



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

[Change Banner Image](#)

**154,963**  
SparkPoints



Info



Photos



Feed



Blogs



Awards

More



## A race, a funeral, a parade and a concert – not a regular Saturday

Saturday, December 06, 2014

Sometimes everything just comes together at once.

This morning was our town's annual Christmas Classic 5K. I run it every year along with about 70 members of our church. DH even participates. He's part of our walking contingent. His stated goal is to finish ahead the ambulance and not in it.

We've been called the "runningest church in town" and this race is part of our "Health and Holiness" Ministry. Our church also happens to be right on the race route so we're a logical place for a water stop.

Sadly, this week our oldest Deacon died and today was his funeral. The family didn't want to impact our running tradition. Many of them had participated in the race in the past. So the service was scheduled for 10:30. The race was at 8:30 with the kids' fun run at 9:45.

So this is my day so far.

I got to the race in time for our group picture at 8:00. At the 8:30 start there was a light drizzle, but not bad since the temperature was in the 40s. I talked to the woman I call the "Energizer Bunny" because she just keeps going and going and going – downhill, uphill, doesn't matter. I on the other hand am defeated by hills and always walk up at least part of them.

My goal was to stay with her as long as I could and at least keep her in sight.

Today I hung with her for 2 miles, but she finished stronger, 25 seconds ahead of me. I did a 31:06. Darn it, I wanted a 30. So she got 2nd in our age group and I was 3rd. One of those "youngsters" just turning 65 got 1st. This is a tough course & even with my walking, it was my 2nd best time ever on that course.

My DD, Sparker Hayburner1969 won her 45-49 age group with a 24:04 and raced off to change for the funeral. She's our Music Minister, pianist and soloist. I followed soon after since I sing in the choir. Fortunately, we can shower and change real fast.

The funeral was beautiful and moving. Deacon Ray touched many lives in his 80+ years on this earth. The music was perfect. Running this morning didn't impact DD's "Ave Maria" at all. The duet and trio were amazing. What a fitting celebration of a wonderful life.

Next on the schedule is our town's Christmas Parade at 4. Two of my grandchildren will be marching with their HS Band.

Tonight my choral society has their #1 Christmas Concert. I have to be at rehearsal at 6  
Maybe I should take a nap?

I see that it's raining harder now which will postpone the parade until tomorrow at 4.

[Add a Blog Entry](#)

See Today's Featured Member Blog Posts

### More Blogs by BROOKLYN\_BORN

[Now I can add one more event to my "Anniversary Dates" to forget - 6/7/2021](#)

[Avoiding Our Wedding Anniversary - 6/4/2021](#)

[Multitasking for Safety – Plus Remembrance and Reflection - 6/1/2021](#)

[Taps Across America – The National Moment of Remembrance - Monday 5/31/21 3PM - 5/30/2021](#)

[View All >](#)

While I appreciate the break today, I have our 2nd choral concert tomorrow, also at 4. Darn conflict! I wanted to see the kids.

[Edit Blog Entry](#) | [Delete Blog Entry](#)

Share This Post With Others

[Report Inappropriate Blog](#)

## Member Comments About This Blog Post



**AKA\_GAMERMOM**

Wow! You have had quite a stressful few weeks. I believe that faith and fitness are the perfect antidotes for stress. You have the right balance. Make sure you take care of yourself.

God bless you!!

2369 days ago

[v](#)



**KANSASROSE67**

Wow!



2374 days ago

[v](#)



**TODDERICKV**

Great job!

2376 days ago

[v](#)



**KPETSCH**

Busy Saturday! I'm glad you were able to run after your little spill last week. It's fantastic to see your Deacon's impact on all the people he's touched through his time here. Bless him and bless your church members.

2377 days ago

[v](#)



**IFDEEVARUNS2**

I'm exhausted just reading this!

I'm sure your deacon was delighted you ran.

2377 days ago

[v](#)



**JAMIRBLAZE**

I think "to finish ahead the ambulance and not in it" will be my stated goal for every race from

here on out.

2377 days ago

[v](#)



**1STBUCKETITEM**

Saturday I walked my first 5K ever and proudly came in last! (only 2 other walkers)

Considering I couldn't walk around the block in May, I have come a long way!

The other runners cheered me on the last block and they gave me a Christmas ornament which was inscribed "First 5K 2014." I made my own personal best time since I started training for it by 11 minutes! With a bad left foot and a bad right knee, up and down the hills, I made it in 60

minutes, 9 seconds!! I was thrilled!!

2378 days ago

[v](#)



**MARYJEANSL**

I think just about everyone has one of those absolutely-packed-with-things-to-do days some time or another. I know I have. It sounds to me as though you handled such a busy day very well. I hope the remainder of this busy month leaves you some time to rest, though!

2378 days ago

[v](#)



**SYLPHINPROGRESS**

Good work on your race time.

How striking that the Deacon's family chose to work around the race schedule. In their sadness and loss, they celebrated community and the continuity of life. Unselfish and a tribute.

This may be the first I learn of your singing. I'll be going to the Collegiate Chorale concert in a

[v](#)

couple of weeks at Carnegie. They are performing something slightly off-beat. If you're curious:

[http://collegiatech  
orale.org/performances/not-the-  
messiah](http://collegiatech<br/>orale.org/performances/not-the-<br/>messiah)

Eric Idle!

2378 days ago

Comment edited on: 12/7/2014 10:13:08 AM



**CD13202979**

Grateful to read this post. You reminded me that a full life is a good life!



2378 days ago



**BARB4HEALTH**

You go Girl!

2378 days ago



**KRISZTA11**

Congrats to your race!  
Your church is amazing.



2379 days ago



**GINIEMIE**

And so rolls December. You did have a busy weekend and I understand conflicts. It's hard not to when you have children, grandchildren and a parish family. Glad you got a little break though,

tough that you'll miss the parade.



2379 days ago



**DR1939**

Busy day.  
2379 days ago



**WALLAHALLA**

What a great day! Hope tomorrow is a day of rest for you.  
2379 days ago



**DOVESEYES**

Sorry for your loss, but how wonderful the day rolled together to fit everything in.  
2379 days ago



**HOLLYM48**

Wow, what a busy day! I am so glad you were able to make the most of it and your time for the 5K was great and what a great tribute to your deacon as well.  
2379 days ago



**CD15068443**

Wow - your day made me tired!!!  
2379 days ago



**ALICIA363**

Sounds like very worthwhile ways to be busy! Hope you find time to rest and recharge along the way.  
2379 days ago

**PHOENIX1949**





2379 days ago



**CD4114015**

BUSY lady! I think it is WONDERFUL that your church is the "runningest"! Running for HEALTH is SUCH a good example to set for the community! Taking care of our "temples"!

Way to go on the race! You are such an inspiration!  
2379 days ago

v



**MISCHAKEO**

What a packed day. It sounded lovely in all aspects. Health and a tribute to a wonderful person. You are a busy lady..but a very healthy one.

2379 days ago

v



**ALIHIKES**

Busy day! I am glad that you raced, and that the deacon's family wanted the tradition to continue.  
2379 days ago

v



**WATERMELLEN**

What a full and varied day: and a full gamut of emotions too.

Runningest individual, not just church in town, to get all that jam-packed in!!  
2379 days ago

v



**ONEKIDSMOM**

That is one FULL day, even with the postponement of the parade! And what a blessing a life of service like that of your Deacon gives the world.  
2379 days ago

v

## Add Your Comment to the Blog Post

Leave encouragement, a question, or anything else relevant to this post. All blog comments must abide by SparkPeople's [Community Guidelines](#).

☐ Subscribe to this blog

ADD AN EMOTICON

SPELL CHECK

Post Comment

Disclaimer: Weight loss results will vary from person to person. No individual result should be seen as a typical result of following the SparkPeople program.