# Family News

**December 15, 2010**

Its cold in Florida.  Can it be December already? It does not seem so long ago when Kathy and I were kayaking on the river and enjoying much warmer temperatures!  I miss and love summer time!



*Proud Mom and Dad*

**Announcements:**

Last July Angela and TJ exchanged vows. They were married in Kansas.  Kathy and I were not able to go there, but we gladly welcome Angela into our family (its official now - although she has been a part of our family for 5 years).



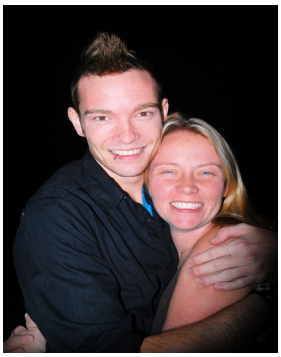
*The Newlyweds!*

On October 8th we welcomed Abigail Eliza Kurtz into our lives. She is beautiful! If you have not seen them - there are LOTS of pictures on facebook.

We are also happy to share - Perry and Sammy are engaged to be married in March of 2011. Sammy has two children (Kacey 5, and Ryan 3) and combined with Taylor & Caitlynn, they will be a miniature version of the Brady Bunch.



*Perry & Sammy's new family*



*Marc and cousin Michelle (no comment on the hair)*

**Travels:**

We spent Valentine's day in Atlanta this year and had over 4 inches of snow. We walked from our hotel in downtown to the Georgia Aquarium and had to be careful because of all of the ice on the sidewalks. Brrrr … give me summer time any time.

In June we stayed a block away from the river in old downtown Savannah and then spent a few days in Myrtle Beach. Our room on the beach was 23 floors up. Doing my morning yoga routine on the balcony while watching the sun rise over the Atlantic was a great way to start my mornings. Coming home we spent a night at Stone Mt outside of Atlanta. We saw the laser show at night and went to the top of the mountain the next day. What a wonderful trip.



*Savannah*

This was our last year for the Bailey family reunion at Guntersville State Park in AL. We will miss the annual gathering on top of Taylor Mt, but will remember all the great times we had with a big smile. My mom rode home with us and on the way home we stopped at the highest point in Alabama.



*Stone Mountain*



*My Mom took this photo*

Last month Kathy and I drove to Orlando to spend Thanksgiving with her family. Justinn and her family were also there along with Marc. We had a great time seeing everyone. Ask Marc who won at chess and tennis. We won't mention UNO at Patsy & Kevins.

**The Latest:**

In March, I took a week off from work and Kathy and I removed all of the old shingles from our 25 year old house and put on new shingles. What a job. Several folks helped us pick up old shingles and haul them to the dump, but we did all of the roof work by ourselves. I've already told all of the kids in 25 years its their turn. We will supervise the job from the ground. All of those roofs we have done at habitat helped! We just finished the roof of the 15th habitat house we have worked on since 2002. I guess if I wanted to change jobs I could become a roofer. Don't think that's going to happen.


*New shingles being installed.*

Kathy is still retired. She and a friend have made dozens of beautiful cakes. She has also made a couple of beautiful quilts this year. She bought a new band saw for her shop, and graciously shares some of her space with me so I can make bamboo flutes (see tgflutes.com). I like to spend time making and playing bamboo flutes, kayaking, – and beating Marc at tennis (some of the time anyway).


*At Marianna Caverns*

I have been riding my bicycle to work for 16 years now. I am approaching the 40,000 mile mark. Last January we saw 14 straight days with morning temps below freezing and most of those days were in the low 20's, one morning it was 16 degrees. I rode every day, but it was cold! Did I mention I love summer? :)

Kathy and I have gone out on a "date" once a month every month this year. On some of those we went to the movies, played goofy golf, or visited a park (I highly recommend snorkeling at St Andrews State Park in Panama City). We like to visit with our grandchildren and often meet them at a park with their parenets.

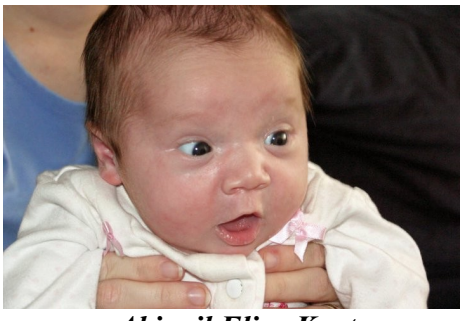
We bought a wii for each other for our anniversary last February. Kathy and I play bowling and golf nearly every week. Some days she wins and some days I win. That keeps it interesting. :) You can find this and old newsletters at ***www.atfar.com/fn***


*Cousins saying good-bye to Michelle at Thanksgiving*

**Favorite Quotes**:

**"To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man." William Shakespeare**

## Merry Christmas!


***Abigail Eliza Kurtz***