

A Word From the Publisher

This past weekend, my siblings, spouses and Roger and I, had the opportunity to celebrate our parents 73rd anniversary with them. I mean this day and time, who celebrates 73 years of marriage? I am beyond thankful and grateful that they want to spend their special milestone with us, is precious!

The plan was all my dad's, for what they wanted to do. Daddy heard about a place in St. Mary's, that was a large house that he could rent for the weekend. He looked at the pictures online and booked it. As many of you know, my parents live in Kingsland, Georgia, so the place was not far for them to travel.

We, as a family, have talked about this many times (staying all in one house). Daddy always reverts back to when we were kids and would go visit our grandparents. Many and most times, we would all pile on the floor and sleep...no worries. And most of the time, there was only one bathroom. We have each expressed our concerns to Dad that we can no longer sleep on the floor, as none of us can get off the floor! And too, we need our own rooms and bathrooms, if possible, as we wonder around in the night! He just laughed but finally understood! So, each time Dad comes up with a place for us to stay, we make sure and check it out...just in case.

The house was super nice and also had a swimming pool, as all of my family love the water of any kind. The



property was located on the marsh, so it was a beautiful setting. The weather held out as it was supposed to rain all weekend! My sister, Marci, picked up food on her way over Thursday for supper, so that began our eating frenzy. I don't think we had any shortage of food. Friday, we all went up to eat at The Lunch Box. It is a buffet and delicious. We had such a good time and lots of good food. We lounged around the pool Friday afternoon and caught up with each other's lives.

Life is so busy and there is so much going on. It was so refreshing to just have time to sit and listen and share.

Saturday began with College Game Day on the TV, coffee and goodies. Here came our parents out of their room with their 'Hog' shirts on, which is a tradition when the Razorbacks (Arkansas) are playing. Their

game began a noon and they were perched in their seats at 11:30 with anticipation. Now I see where I get my school spirit and excitement for



football, both of them! We had game day food! Traditional Stearn snacks used to be: lots of Popcorn, sliced apples and 'rat' cheese, as we always called it (the block cheese). We fixed Mom & Dad a bowl of that and passed it to them during the game. Not even sure if they knew what they ate but they had something. We also had taco dip, chips & queso. We forgot to open the salsa. That evening, we enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs. Like I said, no shortage of food. It's always fun to go back down memory lane and eating things from our childhood. We sure missed our brothers (Dub & Mark) but we talked about them several times. Mark was also an avid Razorback fan!

Again, I am so thankful for my family and the closeness we share. Life is so short...as we have learned. You don't know what tomorrow may bring and it's so important to make each day count. My parents' love has been built on their love for Jesus Christ. They have instilled the importance of Christ's love to us each time we're together. We are all reminded that in this life, we all have decisions and choices to make each and every day. However, the most important decision you can make today is: Have you asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins and come into your heart? Let today be that day.

Have a blessed week!

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