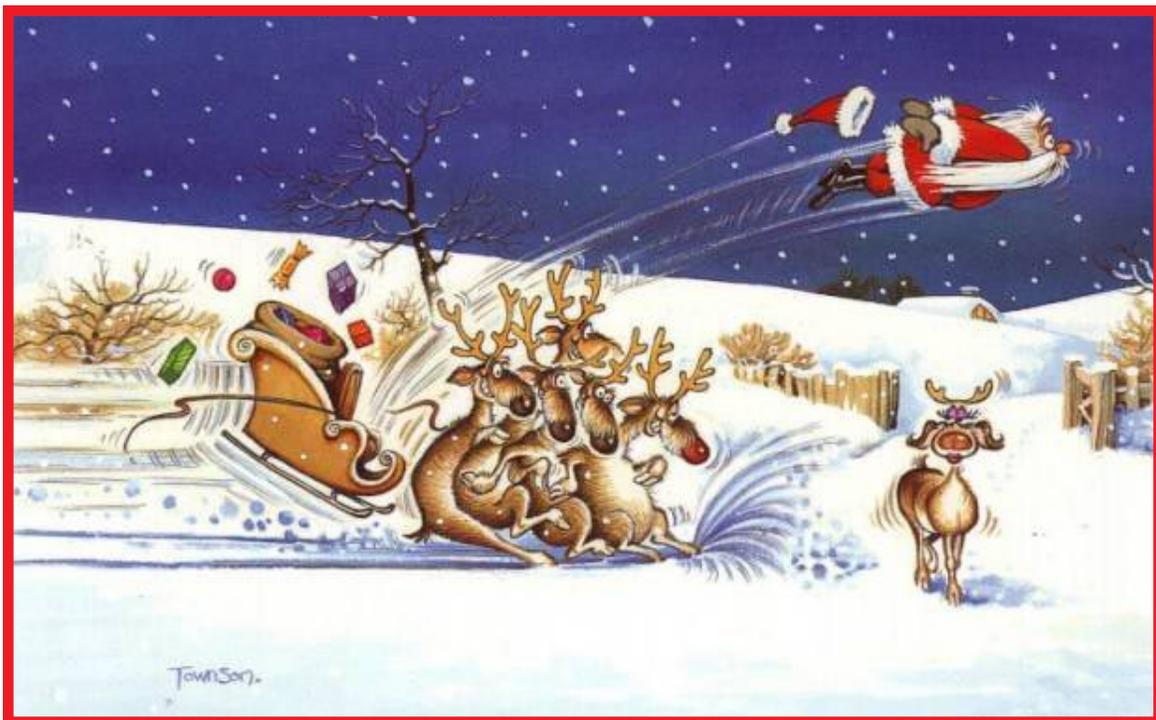
God bless.

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 e-mails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our 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 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 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!

