

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David:

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOUR, WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

2022's Most Memorable Quotes

"Hey Uncle Ben, When's That Kid Coming To Your House?"

An inquisitive Thor demanding to know just when Calvin would be born.

"Is He Still Alive?"

Family friend Charlotte Clevenger asks Kathy on Facebook after seeing that she had went to a Tom Jones Concert. Kathy's reply to Charlotte... "Well, he was on Tuesday..."

"You Know, People Tell Me I Look Like Ruffian"

Jim Gulick, Princess Kathy Racing's trainer, claims our 3 year old filly Talkin' Topsy whispered this to him after a rather poor outing at Gulfstream Park.... (For those unaware, and with due respect to Zenyatta, Ruffian was the best filly ever to have raced.)

"London Bridge Is Down"

The Code Phrase communicated to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II had died. Truly A Great Woman. Long Live The King!

"Ooooooh The Storm Is Threatening, My Very Life Today"

Under a Stormy London Hyde Park Sky, Mick Jagger belts out the opening line to Rolling Stones Anthem "Gimme Shelter". This song defined the 1960's.

"Good Evening. I'm Here To Escort Miss Kathy To The Theatre"

Knocking on our Stateroom door, MSC Cruise Butler Rajul insists on escorting Kathy to the play on board. Rajul directed me to walk 6 feet behind them as arm-in-arm they walked to the Theatre as if I wasn't even there.

"Oh He's So Tired!"

Always the next words out of Kathy's mouth whenever she sees this darling picture of Grandson Cal.



"You Bought What ?! !! ?"

A furious Kathy is almost speechless after I tell her I bought the 13 foot high 7/8th Pole at the Arlington Park Auction for a shade under \$500. I thought it would go rather nicely in our backyard, (along with the 200+ Rubber Paver Bricks from the Winners Circle that I bought as well.) She DID NOT Agree.

Merry Christmas

From

The Johnson's

2022



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD.... THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON FINDS US HAPPY, HEALTHY AND OH SO BLESSED.

KATHY & RICK... MARKING OUR 37TH ANNIVERSARY IN JUNE, KATHY & I CELEBRATED WITH A TRIP OUT TO LONDON TO REVISIT OUR OLD HAUNTS, TAKE IN A CRUISE TO FRANCE & SPAIN, & SING WITH THE ROLLING STONES AS THEY PLAYED HYDE PARK. (38TH TIME!)

THE PRINCESS ALSO WENT WITH THE GIRLS TO SEE THE WELSH SEX BOMB TOM JONES, IN CONCERT IN CHICAGO AT AGE 82. BIT OF AN ODD MUSICAL CHOICE—I MEAN, WHO WOULD SPEND A DIME ON ELDERLY BRITISH ROCKERS? BUT THAT'S MY KATHY.

SHE MADE IT OUT TO FLORIDA ONLY A FEW TIMES THIS YEAR, BUT ONE OF THEM WAS TO HOST A REUNION OF HER FAVOURITE NIU COLLEGE ROOMMATES, KATY & LAURIE. SIESTA KEY WAS DRAINED BONE DRY OF ALCOHOL AFTER THESE BABES RAVAGED THE LOCAL PUBLIC HOUSES. THE ISLAND'S DISTILLED SPIRIT SUPPLY CHAIN STILL HAS YET TO FULLY RECOVER.

AS FOR ME, I AM FINALLY RETIRING THIS COMING MARCH 1ST AFTER 44 YEARS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT). YEAH, YEAH—YOU'VE HEARD ME MUSE ABOUT RETIREMENT BEFORE, BUT THIS IS IT IN IT. (GET IT?) SUCCESSOR IS IN PLACE AND IT'S TIME FOR WHATEVER'S NEXT.

HEY, CHECK THIS OUT... MY OFFICE AT BOLER OVERLOOKS THE ENTRANCE TO WHERE I REPORTED FOR MY 1ST IT JOB IN 1978 WORKING THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT AT MOTOROLA. 1978! I MEAN, JIMMY CARTER WAS PRESIDENT THEN! LITERALLY 100 YARDS FROM WHERE MY CAREER STARTED TO WHERE IT'LL END—WITH 5 CONTINENTS OF WORK IN BETWEEN. WHAT A RIDE! PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GIFT!

AND I CAN TELL YOU THIS, KATHY IS DELIRIOUS WITH JOY AT THE THOUGHT OF ME BEING UNDERFOOT 24 x 7 x 365 COME MARCH. SHE'S LITERALLY COUNTING THE DAYS!

GOT 2 HORSES RIGHT NOW, NOVGOROD THE GREAT, RUNNING IN A 100K STAKES RACE THIS CHRISTMAS EVE IN MIAMI (FINGERS CROSSED) & TALKIN' TIPSY, A FILLY, ALSO BASED IN FLORIDA. WE'VE DONE WELL THIS YEAR WITH THEM. WITH THE ECONOMY THE WAY IT IS OUR BEST INVESTMENTS IN 2022 HAVE BEEN THE RACE HORSES! HOW 'BOUT THAT!

BRYAN & SABRINA... OUR OLDEST SON BRYAN IS A BEAR LIKE CREATURE, NOW OF 36 YEARS. HIS LOVELY WIFE SABRINA SEEMS HAPPY TO BE MARRIED TO HIM AND THEY ARE BUSY AS EVER. THEY ARE THE PARENTS OF 2ND GRADER THOR (AGE 7) AND PRESCHOOLER ASHTON (AGE 3).

LIVING IN ANTIOCH, IL, BRYAN MANAGES EMERGENCY MGMT AT DISCOVER CARD SERVICES AND SABRINA IS AN AUTHOR, ADVOCATE & COUNSELOR FOR FAMILIES DEALING WITH ALS AND OTHER REALLY DIFFICULT DISEASES. WE ARE SO PROUD OF THEM BOTH.

THOR IS DOING SO WELL IN SCHOOL. ADVANCED MATH CLASS AND NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE US WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE AT 7. ASHTON LOVES HIS BRO SO MUCH AND DOESN'T LIKE HIM TOO FAR AWAY.

THE JOY WE GET FROM THOR AND ASHTON IS UNENDING. THEY LOVE STAYING OVERNITE WITH US ON WEEKENDS. WE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THOR THE RAPSCALLION & ASHTON THE GREMLIN.

BEN & JORDAN... BENJAMIN, AND BRIDE JORDAN, BOTH 34, LIVE ABOUT 20 MILES FROM US IN CAROL STREAM. BOTH ARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN SCHAUMBURG.

THEY BECAME PARENTS THIS YEAR TO CALVIN TAKASHI JOHNSON IN APRIL. CALVIN TAKES HIS MIDDLE NAME TAKASHI FROM JORDAN'S MATERNAL GRANDFATHER WHO CAME TO AMERICA FROM JAPAN IN THE EARLY 1960'S TO STUDY MEDICINE IN CHICAGO. WHAT A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO HONOR HER GRANDFATHER!

THIS CALVIN COULD BE THE PERFECT BABY! HE WILL GO TO ANYONE, IS CONTENT BEING WITH ANYONE, SLEPT THRU THE NIGHT QUICKLY AND RARELY CRIES. HE IS INSEPARABLE FROM HIS DOG REESE, WHO LOVES BEING WITH CALVIN TOO. WHEN HE WAS BAPTIZED AT TRINITY, HE JUST SMILED AT THE PASTOR WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT DRENCHED HIM WITH THE BAPTISMAL WATERS!

BEN & JORDAN TOOK A LONG PATERNITY/MATERNITY LEAVE WHEN CALVIN WAS BORN. THEY ARE NOW BOTH BACK AT WORK AND CALVIN IS HAPPY AS CAN BE AT HIS DAY CARE ACADEMY.

THE 3 OF THEM ARE GOING TO TAKE THEIR FIRST REAL VACATION THIS NEW YEAR'S OUT TO FLORIDA AND STAY ON SIESTA KEY. KATHY & I WANT TO COME WITH!

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR YEAR IS THE BIRTH OF OUR CALVIN TAKASHI. OH, DO WE LOVE HIM!

BRETT... BRETTIE BOY IS 32 AND DOING FINE. HE WORKS FULL TIME AT JEWEL OSCO IN ARLINGTON HEIGHTS AND IS DOING A GREAT JOB FOR THEM. HE USUALLY WORKS 2ND SHIFT FROM 2-10PM AND PRIMARILY WORKS ON THE OSCO SIDE OF THE HOUSE.

HE IS STILL THE FAVOURITE UNCLE OF THOR & ASHTON—AND LOOKS TO BE GAINING THAT SAME POSITION WITH CALVIN, TOO. IT ALWAYS CHAFES ME WHEN I WALK IN THE DOOR OF BRYAN & SABRINA'S HOUSE AND THE FIRST WORDS OUT OF MY GRANDSON'S AS THEY RUN TOWARDS ME IS A BREATHLESS, "WHERE'S UNCLE BRETT?"

HE LED THE CHEERS AT THE UNITED CENTER WHEN HIS HOCKEY HERO ALEX OVECHKIN SCORED HIS 800TH GOAL AT A BLACKHAWKS GAME IN MID DECEMBER. WE LOVE OUR BRETT.

BRAD & CHRISTINA... THESE 2 LOVEBIRDS LIVE IN A CONDO OVERLOOKING THE TRAIN STATION IN DOWNTOWN ARLINGTON HTS. PARADISE! BRAD, NOW 30, IS A DR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AT NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HOSPITAL. HE MUST BE DOING A GREAT JOB, BECAUSE THEY KEEP GIVING HIM MORE HOURS AND HIS PATIENTS LOVE HIM. HE EVEN TREATED HIS DOWAGER AUNT LAURIE! I'D HAVE REFUSED!

OUR TINA IS A SPECIAL ED TEACHER AT A SCHOOL IN SCHAUMBURG, AND DOES THE LORD'S WORK EVERYDAY IN EDUCATING THESE CHILDREN. THEY CELEBRATED THEIR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY BY HAVING A PROPER HONEYMOON IN HAWAII.

HER PARENTS HOSTED US THIS SUMMER FOR A LOVELY DAY AT THEIR LAKEHOUSE IN WISCONSIN. WE ALSO TRY AND GET TOGETHER EVERY CHRISTMAS FOR A HOLIDAY MEAL AND HOPE TO BE SCHEDULING THAT THIS WEEK!

ALL THE BOYS IN LAWS ARE REALLY, REALLY GREAT PEOPLE! A REFLECTION OF THE DAUGHTERS THEY REARED! WE LOVE THEM ALL! SIMPLY SPLENDID!

**Wishing You Faith, Health, Peace,
& Love... A Blessed Christmas To
All & A Happy, Happy New Year
2023!**

Merry Christmas

**All Our Love,
Rick, Kathy, Bryan, Sabrina, Thor,
Ashton, Ben, Jordan, Calvin, Reese, Brett,
Brad, Tina, Saurav, Arbusch, Sean, Emily
&
The Late Great Champion
General Charley**



CHRISTMAS 2022
GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING TO KATHY & I
Back Row: Bryan, Brett, Sabrina, Ben, Rick
Front Row: Christina, Ashton, Thor, Brad, Calvin, Jordan, Princess Kathy



