

Early Friday Follies 3/14/2002 Part I

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Hey!

Last week I sent you the write-up of our engagement, and since this weekend is our third anniversary, I thought I would send a recap of our three whirlwind years together. I will send it in four parts (two today and two tomorrow) since it is rather large.

Like I said before, never, never a dull moment.

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Friday Follies
March 17, 2000

Hey! Guess what?

Today is not only St. Patty's Day...IT IS OUR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!!! At this exact moment last year, we were standing on a beach in St. Thomas saying our wedding vows. Beautiful...

I can't believe it has already been a year – yet in some respects, it seems like a lot longer. J.P. and I dated on and off for 7 years before we finally “took the plunge”. And even with that, the first year has been tremendously stressful - sold two houses and the furnishings within, had three garage sales, searched for months and finally bought a house, added on a huge den and a deck,



(did much of the work ourselves – talk about stress), had my college age son wreck two cars three times totaling one of them and ending up in the hospital, had my senior in high school daughter wreck another, my daughter and I had to adapt to having a “man” in the house after being alone together for four years, two cats fighting all the time, had a huge reception in September for our family and friends, changed jobs mid-stream, had both mothers become ill, took a bizillion trips, (both pleasure and business), and in between all of the dust settling, tried to get a handle on our own new life together.

OUR RECEPTION

Our reception was in September of 1999 at the Chamberlin Hotel, a regal turn-of-the-century gem located on the grounds of historic Fort Monroe at the mouth of the

Chesapeake Bay. The first night, (for our out of town guests) we had an oyster roast in the cool autumn air over looking the Chesapeake Bay. Besides friends and family from out of town, about 20 of JP's fraternity brothers from college came with their wives. Awesome! We played touch football, had an outdoor fireplace, great music, friends and family from all over the country, smoked oysters, well...You get the picture.



JP's sister, Sue. My brother, Larry.



Some early arrivers from out of town.

The morning of the reception, the guys all went to play golf, and then everyone ended up at our house for a BBQ. That night we all went back to the Chamberlin for one helluva black tie party for 250 guests in the Grand Ballroom complete with the Mills Brothers, a 16 piece orchestra, mountains of food, endless beverages, and more laughs than you can imagine. JP and I never had a drop to drink until mid-night when the event was over. We would be handed a glass of Champaign, bring it to our lips to take one small sip, set it down to speak to someone, and that would be it, over and over. That was fine. We had a BLAST anyway! Truly one of the best times of my life.

At mid night, those who were left adjourned to the hotel bar. From there we all went to one of the suites upstairs around 2:00 a.m. when the bar closed, and finally at 5:00a.m., ended up back in our suite with the remaining handful. Hilarious. The great thing was that no one ever really "got out of hand." It was just commoradery at its best.

**Our family... JP's sister, Sue, Mrs. Godsey,
JP, me, my sister, Betty, & my brother, Larry.**



My babies, Jeremy & Jessica

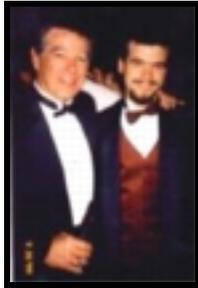


A toast to the Greenhaws



**Our dear friends performed, John Mills
of the Mills Brothers and Elmer Hopper**

of the Platters.



Two of my favorite men. My brother and my son.



Ballroom dancing.



One of my fondest memories was when my daughter and her friends came in to help me get ready.



"Like Mother Like Daughter."

I love this photo! These are some of my best friends with their daughters who are some of Jessica's best friends. I feel like we all grew up together!



And then there were the "guys"...
There is one in every crowd...



The next day and a few were still going....
5:00 a.m.



**And this one I adore! Just like in college, all of the Theta Chi's gathered round to serenaded me. (Those who could remember the words....HA!)
Very special, indeed!**

THUS WE END OUR FIRST YEAR OF MARRIAGE!

But I am proud to say that we made it through what most people say is the hardest in a marriage – THE FIRST YEAR. Every day things seem to be settling in and getting smoother. At least now we know we can handle what life throws our way – together ...It is wonderful. J.P., I love you more with each passing day...

HAPPY ST. PATTY'S DAY, ALL!!!!!!!!!!

Your Friday Friend,
Judith Godsey