### The Mondy Morning

# **CHRONICLE**

Family Poop Sheet since 1990
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I realize the last Chronicle probably hasn't reached you yet but I'm beginning this one anyway. The following article will tell you why.

Do you lick your envelopes to seal them? **DON'T EVER DO IT AGAIN**.

The following true story will tell you why.

A woman was working in a post office in California. One day she licked the envelopes and postage stamps instead of using a sponge. That very day the lady cut her tongue on the envelope. A week later, she noticed an abnormal swelling of her tongue.

She went to the doctor, and they found nothing wrong. Her tongue was not sore or anything. A couple of days later, her tongue started to swell more, and it began to get really sore, so sore, that she could not eat.

She went back to the hospital, and demanded something be done. The doctor took an x-ray of her tongue and noticed a lump. He prepared her for minor surgery. When the doctor cut her tongue open, a <u>live cockroach crawled out!!!!</u> There were roach eggs on the seal of the envelope. The egg was able to hatch inside of her tongue, because of her saliva. It was warm and moist.. This is a true story reported on CNN news. [Margaret heard part of it.]

Several people wrote in about this.

One said that she had worked for a company who made envelopes and keeping

cockroaches out of the room where the glue is applied to the envelopes is harder than keeping them out of a kitchen - they simply swarm over the envelopes eating the glue, which they seem to love and in which they lay their eggs.

Use a sponge or wet your finger to moisten the envelope.

Here's a letter from Dick Mondy (Son of my brother, Dewel)

Uncle Harrison and Aunt Margaret

I hope you are doing well. We are all fine. I am typing this email from the New Orleans airport. I thought it would be a good time to catch up on some emails I needed to write.

This has been a busy spring so far. I have gone to two conferences within a month so I have been on the road a lot. Aaron graduates high school in a couple of weeks so we are getting ready for that. Mark, Becky, and the girls are coming out to Indiana for that. We are looking forward to their visit.

Adam is done with school this semester. He is working full time this summer, coaching a little league baseball team (13-14 year old boys), and playing on a softball team. He won't have much time to get into trouble. He also plans to be a camp counselor for the church's children's camp in July.

Amanda is still working for the Carlton Lodge in Mishawaka. She is an assistant manager so she spends quite a bit of time there. She is playing on a women's softball team this summer.

Aaron, as I said earlier, is graduating high school, then working this summer. He will be attending Southwest Michigan College this coming fall, majoring in Electronics Technology. He plans to get his Associates of Applied Science degree first, and then transfer to Indiana University of South Bend to complete a four year degree in electrical engineering. He is excited about it. He took some electronics courses in high school this year and found out he really liked it. He seems to have a natural aptitude for it. He understands well all the homework and class work he has been given to do. He is ahead of his electronics class in his lab work so he has done some extra credit things.

As for me, I am staying very busy at work. I was in Miami two weeks ago for a conference. I went down a day early and played golf at the Doral Golf Club and Resort. That is where they play the Doral Open. Needless to say, I lost quite a few balls (about 12) due to the number of water hazards (nice way to say "lakes") on the course. I do not play well but enjoy it. I was hoping to see an alligator on the course. I had my camera ready but I think they heard I was coming and went and hid. I saw none. Just as well. They say if your ball lands next to an alligator, you can play a new ball and not count a stroke penalty. I would just have lost more balls.

As I said in the opening of my letter, I am now in New Orleans. We went down on Bourbon Street one night to have dinner and listen to a jazz band. I also took a cruise

on a paddle wheeler on the Mississippi River. I enjoyed that a lot. The river life, with all the big ships, etc., is quite different from life in Elkhart, Indiana.

Better close for now. Drop me a note some time and let me know how your books sales are coming. I would like to have a copy, if you could remind me how to order one. If you tell me where they are being sold, I can pick one up there as well.

Take care. We love you.

Dick

Bessie mentioned in her letter (in the last Chronicle) that Judy Mondy had had an operation. The following letter from Jim and Judy is a follow-up. (Jim is the Grandson of Uncle Ed)

Hello everyone! Just wanted to let you all know that I came home from the hospital on May 2 and have been getting a little stronger each day. I am on oxygen 24/7 due to an unknown lung problem; I will see a pulmonologist in June and repeat lung function tests in July. Considering everything they found wrong with me, I guess I am lucky to have gotten choked when I did. (In case you didn't already know, I underwent a quadruple bypass on April 24.)

I want to thank everyone for their concern during the past 5 weeks; cards, visits, phone calls, food but most importantly, your prayers. And I would ask that you continue to pray about the lung problem.

Will keep you posted as we find out more details.

Thanks again for your concern.

Judy & Jim Mondy

\* \* \*

Last week I was waiting in line to mail a package at the PO. Near me was a woman who was decorating a package in colorful paper so I said, "Must be for a little girl." She smiled and said it was for her 18 month old granddaughter. I mentioned that I had written a book for just such a little girl and she wanted to buy one. The next day I sent her one. Yesterday I got an order for two more, accompanied by the following note:

"Dear Mr. Mondy. What good luck to meet you at the Post Office! I <u>love</u> your book. It is the finest story and perfect for a child who will want it read over and over. The pictures and colors are great but I am especially captured by your story. Ellen's mother has read to her since she came home from the hospital and she prefers books to any other toy. this will be such a great adventure for Ellen and those of us who read your book to her. Thank you for writing the book."

From Linda Phelps (May 20,2003)

Hello You Two. Just a few lines to let you know the latest from my end of the world. Roger had a wreck on his moped two weeks ago. He hit some loose sand and lost control. Gave the road a rubdown with the right side of his face and head. I was called by someone who came up on him and so I went and got him and took him to emergency. They cleaned the sand out of his roadrash and took x-rays. His collarbone was broken and he sprained the thumb on his right hand. Luckily he's left-handed. Anyway, altho he's bruised and sore he's on the mend. Can't work for awhile and the moped is off limits until the doc says he can ride it. I'm doing fairly well. Had a tooth extracted last Tuesday and from Wed. evening until today I was in a lot of pain so called my dentist and he told me to come in right away. Found out I had a dry socket so he cleaned it out, put medicine in it and packed it. Instant relief!!! Now I have to wait four months for my bridge. Good news from my only daughter. As most of you know she's 4 months pregnant. I traveled to Wichita yesterday to go with her to have a sonogram taken. IT'S A BOY!!!!! After 5 granddaughters he'll be very welcome as my first grandson. Can't wait for October to get here. I've bought so many presents for her upcoming shower. I went to a garage sale last Saturday and found a white highchair, a white youth bed and mattress, an infant bouncer seat, some nice baby clothes that were practically new and the most beautiful bassinette. Christy can have whatever she wants and the rest stays here for Nana's baby when he comes to visit. School is nearly out but Christy will be teaching summer school so she won't be able to come to the reunion. Mowed the front and back this evening and will do the 2 acres around the house tomorrow and Thursday. A lot of work for this old lady. Will be in a world of hurt if my riding lawn mower poops out on me. Also planted some tomato plants. Used to have a big garden but it's just too much work and I have a lot of crabgrass. Keeping it up just became too much for me but can't quit altogether. . Stay well and will talk to you soon. Luv u both. Linda

Just got an email from Nell saying that Jerry Thornton (Jessie Mondy's Husband) is going in for open-heart surgery on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup>, so remember him in your prayers. More details when I get them.

Wed. 5/28 From Nell, Jerry came through his triple bypass surgery OK.

I bet there is not a skunk in the country who gets as much TLC as the one who comes to our back door each night expecting a handout, and I bet no woman in the country spends more time preparing special dinners for a skunk. Stinko, as we call him loves gravy over whatever scraps we have so every night, Marg makes gravy for that purpose. He is a beautiful animal and I would love to be able to pat his head and stroke his fur. But, alas, he is just a wild animal.

Shall I point out something very scary? What if Flight 93 had continued its flight instead of crashing in Pennsylvania. It is thought to have been heading to the dome of the capitol and had it crashed there, so many senators and congressmen could have been killed or injured, there would not have been a quorum so no government business could have been done. Our laws require that each of the lawmakers has to be elected, and that would have taken months. I think the law should be changed so that an alternate could be standing by in case of such a catastrophe. If you think terrorism is a thing of the past, "it ain't". George's war has made more enemies than friends.

Remember "The Good ole Days"? WASHDAY

(Which some of us can remember.):

Years ago a Kentucky grandmother gave the new bride the following recipe for washing clothes. It appears below just as it was written, and despite the spelling, has a bit of philosophy.

This is an exact copy as written and found in an old scrap book (with spelling errors and all).

- 1. Bilt fire in backyard to heat kettle of rain water.
- 2. Set tubs so smoke wont blow in eyes if wind is pert.
- 3. Shave one hole cake of lie soap in bilin water.
- 4. Sort things, make 3 piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile colored, 1 pile work britches and rags.
- 5. To make starch, stir flour in cool water to smooth, then thin down with bilin water.
- 6. Take white things, rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, and then bile. Rub colored don't bile, just rinch and starch.
- 7. Take things out of kettle with broomstick handle, then rinch, and starch.
  - 8. Hang old rags on fence.
  - 9. Spread tea towels on grass.
  - 10. Pore rinch water in flower bed.
- 11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
  - 12. Turn tubs upside down.
- 13. Go put on clean dress, smooth hair with hair combs. Brew cup of tea, sit and rock a spell and count your blessings for tubs that don't leak, the rains that keep the rain barrels full, and plenty of home-made lye soap

From Dena Houston, My good friend Dear Harrison,

I did as I said I would. I hope you didn't mind the angel I placed there with Mrs.Mondy's flowers. I put the purple iris's down and also on your daddy's grave, I put a small sprig of red, white and blue flowers. Someone else had placed the white flowers on your moms and the red roses on your dads.

Hope you are pleased with the pics I send of their gravesite. I felt so peaceful up there at Shiloh ... it was cool and very windy, though.

Hope you and Margaret are doing ok. Hugs to both of you.

I like the new place they built where the church once stood.. but it's so sad not to see the church.

I have a question for you, Harrison. While you were young... did you climb that one OLD tree that has the knots on it..? It is a very old tree and quite unique. Let me know!

Well, my trip over Memorial weekend went fair. Had a tire that was stabbed on side by a sharp stub or something.. so had a flat.. my little brother was my guardian angel that day.. he was with me and Mom.. traveling behind us.. so luckily he changed it and put his own spare on there... also.. I did manage to see my Aunt Marie's gravesite at Wicker Cemetery, it's back in the quitelands near Bradford Church area, and Hilltop.. Forrest Hills church, etc...up in that area around Ravenden Springs. Well, Harrison.. you take care, and WRITE me sometime! You can publish this if you wish. Oh, other pic is on it's way. Love, Dena

[No Dena, I don't think I climbed that one, there were others easier to climb and gave me a better view. And thank you for the pictures. they were beautiful. Sorry I can't print them for others to see.]

One thing little kids learn at an early age: You Can't Baptize a Cat.

I received the following from Sue Collins, Frank's daughter, yesterday.

FRANK MCELROY, of Jacksonville, AR surrounded by his wife, children, grandchildren, brother and other beloved family members passed into eternity on May 30, 2003. He was born February 13, 1926 in Delaplaine, Greene County, Arkansas to the late Robert McElroy and the late Jennie Ivey McElroy Harpole Canady. He was also predeceased by his sister, Stella DeLara.He served with the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Rowan and was retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Jessie Waller McElroy; one brother, Marion McElroy (Louise) of El Dorado, Arkansas and one brother-in-law, Henry DeLara of Victorville, California; two daughters, Andrea Sue Collins (Eddy) of Jacksonville and Pamelia Elaine Hicks (Robert) of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; one son, Stephen Frank McElroy (Elizabeth) of Jacksonville; his nine precious grandchildren, Wendi Collins Kuebler (Erick) of Dallas and Brandi Collins of Jacksonville; Keri Hicks Gee (Todd) of Slidell, Louisiana, Robert L. Hicks Jr. and Lori Elaine Hicks of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Tammy Hefley Mason (Phillip), Dawn Hefley Hammett, Stephanie McElroy, Chloe McElroy, all of Jacksonville and four precious greatgrandchildren. Funeral services will be at

Moore's Jacksonville Funeral Home Chapel at 2 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2003 by Rev. Larry Burton, assisted by Jim Waller, his nephew. Burial will follow at Chapel Hill Memorial Park. To sign the online guest book visit

www.mooresjacksonvillefuneralhome.com. Arrangements under the direction of Moore's Jacksonville Funeral Home. I will write more little later . . . Sue Collins

[When I asked Sue if sh waned to continue receiving the Chronicle, I received the following:]

Please do keep sending the chronicle to Mother and I will read it with her. Daddy always read every word aloud . . . several times . . . to all who would listen. I plan to continue our genealogy search . . . it was one of our loves and the time that we shared researching at libraries, etc. was a wonderful way to bond as adults. We will sure miss him. Thanks and love, Sue-

[I will miss Frank. I never met him face to face but we spent hours in conversation on the phone and exchanged many emails. We became good friends. I send my condolences to Jessie and Sue and the rest of the family.]

No issue of the Chronicle would be complete without a letter from Bessie and Bertha. That's how we keep up with our kin in Springfield.

Dear Cousins and Friends
Bertha and I and my daughters, Sue
and Ann made the trip to Pocahontas on
May 22<sup>nd</sup>, leaving Springfield about 6:30

AM. We stopped at Willow Springs for breakfast, then went to the first cemetery at Thayer where we placed an American Flag and flowers on Houston's grave and the graves of our Aunt and Uncle. [Cousin Houston was the son of Uncle Earnest.]

Our next stop was at Myrtle where we visited the graves of our little niece, Barbara Jean and our Uncle on Dad's side of the family.

The next stop was at Walnut Grove to visit graves of Grandmother Mondy and Uncle Sular Mondy, also Grandma and Grandpa Buckley, also Aunt Eve and Aunt Mary on the Buckley side. We visited the grave of little sister Versa Marie, Bertha's twin.

At Clearview, we put flowers on the graves of Aunt Dona, Uncle Frank, Waymond, Aunt Hattie, Herman and Lillie's twins and Aunt Dee Mondy.

At Shiloh we put flowers on the graves of Uncle Lloyd, Aunt Marry Ellen, and little Baby Buckley, (Edward and Novella's baby).

From there, we went to the Masonic Cemetery in Pocahontas where we visited Grandpa Mondy's grave, Aunt Ethel and Uncle Daily's grave, Our Dad and Mom's graves and those of our sisters, Elsie and Dovie Lee and of our brother Elzie's wife, Minnie. Also Uncle Earnest and Aunt Frankie's graves, Cousin Zelma and her husband, Edward Gill, and Cousin Sular and wife Cona. We visited the graves of all the Ryburns. Sue had American flags she put on all the veteran's graves.

It was a nice day for traveling, not too hot, no rain either going or coming. Don't know how many more years we will be able to make the trip but will go as long as we are able.

[Bessie and Bertha, I and I am sure

all the other cousins, thank you for making the trip each year to the cemeteries where our loved ones are buried.]

Bertha and I were involved in a car accident on April 20<sup>th</sup>, – we were rearended by a man. Neither he or either of us were injured but Bertha's car was totaled. A week later we took Bertha to the hospital where she spent five days while they "put her through the mill". They discovered she was having some trouble with her pancreas. [Bertha, I told you to lay off that whiskey, it will do it every time, tut, tut, HCM] She will go back in June for a check-up. Every thing else, heart, lungs, MRI on her head, gall bladder, blood pressure, good.

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, we went for our eye examination and they found a tiny sore on Bertha's nose which she thought might be caused by her glasses but the doctor sent her to a specialist and on the 28<sup>th</sup> she ha a small tumor removed so she is spending a few days with me. We are just being a little lazy and talking a lot. :-):-)

Our weather has been nice, good rain last night. On May 4<sup>th</sup> we had several tornadoes around. Our new church building at Battlefield was completely destroyed along with most of Battlefield. My son had some damage to his home and lots of debris all over the yard. Two houses on his street were blown away and several others severely damaged. My daughter's home was not damaged but she had a lot of stuff blown into her yard. Only one person lost her life when a tree fell on her.

My grandson, the one who had cancer is home from the hospital but will be in rehab for some time. He uses a walker and wheelchair to get around. He fell and they put a neck-brace on him. His problems are not related to the cancer.

We were so sorry to hear of Cousin RA's death. Our hearts and love go out to the family.

Just received the Chronicle and was so glad to read all the news. we always read it and enjoy it so much.

Congratulations to Nell on her good work. Love and good health to all

Bessie and Bertha

Nell's invitation read as follows:

Please join Dean Patsy Brannon in honoring

DR. Nell I. Mondy '53

at the dedication

of

The Nell I. Mondy Laboratory of Human Performance Friday, May 30, 2003

Nell added a note saying, "I know we live too far apart to expect you to attend but I asked the Dean for a copy of the invitation to send to you. Please pass it along.

Received the following from Ken Vycital including letters he received from his son, Brian who is in the Navy.

Hi All,

Thought I would pass along parts of Brian's letters to you for the Chronicle.

The notes in () are mine

## (5/31/03) from Brian

Hey what's up?

I'm very sorry that I haven't written you in a while. What's been happening is I wrote Emily then the computers go down on the ship, so I'm writing you first. I've been very busy getting ready for underway. We left on Wednesday morning, for Osaska, Japan. We were only out for 3 days though. There was a typhoon around Osaka. We turned back on captain's orders.

I have a Battle station area now too. I go down to the forward magazine for the 5 inch deck gun. I'm a loader. I load the 70lbs. shells into the lower loading station which sends them to the gun. I also worked the EP2 panels underway. Those are the panels that run the controls for the forward 5 inch deck gun. I did some pre-fire checks. I even got to be topside watch when they did the gun maneuvers for the aft 5 inch. I watched them land a helicopter on the flight deck, did a few man overboard drills, and worked in the armory. I guess that I'm going to be the aft line gunner. That means that I carry an M-14 with a mk87 line throwing attachment. I did the instruction watch this underway, but I think I'm on my own next time. I didn't get sea sick. When you're out there in the ocean at night there is no light. It is completely pitch black on the weather deck. We had some rough seas due to the typhoon. I loved it. You sleep very good with the rocking of the ship.

### 6/1/03

Hey, Good to hear from you. My BS station is with 4 other people. Yeah I do get my lifting in with the shells. The EP2 controls the gun, I don't think it fires it though. I'm still learning it. Doing some gun quals (Qualifying) on the 9th of June. Got to

work with the 50 Calibers underway. Help set them up forward and aft. Helped bring up ammo. Helped with the 25mm gun buy loading and unloading.

As far as life outside the ship, well............
We go to Yokohama a lot. It's about the size of Phoenix, but with more buildings.
Yokohama is a good place. I'm getting kinda tired of TGIFridays though. Went skating in Yokohama. I found some great spots that are out of the way. Learned some new tricks too. My LPO (my boss) GM2 Codling skates too. The girls love the skateboard. I don't know what it is but they come out of nowhere when we're skating

### (Later that day)

Went skating tonight. It was a good night. About 10 o'clock, these drunk Japanese guys started skating with us. It was hilarious.

We also had a humorous incident at MacDonalds tonight. You see, over here things are much smaller and people eat less so the portions are smaller. I ordered a supersized meal and they gave me a cup equal to an American small. The fries were a small package too. I showed him what I ordered and we went back and forth for a while. Well turns out that what we got is a super-size in Japan. :-) He and I both laughed when we realized what had just happened. Still kinda irked though, that was a small drink and fries.

One girl told me, I keep the mood light and fun and my blues eyes drive em crazy. :) Thanx for the blue eyes!

We ate at a Japanese restaurant. Ya gotta take your shoes off and sit on the ground and starve to death because they give you 2 little sticks to eat rice and noodles with..... -----Brian

If you wish to write to Brian his e-mail address is: oldboneyb@yahoo.com He is still working on an APO address but hopes to have it soon.

The home crowd is doing fine -we're eating the true super-sized meals at McDonalds. :-)

Dad and Norma have just gotten back from their trip to Oklahoma ands Kansas. Norma had a class reunion in Oklahoma then they drove up to Kansas to see Joan. Next week they will be headed out to California with Sue to watch Katy and Megan graduate from the 6th and 8th grades.

Em has started summer school and will go through July 24th. She and Jennifer (her best friend) helped our new music minister move in yesterday which cost me two large milkshakes when I picked them up. They're both good kids and they have a lot of fun. Nothing but talking and laughter whenever they are together.

The doctor changed my medicine last week and it threw me for a loop a couple of days. I'm find now and it is so much better since I only have to take 2 pills instead of 6. Now that's it is getting hot I will be spending more time indoors since long time exposure to the heat bothers me. Love to All, Ken

How many others of out kith and kin are in the Armed Forces at present? The Chronicle

Family would love to hear from them.

I have had more trouble with my computer recently that the law allows. Last night the guru had dinner with us and he must have worked six or more hours getting a lot of bugs out of it. Today it is perfect. For the past two weeks I have been able to send and receive email and that's all. Could not even work on the Chronicle.

We have been having gorgeous weather; cool (one day last week it was 39 when we got up) in the morning; Warm in the afternoon (it got up to 81 one afternoon). The humidity is usually in the low 20's, sometimes as high as 30%. Right now, noon Sunday, the temp is 66 degrees and I have on a light jacket.

The Jinks family re-union is scheduled for June 20 -22 near Austin, TX. We are going there and after it is over we are going on to Piggott to visit Wilma for a few days. I am reminding her that I expect a cat-fish dinner while I am there. She (Harold's wife), Anne (Terral's wfe), Lester (White) and I are all the in-laws left of the original PK Jinks family and Judy (Washburn) and Margaret are the only children left. It is usually a noisy get-together and everyone has a good time.

I'm going to press in about an hour and I have run out of letters from you, so you will have to put up with some jokes, etc., for I refuse to send blank pages. So here goes:

#### 1) What God's like.

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

- 2) An older man was speeding down the road at 80 mph when he looked in his rearview mirror and saw a Texas Highway Patrol car coming with its lights flashing and siren blaring. Thinking he could out run the trooper, the man speeded up to 100 mph. Suddenly, he realized his foolishness and pulled over to the side of the road and stopped. The trooper pulled up, walked up to the car and said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes and it's Friday. If you can give me a reason why you were speeding that I've never heard before, I'll let you go." The man looked at the trooper and said, "Last week my wife ran off with a State Trooper and I thought you were bringing her back." The trooper replied, "Have a nice day."
- 3) "God," said Adam, "Why did you make Eve so beautiful?"

"So you would love her."

"But why did you make her so dumb?"

"So she would love you."

4) Murphy showed up at Mass one Sunday and the priest almost fell over when he saw him. Murphy had never been seen in church in his life.

After Mass, the priest caught Murphy and said " Murphy, I am so glad you decided to come to Mass, what made you come?"

Murphy said, "I got to be honest with you Father, a while back, I misplaced my hat and I really, really love that hat. I know that McGlynn had one just like mine and I knew that McGlynn came to church every Sunday. I also knew that McGlynn had to take off his hat during Mass and I figured he would leave it in the back of church. So, I was going to leave after Communion and steal McGlynn's hat."

The priest said, "Well, Murphy, I notice that you didn't steal McGlynn's hat. What changed your mind?"

Murphy said "Well, after I heard your sermon on the 10 commandments, I decided that I didn't need to steal McGlynn's hat."

The priest gave Murphy a big smile and said "After I talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' you decided you would rather do without your hat than burn in Hell right?"

Murphy shook his head and said "No, Father, after you talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery' I remembered where I left my hat."

5) A lady walks into a drugstore and asks the pharmacist for a bottle of arsenic. The druggist says "mam why do you want a bottle of poison?"

"To kill my husband".

"I can't sell you the arsenic for that reason" says the druggist".

The lady reaches in her purse and pulls out a picture of her husband in a very compromising position with a female who happened to be the druggist's wife.

"Oh says the druggist, I didn't know you had a prescription".

Now wasn't this a good Chronicle?

Bye 'til next time. Meanwhile, write