

Merry Christmas  
And  
Happy New Year  
From The  
Johnson's  
2009



**M**erry Christmas to all of our family and friends around the world. 2009 was a year with many blessings, accomplishments and a few sadnesses all in the mix.

Kathy, a whopping 48, is still quite the babe as she prepares to enter her 25th year of marriage to her stud muffin soul mate, Rick. She hasn't been busier as she has 3 of her 4 boys at home. She & Rick took a cruise out of New Orleans this past summer where she worshipped the sun, enjoyed numerous tropical drinks and totally ignored her husband.

Bryan, 23, is now a proud graduate of Western Illinois University, having majored in a new field called Emergency Management. We are so happy that he was able to find a job and works for the Cook County Homeland Security Agency in downtown Chicago. Following graduation, he took a tour through Europe that he enjoyed with his buddies.

Ben, 21, is a Junior at Eastern Illinois University majoring in Elementary Education. He is doing very well and active in his fraternity - where he was just elected Chaplain. He lives in an apartment right on campus with 3 other fellas and there is a rumour of a girlfriend –though no one from the family has yet met her.

Brett, 19, graduated from Buffalo Grove High School this year and is enrolled in his freshman year at Harper College here in Palatine. He's doing well and keeps us constantly on our toes - the rascal. He's not sure what he wants to focus on in college as yet, but he is looking forward to his next year of school.

Brad, 17, is a Senior at Buffalo Grove HS. After graduation, he plans on attending either Harper College or Illinois State University. He just got his Drivers License and is busy with cutie girlfriend Christina. He finished his last year of varsity football playing both halfback, and backup QB. He did great and was named his team's "Offensive Pride Player Of The Year."

Rick, 54, works at Hendrickson with responsibility for their IT. Was back in China this year with more trips planned for next year. Still golfing at



Kemper Lakes—but really enjoying the fun we are having with our race-horse. Went to see Charley run in New Orleans, Kentucky, Texas and of course here at Arlington Park.

Sadly this year we lost Mom's husband Carl following a long, long spell of declining health. He is sorely missed by many - but especially by my Mom. We are so happy she traveled to be with us this Christmas.

Also, Family Patriarch Bob Johnson (brother of my late father), suffered a very serious stroke just two weeks before Christmas. He faces a long convalescence and we hope you will join us in our prayers for his recovery.

*We Wish You A Blessed Christmas  
And Hope This Holiday Season Finds You  
Healthy, Happy, Safe & Prosperous.*

*A Happy New Year To All  
And Here's Hoping We See Each Other In 2010!*

*Love,  
Rick, Kathy, Bryan, Ben, Brett, Brad,  
Whirlaway & General Charley*

*PS... Check Out Our 2009 Family Video On Our Website At  
[www.rickyjohn.com](http://www.rickyjohn.com)  
Click on the Christmas 2009 link!*

*PSS... Check Out Our Red Rabbit Racing Website At  
[www.redrabitracing.org](http://www.redrabitracing.org)*



# **Best Quotes Of 2009**

**“Hell - Even I’d Have To Pull For The Packers If They Drafted Brad. It Would Make My Nose Bleed - But Blood Is Blood!”**

*...Bro-in-Law Mike Gregorio’s angry retort when he spied Brad’s Uncle Gary cheering on the Palatine side of the football field against Brad & his Bisons. Unforgivable.*

**“What’s He Going To Do - Bless The Kegs?”**

*...Trinity Pastor Ben Bergren reacts to the news that second son Ben had been elected Chaplain of his College fraternity.*

**“Your Horse Ran Game. Maybe If My Jock Had The Stick In The Left Hand We Catch You - I Don’t Know. But Hey, You Ran Game.”**

*...In his thickest Cajun accent, Arlington Trainer Wayne Catalano’s gives grudging congratulations to our General Charley’s victory after he outfinished his Just Julian by a nose on Fathers Day.*

**“Faith Moves Mountains”**

*...Trinity elder Glenn Anderson’s observation when he saw Ben motion to Rick to slide down the pew following communion.*

**“God Bless You”**

*...Last words uttered by Mom’s husband Carl Thrun just hours before succumbing to cancer. He remained faithful to the end and is an example of faith, service, courage & love to us all.*