



154,963



Info

SPARKPEOPLE®

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 KANSASROSE67 ٧ Wow! 2374 days ago TODDERICKV v Great job! 2376 days ago **KPETSCHE** 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 IFDEEVARUNS2 v I'm exhausted just reading this! I'm sure your deacon was delighted you ran. 2377 days ago **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 **1STBUCKETITEM** ٧ 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!! DO IT 2378 days ago



MARYJEANSL

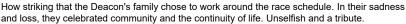
I think just about everyone has one of those absolutely-packed-with-things-to-do days some time or another. I know I have. It sounds to me as though you handled such a busy day very well. I hope the remainder of this busy month leaves you some time to rest, though! 2378 days ago

٧



SYLPHINPROGRESS

Good work on your race time.



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

