



2002

Merry Christmas



From



The Johnson's

www.rickyjohn.com

Brad, 10. Our last child in primary school is quite the sportsman. Cooled off on the WWF but now into football, where he was the star safety, baseball where he was great behind the plate, and as you can see here possesses a pretty good golf swing - just like his Dad. Grades are quite good for a Johnson, is polite, honest and has a nickname in the family of 'The Reward'. If you ask me the kid is pretty perfect, which brings us to



the next one.

Brett, 12. Must get ten calls a night from local 12 year old girls, from Brook, to Heidi to Kelly, to Jackie, to Brook (again) and to Annie. And that's when he's not instant messaging them on the PC. Was Prince Charming in his school's Snow White play, planting a big smacker on the sleeping Ms. White to roust her from eternal dreamland. Loves his football where he instructed his coach to call him the 'B' train even though he's not a running back. Does well at baseball too. This kid is a handful and is penance to Kathy & I for all our transgression's growing up. Of course he's still the apple of Grandpa's eye as he can do no wrong by him. Had 'The Talk' with him this



year on the 15th Fairway at Prairie Dunes. The focus of the talk was respect and restraint for young ladies. Stay tuned to see if that works.

Ben, 14. Another busy 8th grader headed for High School next year. Graduated from Level II of Space Camp this summer which featured underwater Scuba training simulating weightlessness. As sports mad as Brettie, this year saw him playing Baseball and

Football. Got a little banged up playing football but recovered well to finish the season.

Lost over a stone (15 lbs) during the season and looks great. Grades are good and used his money earned over the summer cutting lawns to buy Christmas presents for the family. Loves Video games, his PC and you can tell is starting to notice the girls. Styling gel in the hair every morning and, if you can believe it, required his first shave this fall.





Bryan 16, is a sophomore at Buffalo Grove HS . Now at 6'0" and 225 pounds, he cuts an imposing figure decked out in his football uniform. Grades, could be better, but nothing that daily beatings and withholding food rations won't cure. Learns to drive this coming semester and attended his first homecoming dance with a very nice local girl. Graduated from his last Space Camp session which featured him going down to Houston to actually train on NASA's simulators. He loved it. Very active in Debate at school, participating in

tournaments at least twice a month. Just got back from a Kentucky debate where his team fought hard but came up short.

Kathy & I celebrated 17 years of wedded bliss this past June. Marking the occasion, I surprised Kathy with a wedding renewal conducted by Elvis at the Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel on the Strip in Vegas. I had my choice of either 'Skinny, Young' Elvis or an "Old, Fat" Elvis to conduct the ceremony. Figured being married to me she has seen enough of the 'Old & Fat' so I went with the youngster. He was pretty over the top, looked like he'd been out drinking pretty hard most of the day.

All the boys were in on the surprise as Brad was my Best Man, Brett was the Ring Bearer/Toast Master, Ben walked Kathy down the Aisle, and Bryan was the Official Photog snapping pictures and a video which was better than the ones I paid for as part of the package.

As for me, work is ever busy at Marconi. Travel has eased a bit as I spend just 1week a month in the UK, 1week in Pittsburgh and the remainder of the time working out of their Chicago office.

Breaking new ground this year, you will find a CD enclosed, meant to be run on your PC. If in 2002, you still don't have a computer, go get one, as I am tired of the Amish having more technology skills than you. You'll find the CD is a look back at our year of 2002 and many of you are on it.

From Our Family To Yours

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Love to All,

Rick, Kathy, Bryan, Ben, Brett, & Bradley

Memorable Quotes Of 2002

“1,000 Pounds On 56! 1,000 Pounds On 56!”

BRADLEY PLEADS FOR MERCY AS HE IS ABOUT TO BE PINNED BY RICK WHILE WRESTLING ON THE BED.

“Go Ahead, Put Your Hand On My Chest...”

AT THE POST WEDDING PHOTO SESSION, A GREASY, SWEATY ELVIS INSTRUCTS KATHY TO PUT HER HAND ON HIS BARE, QUIVERING CHEST FOR AN INTIMATE PHOTO OF THE 2 OF THEM. DESPITE HER RELUCTANCE SHE COMPLIED, BECAUSE AFTER ALL, HE IS THE KING.

“Hey, Be Careful With Those Clubs !!!”

AS KATHY IS BEING CARRIED TO HER CAR BY HER BROTHERS IN LAW AFTER GETTING HURT ON THE JULY 4 HAYRIDE, RICK MAKES SURE THE GUYS DONT JUST PITCH HIS GOLF CLUBS RECKLESSLY OFF THE SEAT TO MAKE ROOM FOR HIS INJURED WIFE.

“Are You Sure Your Dad Can Drive This Car?”

AFTER SPENDING AN HOUR WITH RICK'S DAD TEACHING HIM THE FEATURES OF THE NEW CAR HE JUST BOUGHT, TOM THE HYUNDAI SALESMAN ASKS RICK IF POP REALLY SHOULD BE DRIVING, AS HE STILL DOESNT GET HOW TO TURN ON THE HEATER.

“SURE HE CAN. I'M NOT DRIVING WITH HIM”

RICK'S RESPONSE TO TOM, THE HYUNDAI SALESMAN.