



Friday, June 13th, 2008

## How Are We?

### Happy Friday the 13th!

We hope everyone is doing good these days. We don't hear enough from our family to really know if someone is having a hard time, or if all is well. No news is good news I hope. Friday the 13th is not really an unlucky day, at least it has never been for me, and there are so many different stories about the origin of Friday the 13th and how it came to be an unlucky day that you can't really say one is more correct than another, or if any of them are actually true. Google it and you will see what I mean, you will get several million responses, mostly for Friday (not necessarily for the 13th), and many are about the series of movies. Friday the 13th is the one day that I have no problem with walking under a ladder, breaking a mirror (well maybe not a mirror), but of course just about everyday a black cat crosses my path, that would be Sushi our mini black panther. Friday the 13th is just another day for me, how about you? One thing is a fact, IT'S FRIDAY!

*It's only unlucky if you believe!*

### Summer Officially Starts Next Friday, June 20th

We are preparing for a long hard summer this year, with higher gas prices, higher food costs, a water shortage, increased smog, high humidity, a weakened dollar, a heavy pollen count, and more numerous hurricanes are expected, but at least it's summer. Summer is a time to relax, drink a few beers, party with family and friends, dunk in the pool, sit under the AC, and take it easy. I get my exercise primarily by doing yard work and believe me I have enough yard to get plenty of exercise. A nice thing about Texas is that the steam room is right out there with the lawn mower. You can work up a sweat just lifting a can of beer. Heavy bags of clippings help in building the arms. It's also a time for sunscreen; remember to put it on before you go out. Drink lots of liquids, and stay cool. If you work in the yard like I do, make sure you don't overheat; your body temperature can rise very quickly and before you know it, you're down and out.

*Be safe and have a wonderful Summer!  
At least Beer isn't made from oil...*



## Family Photo Section



## 2008 McCann Family Reunion The Report

We had our annual McCann Family reunion a couple of weeks ago. We had a good time, visiting and sharing food with our family. We didn't have as much of a turnout this year, but it was good to see and finally meet more of my cousins, cause I got a bunch. And it was good to see the ones I have already met. We didn't get to spend the night this year, Marisa had to work on Friday night; she got off work at 6:AM that Saturday morning, and I can't blame her that she didn't want to do any camping. We got there in plenty of time for the pot luck lunch. We were going to stay for dinner, however it got too late, so we headed home around 7PM. We stopped on the way home and had a Carl's Jr. Western Bacon Cheeseburger, wow it's been a long time since we had one of those. They don't have a Carl's Jr. anywhere near our home, although there are some in Texas, none close to Keller, I think the closest is about 60 miles away. We always eat there at least once when we visit California or Nevada, plenty of them there.

Having the reunion at Buckhorn campgrounds is a good idea, because it is kind of centrally located between Texas and Oklahoma; there are a lot of McCann related family members in Oklahoma and many in Texas. We discussed having it in the Dallas/Fort Worth area once, but that would be like having it in Paden, at Mark's house; hay Mark's house? I'm sure he would be open to that, he is always at the reunion. I wouldn't mind having it at my place, I have a big enough yard, but I don't know what everyone would do for over night accommodations; I wouldn't want everyone to have to pay for a hotel, and we don't have enough room to put everyone up. Camping is cool anyway, we look forward to it every year. Next year is another opportunity to see more family. I like the way this family camps, most of them have AC, TV, Microwaves, and refrigerators. My cousin Sharen and her husband Keith always had an AC unit, even when they had a tent.



*We should plan now to make next year the biggest turnout ever!*

### Happy Father's Day

Sunday is Father's Day. Mother's had their day last month, now it's dad's turn. This is my day, I'll receive calls from all of my children who have grown and moved away. I get to do anything around the house I want like mow the lawns, trim the hedges, clean the pool. I can sit back, take it easy and watch soap operas, and chick flicks. I'll get father's day cards letting me know that for at least that one day each year my kids are thinking of me and love me, similar statements are made on my birthday, but the other 363 days a year, well, it's unknown. But it's finally my day, I will enjoy every minute of it, in fact I think I will be getting up around 6:30 AM to enjoy more of the day, right dear?



This is my day, I'll receive calls from all of my children who have grown and moved away. I get to do anything around the house I want like mow the lawns, trim the hedges, clean the pool. I can sit back, take it easy and watch soap operas, and chick flicks. I'll get father's day cards letting me know that for at least that one day each year my kids are thinking of me and love me, similar statements are made on my birthday, but the other 363 days a year, well, it's unknown. But it's finally my day, I will enjoy every minute of it, in fact I think I will be getting up around 6:30 AM to enjoy more of the day, right dear?

*Take advantage of what's given to you!*

## Bruce Iverson turns 50

There are many milestones in life, birth, school, marriage, children; some are more important than others, but turning 50 is something I think is worth mentioning. When you hit 40 your over the hill, but 50 is half a century! We will sip beers together, party down, and have a good ol time. Bruce is my friend and neighbor. Bruce, Joanne and the kids are close enough to be family, and of course this newsletter is for friends and family, so;

here's to you Bruce!

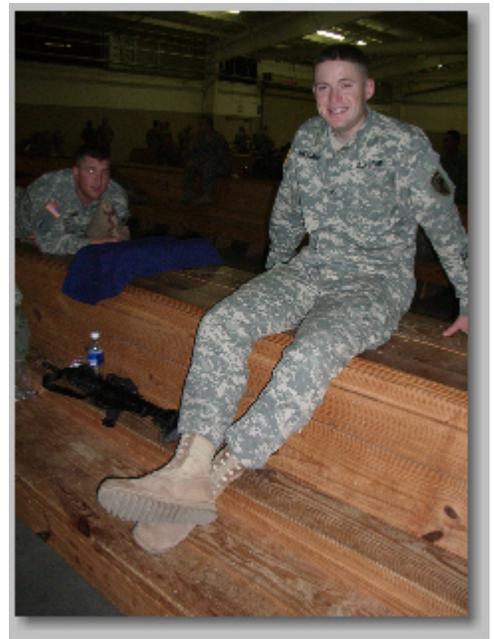


## Recent News

### Shawn is doing fine in Iraq

I heard from Shawn back on the 5th of June by Email. He is doing good, and likes his current assignment. He said "on my last tour I was in the front doing what I was told, now I am in the rear, in the planning part telling others what to do". He is in a safer position, if anything in Iraq is actually safe of course; he is in the planning part of Operations. I try not to worry about Shawn, he is a grown man and has a wife, but I do anyway, and I know other's are worrying too including his wife Rachel, his mother, his step mother, his mother and father-in-law, sisters and brothers, out laws and in laws, and I'm sure friends and more. Although his brother in this house doesn't give it too much thought, he's too busy on his computer to even know the world is turning. Shawn you need to send Brandon an Email if you want to talk to him.

Shawn has his own room with a TV and AC which is great because he says it's hot as hell there. I'm sure he really doesn't know how hot hell is. The picture on the right is one he sent in his last Email. Looks like a large auditorium or gym or something. Nice boots!



### Amanda McCann Delivers a Girl

Shawn's sister Amanda had a baby girl on May 14th. Her name is Jaidyn Rene McCann, giving me another granddaughter, (just what I needed). She was 8lbs 3oz and 20 3/4" long when she was born. She does not have the father's last name because Amanda has chosen not to marry him. She was born in Arkansas where Amanda still lives with her mother and half sister. She has a lot more hair than her older sister Lilly did when she was born. Pictures of this beautiful baby are posted on the Web Site, go to [www.the-mccanns.com/jaidyn.html](http://www.the-mccanns.com/jaidyn.html) Her Aunt Marcia sent me these pictures, I am still waiting for the one's from Amanda's mother, I guess I'll receive them someday, when I do I will post them.



*One comes into the World, and one goes out...  
life's balance*

## Otis Martin passes away at 60

We lost another cousin last weekend. My cousin Otis passed away after a long illness. I don't know exactly what he has been suffering from, (several things I believe), but during our family reunion, he was feeling bad and decided he needed to go home, when he got home, he suffered a fall and was rushed to the hospital where they discovered some blockage in his intestine and was taken into surgery. That was the weekend of the 1st. He passed away a week later on Saturday morning, I understand he never left the hospital. I never really got to know Otis and I wish now I had the opportunity to at least get to know him some, I only know about him. To me nothing is more important than family, it is your heritage, your background, where you are from, and who you are. Otis was born in Paden, Oklahoma on the 8th of October 1947 to Johnnie Mae and August Leo Martin. He is survived by his wife Norma, 2 daughters, Karla and Kellie and 3 sons, Mark, Eric, and Harold, a brother Marcus (Mark) and 2 sisters, Doreen and Bobbi and several grandchildren, and probably the entire town of Paden. Otis' mother Johnnie was my father's sister, she actually raised my father like a son. We all need to make more of an effort to get to know our family. Life is short and the more you know, the more know you, and it makes life just that much sweeter.



## New Web Page Under Construction

I am working on a new Web Page or series of pages to honor those McCann family members who have passed before us. I would like to add all McCann relatives if I can so I need your help. Send me pictures and/or information about our family members, when they were born, when they died, how they died, etc. I also have created the same for the Bennett side of my family. This is a nice place for us to honor them and allow other family members to learn about their lives. I will add any verbiage you send me, to tell their life story. The more pictures and stories, the better the page(s) will be. I will start with my dad. The page is under construction but you can check it out at;

[http://www.the-mccanns.com/mccann\\_inmemory.html](http://www.the-mccanns.com/mccann_inmemory.html)

The Bennetts are at;

<http://www.the-mccanns.com/bennetts.html>



**Thanks for Reading My Newsletter!**